


14 DEC -1 AIO 59

SENATE

Senate Bill No. 2480

RECEIVED BY: 

INTRODUCED BY SEN. JINGGOY EJERCITO ESTRADA

AN ACT
PRESCRIBING SANITATION REQUIREMENTS FOR THE OPERATION OF
ESTABLISHMENTS AND FACILITIES FOR THE PROTECTION AND
CONVENIENCE OF THE PUBLIC

EXPLANATORY NOTE

A study, "*Economic Impacts of Sanitation in the Philippines, Summary*" was led by the East Asia and Pacific Office of the Water and Sanitation Program (WSP-EAP) of the World Bank. It was conducted under the Economics of Sanitation Initiative (ESI) in four countries: Cambodia, Indonesia, the Philippines, and Vietnam in 2008. According to the study, "Sanitation is often a neglected aspect of development in developing countries." It further stated that, "The total number of tourists choosing a country for their holiday is partially related to the general sanitary conditions of the country." The following are some of the observations and findings of the said study:

- "Poor sanitation causes illness and premature death in the Philippines";
- "Public toilets are important for many Filipinos as a largely daytime necessity, but these were shown to be of inadequate quality and insufficient number. Many public toilets in the Philippines are not clean and do not have the basic necessities such as running water, toilet paper, soap, and hand towels. As a result, people are forced to make adjustments to cope with the situation. For example, one study reported that the absence of water for flushing and hand washing in public restrooms in the Philippines had made it habitual for women to bring their own toilet paper."

Presidential Decree 856, otherwise known as the "Code on Sanitation of the Philippines" provides for the establishment and upkeep of sanitation facilities, including comfort rooms, in various public areas. The Code, however, is silent on the details and specifications particularly regarding to establishment of toilets.

In view of giving practical solution to this problem, this measure proposes to mandate all government and private establishments to put up a specific number of comfort rooms designed to cater to specific users. It also proposes incentives and penalties to ensure strict implementation, if it becomes a law.

This measure was introduced by Senator Manny Villar in the 15th Congress but was not enacted into law. To address the common problem of poorly maintained comfort rooms, to the point that they can no longer be used, this representation included a requirement for funds and manpower to keep said comfort rooms functional and clean.

The immediate passage of this bill is earnestly sought.




JINGGOY EJERCITO ESTRADA
Senator

74 DEC -1 AIO 59

SENATE

Senate Bill No. 2480

RECEIVED BY: 

INTRODUCED BY SEN. JINGGOY EJERCITO ESTRADA

AN ACT
PRESCRIBING SANITATION REQUIREMENTS FOR THE OPERATION OF
ESTABLISHMENTS AND FACILITIES FOR THE PROTECTION AND
CONVENIENCE OF THE PUBLIC

*Be it enacted by the Senate and the House of Representatives of the Philippines
in Congress assembled:*

- 1 **SECTION 1. Declaration of Policy.** – It is the responsibility of the Government to
2 regulate the basic facilities for the health and convenience of the people. There
3 is a need for providing for adequate comfort rooms to cater to the comfort and
4 personal conveniences and needs of the public.
5
6
7 **SEC. 2.** The State shall mandate every private and government institutions and
8 establishments, including schools, to put up three (3) sets of comfort rooms: one
9 for gentlemen, one for ladies and another one which may be used by anyone
10 from both genders including persons with disabilities or with special needs,
11 senior citizens, and pregnant women. They shall likewise allocate funds and
12 manpower to keep said comfort rooms functional and clean.
13
14
15 **SEC. 3.** All establishments covered by this Act are hereby given six (6) months
16 from its promulgation within which to comply with the provisions thereof.
17
18
19 **SEC. 4. Incentives.** – The expenses incurred by institutions and establishments
20 in complying with the provisions of this Act shall be deductible expenses for
21 income tax purposes up to twice the actual amount incurred; *Provided*, That the
22 deduction shall apply for the taxable period when the expenses were incurred;
23 *Provided, further*, That the hospital shall comply with the provisions of this Act
24 within six (6) months after its promulgation.
25
26 Government institutions shall receive an additional appropriation which shall be
27 included in their budget for the next fiscal year.
28
29
30 **SEC. 5. Sanctions.** – Any institution or establishment which unjustifiably refuses
31 or fails to comply with this Act shall be imposed a fine of not less than Fifty

1 Thousand Pesos (P50,000.00) but not more than Two Hundred Thousand Pesos
2 (P200,000.00) on the first offense.

3
4 On the second offense, a fine of not less than Two Hundred Thousand Pesos
5 (P200,000.00) but not more than Five Hundred Thousand Pesos (P500,000.00)

6
7 On the third offense, a fine of not less than Five Hundred Thousand Pesos
8 (P500,000.00) but not more than One Million Pesos (P1,000,000.00) and the
9 cancellation or revocation of the business permits or licenses to operate.

10
11
12 **SEC. 6. *Rules and Regulations.*** – The Secretary of Health, in consultation with
13 other government agencies, professional and non-government organizations
14 concerned shall promulgate the rules and regulations necessary to carry out the
15 provisions of this Act.

16
17
18 **SEC. 7. *Separability Clause.*** – If for any reason, any provision of this Act is
19 declared invalid or unconstitutional, the remaining provisions not affected thereby
20 shall continue to be in full force and effect.

21
22
23 **SEC. 8. *Repealing Clause.*** – Any law, presidential decree, executive order, or
24 issuance, rules and regulations inconsistent with this Act is hereby repealed or
25 modified accordingly.

26
27
28 **SEC. 9. *Effectivity Clause.*** – This Act shall take effect after fifteen (15) days
29 following its complete publication in the Official Gazette or in two (2) newspapers
30 of general circulation.

31
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36 *Approved,*