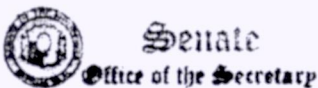


EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE)
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
First Regular Session)



'19 AUG 15 P5:34

SENATE
S. No. 910

RECEIVED BY: [Signature]

Introduced by SENATOR RAMON BONG REVILLA, JR.

**AN ACT
TO PROFESSIONALIZE THE PRACTICE OF PRISON MANAGEMENT AND SET
FOR THAT PURPOSE THE QUALIFICATIONS FOR SUPERINTENDENTS OF
THE NATIONAL PRISON SYSTEM AND WARDENS OF PROVINCIAL, CITY OR
MUNICIPAL JAILS**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Our prison population is perhaps our country's most neglected sector, and their welfare is possibly one of the lowest on the list of our nation's priorities due to our country's limited resources. However, even though these are convicted criminals who have broken the laws of the land, they are still entitled to their basic human rights and still deserve the care and attention of the State.

As stated in Article II, Section 13 of the Philippine Constitution:

"Section 11. The State values the dignity of every human person and guarantees respect for human rights."

The country's resources may be limited, but that should not hinder the State to find ways to alleviate the living conditions of our country's convicts and prisoners. Most of their places of detention and imprisonment have become severely congested, filthy, and inhumane. These things become factors that are contributory to the deterioration of a man's psyche. An environment like this hinders the rehabilitation

and correction intended for our convicted countrymen, and ultimately denies them another chance at being productive members of society once again.

Our jails should not only be places of detention and imprisonment, it should also be a place of rehabilitation and correction for our convicted. This cannot be achieved with "indifferent" management. As long as our prison system is headed by people who are indifferent, prisons will not be able to achieve what they are meant to do which is to rehabilitate and correct, instead they will become a breeding ground for repeating offenders and hardened criminals.

This Act aims to alleviate the living conditions of our prisoners and make our prison system better by professionalizing our jail management and corrections administration. An enlightened management leads to an overall better jail system that can properly utilize the little amount allocated for the sector.

It is for the reasons stated above that the passage of this bill into law is earnestly sought.


RAMON BONG REVILLA, JR.

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

- 1 Section 1. *Title.* – This Act shall be known as the “Professionalization of Prison
2 Management Act of 2019”.
- 3 Sec. 2. *Qualifications of Superintendents of Prisons in the National Prison*
4 *System.* – All Superintendents of Prisons or Colonies or Prison Farms of the National
5 Prison System shall have the following qualifications at the time of their appointment:
- 6 (a) Holder of a Bachelor’s Degree in Law, preferably a Member of the
7 Philippine Bar; or a Bachelor’s degree in Public Administration, or its
8 equivalent with at least twelve (12) unites in Psychology or
9 Sociology;
- 10 (b) Training and experience of at least five (5) years in corrections and
11 prison management; and
- 12 (c) Of good moral character with reputation in the community for probity
13 and fair-mindedness and who has never been convicted of a criminal
14 offense nor charged administratively for an act involving moral
15 turpitude.
16

1 Sec. 3. *Qualifications of Wardens of Provincial, City or Municipal Jails.* – All
2 wardens of Provincial, City or Municipal Jails shall have the following qualifications;

3 (a) Holder of a Bachelor's Degree in Law, Public Administration,
4 Psychology or its equivalent, with at least twelve (12) units in
5 Behavioral Sciences, Sociology or Psychology;

6 (b) Training and experience of at least three (3) years in corrections and
7 prison management; and

8 (c) Of good moral character with a reputation in the community for
9 probity and fair-mindedness and who has never been convicted of a
10 criminal offense nor charged administratively.

11 Sec. 4. *Jail Management and Correction Administration Training.* – The
12 Integrated National Police and/or the National Police Academy shall conduct courses
13 and seminars on Jail Management and correction administration for nominees and
14 incumbents of Prison Superintendent or Jail Warden positions. Incumbent
15 Superintendents and Wardens shall be required to pass courses for jail management
16 and corrections administration in order to retain their positions.

17 When feasible, Superintendents and Wardens shall be sent for training abroad
18 in jail management and corrections administration.

19 Sec. 5. *Equivalence of Position, Rank, Salary and Privileges.* – Superintendents
20 of the National Prison System shall enjoy in position, rank, salary and privileges of an
21 Assistant Bureau Director, provincial, city and municipal jail wardens shall enjoy the
22 position, rank, salary and privileges of a Division Head of a Bureau: Provided, that said
23 Superintendents or Wardens shall have the qualifications herein set forth: Provided,
24 further, the incumbents shall have to first qualify for the requirement of the position
25 herein set forth before they can enjoy the position, rank, salary, privileges herein set
26 forth: Provided, finally, that said incumbents shall continue to discharge the duties of
27 Superintendent or Warden until reassigned, retired or separated from office, or
28 otherwise replaced by the appointing authority by a qualified official.

29 Sec. 6. *Repealing Clause.* – Any provision of law, presidential decree, executive
30 order, rule or regulation inconsistent with the provisions of this Act is hereby repealed
31 or modified accordingly.

1 Sec. 7. *Effectivity Clause.* – This Act shall take effect upon approval and
2 completion of its publication in at least two (2) newspaper of general circulation.

3

4 *Approved,*