

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

7 JUL 18 1916

SENATE
S.B. No. 1268

RECEIVED BY [Signature]

Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The Constitution, Article 2, Section 15, provides that:

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

The increase in the elderly population have implications in regard to the country's response to the special needs of the aged; specifically, the adequacy of geriatric health facilities, trained personnel and welfare programs for those who cannot afford private healthcare. Despite the traditional high regard for older persons in Filipino society, they are the most vulnerable to neglect as the family tries to face the pressures of survival.

Osteoporosis is one of the major concerns for our elderly population. It may be debilitating, but it can be prevented or at least minimized through proper nutrition and exercise before bone loss. And even those affected by severe bone loss can take preventive measures to minimize the risk of disabilities. To address these issues, early detection, prevention and maintenance are the best weapons.

This bill¹ seeks to address the need to be informed about osteoporosis, its effects and its prevention.


Miriam Defensor Santiago
MIRIAM DEFENSOR SANTIAGO

¹ This bill was originally file by the Senator during the 13th Congress

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1 AN ACT
2 INITIATING A NATIONAL CAMPAIGN FOR OSTEOPOROSIS
3 EDUCATION AND PREVENTION

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

6 SECTION 1. *Short Title.* - This Act may be cited as the "Osteoporosis Education
7 and Prevention Act of 2007."

8 SECTION 2. *Definition of Terms.* -For purposes of this Act, the term:

9 (1) "DOH" shall refer to the Department of Health;

10 (2) "Secretary" shall refer to the Secretary of the Department of Health;

11 (3) "Congress" is both the Senate and the House of Representatives; and

12 (4) "Osteoporosis" shall refer to a disorder common to elderly women in which
13 calcium and bone protein are depleted, causing bones to become less dense, more brittle,
14 and fracture easily.

15 SECTION 3. *National Public Awareness Campaign.* - The DOH shall create a
16 national campaign to increase awareness and knowledge with respect to osteoporosis. As
17 part of such campaign, the Secretary shall provide public service announcements, in
18 accordance with applicable law and regulations, by developing and placing in
19 telecommunications media announcements intended to encourage at-risk populations to
20 discuss their risks of osteoporosis with their physicians, and to call attention to early
21 warning signs and risks factors based on the best available medical information.

22 SECTION 4. *Osteoporosis Prevention Demonstration Program.* --

1 (1) The Secretary shall carry out an osteoporosis prevention demonstration
2 program for purposes of -

3 (A) determining the best practices for providing information and outreach
4 services (including programs and information, such as forums, seminars, and
5 large-print, easy-to-understand, multilingual literature) relating to prevention,
6 diagnosis, and treatment of osteoporosis; and

7 (B) measuring the effectiveness of such program over a three-year period, as
8 shown by an increase in the percentages of individuals who have demonstrated
9 expanded awareness and knowledge of osteoporosis (including knowledge of
10 personal risk factors).

11 (2) In carrying out such program, the Secretary shall collaborate with the leading
12 nongovernmental health organizations, academic institutions, local health officer, as well
13 as other health entities, with a mission both to promote lifelong bone health nationwide
14 and to provide outreach to local governments and communities, for the purpose of
15 determining the best practices for providing bone-health information and outreach
16 services to at-risk populations.

17 SECTION 5. *Osteoporosis Research and Reports.* - Not later than 18 months after
18 the enactment of this Act, the DOH shall conduct a study on the prevalence of
19 osteoporosis among the country's population. The study shall also contain an evaluation
20 of the national public awareness campaigns conducted by the DOH, as well as
21 recommendations on measures that could be undertaken to strengthen osteoporosis
22 education and prevention programs. A report of this study shall be submitted to Congress
23 not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this Act.

24 SECTION 6. *Separability Clause.* - If any provision or part thereof, is held invalid
25 or unconstitutional, the remainder of the law or the provision not otherwise affected shall
26 remain valid and subsisting.

1 SECTION 7. *Repealing Clause.* - Any law, presidential decree or issuance,
2 executive order, letter of instruction, administrative order, rule or regulation contrary to
3 or inconsistent with the provisions of this Act is hereby repealed, modified, or amended
4 accordingly.

5 SECTION 8. *Effectivity Clause.* - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after
6 its publication in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

7 Approved,