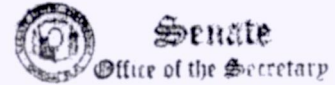


EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE)
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
First Regular Session)



SENATE
S. B. No. 765

'19 JUL 24 P5:08

RECEIVED BY: _____

Introduced by Senator SONNY ANGARA

AN ACT
CREATING A NATIONAL ANTI-ILLEGAL DRUG CAMPAIGN AND RESEARCH PROGRAM, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

EXPLANATORY NOTE

According to the latest available data from the Dangerous Drugs Board (DDB) based from the 2015 Nationwide Survey on the Nature and Extent of Drug Abuse in the Philippines, approximately 1.8 million Filipinos are considered illegal drug users as of 2015. Another estimate by the PNP reports over 7 to 8 million Filipinos are drug users. Data also showed that young Filipinos aged 10-29, or those in basic and tertiary education, are the most vulnerable to illegal drugs. Illegal drugs undoubtedly cripple the country's development by corrupting Filipinos, especially the youth, ruining both their health and their aspirations.

The severity of this issue must not be ignored as addiction to illegal drugs causes an average death toll of 1,700 per year. According to DDB, drug syndicates thrive in close to 8,700 barangays, or 20 percent of all barangays in the country. To combat its proliferation in the country, it is high time that a national integrated program be established to strengthen the drive against illegal drugs.

This measure seeks to put up an exclusive fund, to be called the Anti-Illegal Drug Campaign and Research (AIDCARE) Fund, which will be used to create a nationwide education and awareness program on illegal drugs; to implement a mandatory training for local government unit personnel involved with the enforcement, research, and policymaking on illegal drugs; to establish a national helpline for drug abusers; and, to create a public registry of drug dealers, pushers and traffickers. Such fund will be included under the annual budgets of the Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG), Department of Education

(DepEd), Dangerous Drugs Board (DDB), and Philippine Drug Enforcement Authority (PDEA).

This measure acknowledges that while the government has declared war against illegal drugs in order to maintain peace and order, it must also provide an opportunity for drug abusers to reform their lives, as they are merely victims as well of drug lords who control those involved in massive illegal drug trade in the country.

In view of the foregoing, the approval of this bill is earnestly sought.



SONNY ANGARA

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

1 Section 1. *Title.* – This Act shall be known as the "*National AIDCARE*
2 *Program*".

3 Sec. 2. *Declaration of Policy.* – It is hereby declared the policy of the State to
4 maintain peace and order and to promote general welfare of its people by creating
5 an empathetic hand that complements the iron fist of government crusade against
6 illegal drugs through creating a national program that would help reform drug
7 abusers, who are victims of ill-minded individuals involved in illegal drugs trade,
8 through competent civil servants and effective anti-illegal drugs policies.

9 Sec. 3. *Anti-Illegal Drug Campaign and Research Fund.* – There is hereby a
10 National Anti-Illegal Drug Campaign and Research Program (AIDCARE) Fund
11 included under the annual budgets of the Department of Interior and Local
12 Government (DILG), Department of Education (DepEd), Dangerous Drugs Board
13 (DDB), and Philippine Drug Enforcement Authority (PDEA), in addition to the
14 appropriations of these agencies under the General Appropriations Act, for the
15 implementation of the National AIDCARE Program.

16 Such fund shall be exclusively used for the following components:

17 a. Nationwide Education and Awareness Strategy on Illegal Drugs;

- 1 b. Mandatory Training for Local Government Unit (LGU) Personnel involved with
- 2 the enforcement, research, and policymaking on illegal drugs and other
- 3 related substances of abuse;
- 4 c. Nationwide Study on the Nature and Extent of Drug Abuse;
- 5 d. National Helpline for Drug Abusers; and
- 6 e. Public Registry of Drug Dealers, Pushers, and Traffickers.

7 The amount of the National AIDCARE Fund shall be determined by the
8 Department of Budget and Management (DBM) in coordination with the DILG,
9 DepEd, PDEA, and DDB.

10 *Sec. 4. Creation of a Nationwide Education and Awareness Program on Illegal*
11 *Drugs.* – A Nationwide Education and Awareness Program on Illegal Drugs shall be
12 created by the DepEd that shall either be included in the K-to-12 curriculum or
13 instituted as a regular and frequent co-curricular activity or event done in all public
14 schools covering all levels of basic education.

15 The composition of the Nationwide Education and Awareness Program on
16 Illegal Drugs shall be reviewed, and if necessary, updated, by the DepEd annually to
17 ensure its effectiveness. Further, the DILG shall provide necessary resources,
18 personnel and other materials for the development of the Nationwide Education and
19 Awareness Program.

