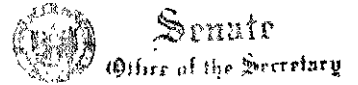


SIXTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC)
OF THE PHILIPPINES)
Second Regular Session)



15 JUN -3 P3:15

SENATE
S. No. 2798

RECEIVED BY: *J.*

Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

AN ACT
DIRECTING THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH TO CONDUCT PILOT STUDIES
TO DETERMINE THE ENVIRONMENTAL FACTORS WHICH MAY CAUSE
ACQUIRED BONE MARROW FAILURE DISEASES

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The Constitution, Article 2, Section 15 provides: "The State shall protect and promote the right to health of the people and instill health consciousness among them.

The bone marrow failure in both children and adults can either be inherited or acquired. However, in children, inherited bone marrow failure is often the cause. On the other hand, older children acquire the disease at an older age.¹

People who work with chemicals such as benzene, which is derived from coal and petroleum and found in gasoline and other fuels, could reportedly be a factor in causing the illness. Other factors include radiation or chemotherapy treatments and immune system problems.²

Thus, this bill directs the Secretary of the Department of Health to conduct pilot studies to determine the environmental factors which may cause acquired bone marrow failure diseases.³

Miriam Defensor Santiago
MIRIAM DEFENSOR SANTIAGO
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¹ "Bone Marrow Failure In Children". *Drug Information Online, Drugs.com.*

² *Id.*

³ This bill is based on H.R. 1230 filed by U.S. Representative Doris Matsui during the 111th Congress, 2nd Session.

1 (B) shall provide referral services for treatment options and clinical
2 trials by means of the Department of Health’s website and through
3 appropriate programs.

4 (b) *Grants and Cooperative Agreements.* –

5 (1) *In General.* – Not later than six (6) months after the date of effectivity
6 of this Act, the Secretary of Health shall award grants to, or enter into cooperative
7 agreements with, entities to perform research on acquired bone marrow failure
8 diseases.

9 (2) *Requirement.* – Grants and cooperative agreements authorized by this
10 subsection shall be awarded or entered into on a competitive, peer-reviewed basis.

11 (3) *Scope of Research.* – Research funded under this Act shall examine
12 factors affecting the incidence of acquired bone marrow failure diseases in
13 minority populations.

14 (c) *Definition.* – In this Act, the term “acquired bone marrow failure disease”
15 means myelodysplastic syndromes (MDS); aplastic anemia; paroxysmal nocturnal
16 hemoglobinuria (PNH); pure red cell aplasia; acute myeloid leukemia that has progressed
17 from myelodysplastic syndromes; large granular lymphocytic leukemia; or any other
18 bone marrow failure disease specified by the Secretary of Health, to the extent such
19 disease is acquired and not inherited, as determined by the Secretary.

20 SECTION 3. *Diagnosis and Quality of Care for Acquired Bone Marrow Failure*
21 *Diseases.* –

22 (a) *Grants.* – The Secretary of Health shall award grants to entities to improve
23 diagnostic practices and quality of care with respect to patients with acquired bone
24 marrow failure diseases.

1 SECTION 4. *Authorization of Appropriations.* – To carry out the provisions of this
2 Act, there are authorized to be appropriated such sums as may be necessary for each
3 fiscal year.

4 SECTION 5. *Separability Clause.* – If any provision of this Act shall be declared
5 unconstitutional, any other provision not affected thereby shall remain in full force and
6 effect.

7 SECTION 6. *Repealing Clause.* – All laws, decrees, orders, rules and regulations,
8 or parts thereof inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed or amended accordingly.

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

Approved,

/fldp29may2015