

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

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SENATE

RECEIVED BY: 

Senate Bill No. 661

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INTRODUCED BY SEN. JINGGOY EJERCITO ESTRADA

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### EXPLANATORY NOTE

Prostate cancer is now one of the leading causes of death among Filipino males. Statistics show that about 25 percent (25%) of men afflicted with prostate cancer die ultimately. Patients who survive the cancer still require treatment to ease symptoms such as pain, bleeding and urinary obstruction.

The American Cancer Society and the American Urological Association recommend that men forty (40) years or older undergo periodic testing for the early detection of prostate cancer. Early detection will prevent future disease progression.

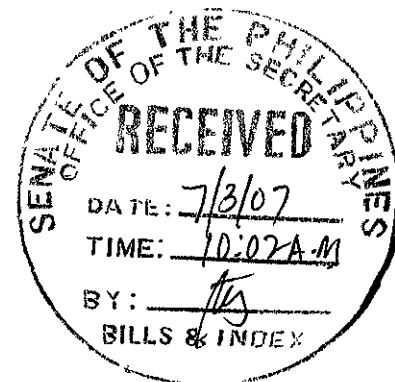
Also, treatment in the early stages of cancer is less costly than when done in its advanced stages.

This bill seeks to establish a program to educate the public and increase awareness on prostate cancer.

In view hereof, the early passage of this proposed measure is highly recommended.

  
JINGGOY EJERCITO ESTRADA  
Senator

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AN ACT  
ESTABLISHING A PROGRAM FOR PUBLIC EDUCATION ON PROSTATE  
CANCER

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

**SECTION 1. Short Title** - This Act may be cited as the "**Prostate Cancer Public Awareness Act.**"

**SEC 2. Definition.** - For purposes of this Act, the term -

(a) "Director" means the Director of the Non-Communicable Disease Control Service of the Department of Health.

**SEC 3. Establishment of Program for Public Education on Prostate Cancer.** - The Director shall carry out a program on prostate cancer. Through the program, he shall conduct or support activities -

- (a) to educate males who are forty (40) years of age or older on the need to periodically undergo physical examinations for such cancer, including education on the frequency and type of such examination that are appropriate for various age groups of such men; and
- (b) to educate males on the availability and appropriateness of procedures for detecting the cancer in its early stages, including the procedure known as prostate ultrasound.

**SEC 4. Separability Clause.** - If any provision, or part hereof is held invalid or unconstitutional, the remainder of the law or the provision not otherwise affected shall remain valid and subsisting.

**SEC 5. Repealing Clause.** - Any law, presidential decree or issuance, executive order, letter of instruction, administrative order, rule or regulation contrary to or inconsistent with, the provisions of this Act is hereby repealed, modified or amended accordingly.

**SEC 6. *Effectivity Clause*** - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

*Approved,*