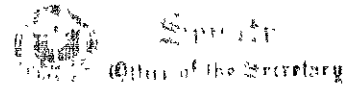


SIXTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC )  
OF THE PHILIPPINES )  
Second Regular Session )



14 DEC 22 P4:09

SENATE  
S. No. 2527

RECEIVED BY: *WJ*

---

Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

---

AN ACT  
SECURING THE PHILIPPINE'S BORDERS TO MAKE MORE EFFECTIVE THE  
PROHIBITION AGAINST THE ENTRY OF ILLEGAL DRUGS INTO THE  
COUNTRY\*

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The Constitution, Article 2, Section 5 provides:

The maintenance of peace and order, the protection of life, liberty and property, and the promotion of the general welfare are essential for the enjoyment by all the people of the blessings of democracy.

Our people are more concerned about illegal drugs and crimes associated with such use than any other current social problem.

Illegal drug use is harmful and wrong. Illegal drug use can kill the individuals involved or cause the individuals to hurt or kill others. Drug use can strip users of their moral sense and with it, everything in life that is important and worthwhile.


The purpose of this bill is to reduce the supply of drugs by stopping illegal drugs from entering the Philippines.

*Miriam Defensor Santiago*  
MIRIAM DEFENSOR SANTIAGO  
78

---

\* This bill was re-filed during the Thirteenth Congress, First Regular Session.

SIXTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC )  
OF THE PHILIPPINES )  
Second Regular Session )

 *Munoz*  
Office of the Secretary  
11 DEC 22 P4:09

SENATE  
S. No. 2527

*JS*

-----  
Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago  
-----

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

1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20

AN ACT  
SECURING THE PHILIPPINE'S BORDERS TO MAKE MORE EFFECTIVE THE  
PROHIBITION AGAINST THE ENTRY OF ILLEGAL DRUGS INTO THE  
COUNTRY

SECTION 1. *Short Title.* – This Act shall be known as the “Drug-Free Borders Act.”

SECTION 2. *Increased Resources for Interdiction.* --

(A) *Customs.* - In addition to other amounts appropriated for the Bureau of Customs for a fiscal year, there is authorized to be appropriated Fifteen Million Pesos (₱15,000,000.00) for each of the three (3) succeeding fiscal years following the passage of this Act to be used to monitor border ports of entry to stop the flow of illegal drugs into the Philippines, of which not less than 20 percent of such funds shall be used to provide assistance to local law enforcement entities.

(B) *Coast Guard.* – In addition to other amounts appropriated for the Philippine Coast Guard for a fiscal year, there is authorized to be appropriated, Ten Million Pesos (₱10,000,000.00) for each of the three (3) succeeding fiscal years following the passage of this Act to be used to expand activities to stop the flow of illegal drugs into the Philippines.

(C) *Department Of National Defense.* – In addition to other amounts appropriated for the Department of National Defense for a fiscal year, there is authorized to be appropriated, Thirty Million Pesos (₱30,000,000.00) for each of the three (3) succeeding

1 fiscal years following the passage of this Act to be used to expand activities to stop the  
2 flow of illegal drugs into the Philippines, of which not less than 20 percent (20%) of such  
3 funds shall be used to provide assistance to local law enforcement entities.

4 SECTION 3. *Felony Punishment for Violence Committed Along Philippine*  
5 *Border.* – Violence while eluding inspection or during violation of arrival, reporting,  
6 entry or clearance requirements--

7 (A) *In General.* – Whoever attempts to commit or commits a crime of violence  
8 during and in relation to—

9 (1) Attempting to elude or elude customs, immigration, or agriculture  
10 inspection or failing to stop at the command of an officer of customs,  
11 immigration or animal and plant and health inspection services; or

12 (2) An intentional violation of arrival, reporting, entry, or clearance  
13 requirements, as set forth in appropriate laws;

14 shall be fined under this Act or imprisoned for not more than five (5) years, or  
15 both, except that if bodily injury results, the maximum term of imprisonment is ten (10)  
16 years, and if death results, the offender may be imprisoned for any term of years or for  
17 life, in accordance with the pertinent provisions of the Penal Code and other special laws.

18 (B) *Conspiracy.* – If two (2) or more persons conspire to commit an offense under  
19 subsection (A), and 1 or more of such persons do any act to effect the object of the  
20 conspiracy, each shall be punishable as a principal.

21 SECTION 4. *Border Patrol Pursuit Policy.* – A Philippine Coast Guard may not  
22 cease pursuit of an alien who the agent suspects has unlawfully entered the Philippines,  
23 or an individual whom the agent suspects has unlawfully imported a narcotic into the  
24 Philippines, until local law enforcement authorities are in pursuit of the alien or  
25 individual and have the alien or individual in their visual range.

1           SECTION 5. *Separability Clause.* – If any provision or part hereof, is held invalid  
2 or unconstitutional, the remainder of the law or the provision not otherwise affected shall  
3 remain valid and subsisting.

4           SECTION 6. *Repealing Clause.* Any law, presidential decree or issuance,  
5 executive order, letter of instruction, administrative order, rule or regulation contrary to  
6 or inconsistent with, the provisions of this Act is hereby repealed, modified or amended  
7 accordingly.

8           SECTION 7. *Effectivity Clause.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after  
9 its publication in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,

/mant