20 *Sec. 5. Development and Implementation of a Mandatory Training for Local*
21 *Government Unit Personnel.* – A training program shall be developed by the DDB, in
22 coordination with the DILG, to enhance the knowledge and to improve the capacity
23 of Local Government Unit (LGU) personnel on the subject of illegal drugs and related
24 substances of abuse. The syllabus of this training program shall be updated by the
25 same agency annually.

26 The DILG and its provincial offices shall implement such training program, to
27 be held at least bi-annually, depending on the need of the LGU, as determined by
28 the same agency. Further, an annual evaluation to measure the proficiency of LGUs
29 on the same subject shall be created and published by the DILG.

30 *Sec. 6. Nationwide Study on the Nature and Extent of Drug Abuse.* – A
31 Nationwide Study on the Nature and Extent of Drug Abuse shall be created and
32 initiated by the DDB, in cooperation with the DILG and PDEA. The methodology of

1 this study shall be determined by the DDB: *Provided*, That the same shall have a
2 proportional sampling to provide a balanced representation of all regions and
3 provinces in the country.

4 The Nationwide Study must be annually submitted to the President and to
5 Congress, particularly to the Congressional Committee on Dangerous Drugs and to
6 the Senate Committee on Public Order and Dangerous Drugs. The same shall be
7 made accessible to the public through an online website.

8 For purposes of this Act, the Nationwide Study on the Nature and Extent of
9 Drug Abuse shall, at least, provide results up to the municipal level.

10 *Sec. 7. Establishment of a National Helpline for Drug Abuse.* – A National
11 Helpline for Drug Abuse shall be established and maintained by the DILG, in
12 coordination with PDEA and DDB, that must be always operational and can be
13 reached either through a phone number, a real-time online website, or a mobile
14 application.

15 The National Helpline should provide instructions to drug users or persons
16 who contacted the helpline on behalf of the drug user, particularly in referring
17 affected individuals to appropriate drug rehabilitation centers, or in emergency
18 cases, provide immediate paramedic response.

19 *Sec. 8. Creation of a Public Registry of Drug Dealers, Pushers, and Traffickers.*
20 – In order to produce a holistic National AIDCARE Program, a Public Registry listing
21 of drug dealers, pushers, and traffickers with final conviction by judicial courts shall
22 be created and maintained by the PDEA, in cooperation with the Department of
23 Justice (DOJ), DILG, Philippine National Police (PNP), and the National Bureau of
24 Investigation (NBI).

25 This Public Registry shall contain the information of these convicted drug
26 dealers, pushers, and traffickers and be accessible to all individuals.

27 *Sec. 9. Review of Anti-Illegal Drugs Programs.* – To prevent the redundancy
28 of programs on anti-illegal drugs and related substances of abuse, the DILG, DDB,
29 and PDEA, shall review similar programs and projects of all National Government
30 Agencies, in order to determine those that may duplicate components of the
31 National Anti-Illegal Drugs Program.

1 The same agencies shall recommend the rationalization of these identified
2 programs to its implementing agency, which shall then be reported to the President
3 and to Congress, particularly to the Congressional Committee on Dangerous Drugs
4 and Senate Committee on Public Order and Dangerous Drugs.

5 Sec. 10. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.* – The DILG, in consultation
6 with the DBM, DOJ, DepEd, PDEA, DDB, PNP, NBI, and other concerned agencies
7 shall promulgate and issue the IRR within sixty (60) days upon approval of this Act:
8 *Provided,* That the failure of DILG to promulgate the rules and regulations shall not
9 prevent the implementation of this Act upon its effectivity.

10 Sec. 11. *Reportorial Requirements.* – The DILG and the DepEd, in cooperation
11 with PDEA and DDB, shall submit an annual report on the implementation of the
12 National AIDCARE Program, particularly on the utilization of the National AIDCARE
13 Fund, the National Education and Awareness Program, the evaluation of LGUs
14 resulting from the mandatory training program, and the effectiveness of the
15 nationwide helpline for drug users, to Office of the President, DBM, the
16 Congressional Committee on Dangerous Drugs, and the Senate Committee on Public
17 Order and Dangerous Drugs.

18 Sec. 12. *Separability Clause.* – If any portion or provision of this Act is
19 subsequently declared invalid or unconstitutional, other provisions hereof which are
20 not affected thereby shall remain in full force and effect.

21 Sec. 13. *Repealing Clause.* – All other laws, acts, presidential decrees,
22 executive orders, presidential proclamations, issuances, rules and regulations, or
23 parts thereof which are contrary to or inconsistent with any of the provisions of this
24 Act are hereby repealed, amended, or modified accordingly.

25 Sec. 14. *Effectivity.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its
26 publication in the *Official Gazette* or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,