

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

7 28 18 2011

SENATE
S. B. No. 1299

RECEIVED BY: [Signature]

Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

EXPLANATORY NOTE

It has been observed that there is a deficiency in the dissemination of information regarding health care information to women. Many women are not conscious of the healthcare precautions that should be taken during pregnancy. This may be the reason why the percentage of abnormal and handicapped babies is constantly increasing.

The Constitution, Article II, Section 15 provides that "The State shall protect and promote the right to health of the people and instill health consciousness among them," and under the Constitution, Article II, Section 12, the State is also mandated to equally protect the life of the mother and the life of the unborn from conception. Towards this end, this bill seeks to eradicate whatever barriers may exist that hamper access of the people and reliable reproductive health care information, including those pertaining to family planning and adoption services.*

Miriam Defensor Santiago
MIRIAM DEFENSOR SANTIAGO
[Signature]

* This bill was originally filed during the Thirteenth Congress, First Regular Session.

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

7 JUL 18 2015

SENATE
S. B. No. 299

RECEIVED BY: g

Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

AN ACT
TO PROTECT THE RIGHT OF THE PEOPLE TO INFORMATION
ABOUT REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH CARE SERVICES

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

6 SECTION 1. *Short Title.* – This Act shall be cited as the “Women’ Right to Know Act.”

7 SECTION 2. *Declaration of Policy.* – It is the declared policy of the State to protect and
8 promote the right to health of the people. Towards this end, the State shall provide relevant and
9 reliable reproductive health care information to women.

10 SECTION 3. *Definition of Governmental Authority.* – As used in this Act, the term
11 “governmental authority” means any authority of any branch, instrumentality, agency of the
12 National Government or any local government unit.

13 SECTION 4. *Reproductive Health Care Information.* – Notwithstanding any other
14 provision of law to the contrary, no government authority shall in or through any program or
15 activity, administered or assisted by such authority, that provides health care services or
16 information, limit the right of any person to provide, or of any person to receive, non-fraudulent
17 information about the availability of reproductive health care services, including family planning,
18 prenatal care, and adoption services.

19 SECTION 5. *Separability Clause.* – If any provision or part hereof, is held invalid or
20 unconstitutional, the remainder of the law of the provision not otherwise affected shall remain
21 valid and subsisting.

1 SECTION 6. *Repealing Clause.* – Any law, presidential decree or issuance, executive
2 order, letter of instruction, administrative order, rule or regulation contrary to or inconsistent
3 with the provisions of this Act is hereby repealed, modified or amended accordingly.

4 SECTION 7. *Effectivity Clause.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its
5 publication in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

6 Approved,