# SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES

Third Regular Session



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SENATE S.B. NO. 1958

Introduced by Senator Maria Lourdes Nancy S. Binay

### AN ACT CREATING A DATABASE OF PRODUCTS CONTAINING PROBABLE CARCINOGENS

#### EXPLANATORY NOTE

Article II, Section 15 of the 1987 Philippine Constitution provides:

"The State shall protect and promote the right to health of the people and instill health consciousness among them."

Human cells grow and divide to form new cells in the body. And when cells grow old and become damaged they die and are replaced by new cells. However this orderly process of cell growth and division breaks down when cancer develops.

Cancer can start anywhere in the human body. It is made up of trillions of cells. As cells become abnormal, old or damaged cells survive when they should die and be replaced by new cells.

Changes in a cell's DNA can contribute to cancer. Part of these changes may include outside exposure which are often referred to as environmental factors such as lifestyle factors, medical treatments, workplace and household exposure, naturally occurring exposures, and pollution.

Exposure to carcinogenic substances can lead to cancer. Although some carcinogens do not affect DNA directly, but lead to cancer in other ways by causing cells to divide at a faster than normal rate which increases the chances of changing DNA.

The proposed bill seeks to provide consumers information on the potential risks posed by the carcinogens found in consumer products.

MARIA LOURDES NANCY S. BINAY

Senator

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### AN ACT CREATING A DATABASE OF PRODUCTS CONTAINING PROBABLE CARCINOGENS

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

1 Section 1. Short Title. - This Act shall be known as the "Probable 2 Carcinogen Information Act." 3 Sec. 2. Definition of Terms. – For the purposes of this Act, the term: 4 (A) "Carcinogen" refers to any substance or radiation that is directly 5 involved in the existence of cancer or in the increase of its spread; 6 7 and (B) "Department" means the Department of Health. 8 9 10 Sec. 3. Database of Carcinogens. - The Department shall create a 11 database of known and probable carcinogens which shall be available at all health centers and at their website. There shall also be a database of products 12 13 that contain these carcinogens. A product may be delisted only if the 14 manufacturers prove that they have taken the carcinogen out of their production 15 process.

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

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

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

Approved,