



Senate
Office of the Secretary

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

'16 JAN 28 P3 56

SENATE
S. No. 3181

RECEIVED BY: *[Signature]*

Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

AN ACT
PUNISHING THE DEFILEMENT OF WATER SUPPLY

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The Constitution, Article 2, Section 16, provides:

The State shall protect and advance the right of the people to a balanced and healthful ecology in accord with the rhythm and harmony of nature.

Clean, safe, potable water is indispensable to our state and society. Because of natural conditions and the quantities consumed, its supply is often publicly exposed and readily accessible to those who might wish to cause mass harm to a society. Because of its critical nature, when even a few days interruption in its supply could be cataclysmic, it is a highly attractive target to terrorists. As a result, special precautions and targeted measures need to be taken to protect and defend this precious resource.

This bill would severely punish the poisoning or adulteration of a water supply and will send a strong message that we will take whatever strong measures are necessary to protect our citizens.¹

Miriam Defensor Santiago
MIRIAM DEFENSOR SANTIAGO
at

¹ This bill was originally filed during the Fourteenth Congress, Third Regular Session.

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

1 SECTION 1. *Definition of Terms.* – For purposes of this Act, the term:

2 (A) “Defiling agent” refers to any chemical, biological, or radioactive agent or
3 substance, which is capable, when introduced or placed into a water supply, of causing
4 sickness, physical injury, severe disfigurement, or death of a human being, or causing
5 irreparable harm to such water supply, or causing a disturbance to the public peace; and

6 (B) “Water supply” refers to any public or private transmission facility, source of
7 supply facility, well or reservoir, which provides potable water for residential,
8 commercial, industrial and/or fire service needs.

9 SECTION 2. *Punishable Act.* – A person is guilty of unlawful defilement of water
10 when he intentionally introduces, places, or causes to be introduced or placed into a water
11 supply, a defiling agent with the intent to cause sickness, physical injury, severe
12 disfigurement or death of another human being, or with reckless disregard of causing
13 sickness, physical injury, severe disfigurement, or death of another human being, or with
14 the intent to cause irreparable harm to such water supply, or to disturb the public peace.

15 SECTION 3. *Penalty.* – Any person violating this Act shall be penalized with
16 imprisonment of not less than thirty years but not more than fifty years. A fine of not less

1 than One Million Pesos (P1,000,000.00) but not more than Five Million Pesos
2 (P5,000,000.00) shall also be imposed.

3 SECTION 4. *Separability Clause.* – If any provision of this Act is held invalid or
4 unconstitutional, the same shall not affect the validity and effectivity of the other
5 provisions hereof.

6 SECTION 5. *Repealing Clause.* – All laws, decrees, orders, and issuances, or
7 portions thereof, which are inconsistent with the provisions of this Act, are hereby
8 repealed, amended or modified accordingly.

9 SECTION 6. *Effectivity Clause.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after
10 its publication in the *Official Gazette* or in two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,

/ml4Dec2015