

**SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC  
OF THE PHILIPPINES**

Third Regular Session

**SENATE**  
**S.B. NO. 2110**

'18 NOV 27 P 4:22

Introduced by Senator Maria Lourdes Nancy S. Binay

**AN ACT**  
**ESTABLISHING A GRANT PROGRAM FOR THE PROFESSIONAL**  
**RETROFIT INSTALLATION OF FIRE ALARM DETECTION SYSTEMS AND**  
**OTHER FIRE DETECTION AND PREVENTION TECHNOLOGIES IN LONG**  
**TERM CARE FACILITIES**

**EXPLANATORY NOTE**

Article II, Section 5 of the 1987 Philippine Constitution 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."

Fire is a major challenge in our country. In 2017, there have been 14,000 fire incidents nationwide that have injured 889 civilians and damage to property amounting to P7.8 billion. Meanwhile, as of March 2018, there have been 1,758 fire incidents that injured 108 people and amounted to P1 billion damages in property.

With the growing number of fire incidents occurring time and again, there is a need to eliminate the causes of fire, prevent loss of life and damage to property.

The proposed bill seeks to protect institutions and their clients by retrofitting these establishments and providing them with the latest fire safety technology available. Therefore, mandating the Secretary of Health to establish a grant

program to ensure that these institutions are up-to-date with fire prevention and safety standards.

In view of the foregoing, the passage of this measure is earnestly sought.

  
MARIA LOURDES NANCY S. BINAY  
Senator

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*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 “Long Term Care  
2 Fire Safety Act.”  
3

4       Sec. 2. *Definition of Terms.* – As used in this Act, the term:

5           (A) “Fire alarm detection system” or other fire detection and  
6           prevention technology means a system, a portion of a system,  
7           or a combination of systems and components for fire  
8           protection, such as integrated systems of manual devices and  
9           automatic sensors that, when activated, cause the systems to  
10          warn building occupants and emergency forces; smoke  
11          detectors; automatic fire sprinkler systems; specialized  
12          suppression systems and other active fire protection systems  
13          or components installed in accordance with the National  
14          Building Code and other applicable laws and regulations; and

15          (B) “Secretary” means the Secretary of Health.  
16

1           Sec. 3. *Grant Program.* – Not later than one hundred twenty (120) days  
2 after the date of effectivity of this Act, the Secretary of Health shall establish a  
3 Program to award grants to nursing homes, hospice facilities, assisted living  
4 facilities, residential care program facilities, board and care facilities, and any  
5 other long term care facilities that are duly licensed or certified and are  
6 determined by the Secretary to be appropriate for a grant under this Act, for the  
7 purpose of retrofitting such homes and facilities with any professionally installed  
8 fire alarm detection systems or other fire detection and prevention technology.

9  
10           Sec. 4. *Determination of Priority.* – In awarding grants under this Act, the  
11 Secretary shall give priority to applicants that demonstrate a need or hardship. In  
12 determining hardship, the Secretary may take into account factors such as the  
13 age and condition of the facilities of the applicant, the need for facility beds in  
14 the community involved, and requirements imposed on the applicant to meet  
15 applicable fire safety regulations.

16  
17           Sec. 5. *Separability Clause.* – If any provision of this Act is held invalid or  
18 unconstitutional, the same shall not affect the validity and effectivity of the other  
19 provisions hereof.

20  
21           Sec. 6. *Repealing Clause.* – All laws, decrees, orders, and issuances, or  
22 portions thereof, which are inconsistent with the provisions of this Act, are  
23 hereby repealed, amended or modified accordingly.

24  
25           Sec. 7. *Effectivity Clause.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days  
26 after its publication in the Official Gazette or in two (2) newspapers of general  
27 circulation.

28  
Approved,