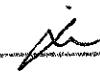


THIRTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC)
OF THE PHILIPPINES)
Third Regular Session)

6 NOV -7 1968

SENATE

S. B. No. 2498

RECEIVED BY: 

Introduced by **SENATOR COMPAÑERA PIA S. CAYETANO**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The medical profession is one of the most prestigious professions. Given that the profession deals with life and health, there is a need to regulate the profession to ensure the quality of service given to the people. Considering the number of doctors situated in the different provinces all over the country, there is a need to allow the profession to self-regulate, similar to the legal profession. However, unlike the legal profession, there is no integrated medical professional organization.

What currently exists is the Philippine Medical Association, Inc. (PMA) which is the umbrella organization of the medical profession of the country. It is duly registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission as a non-stock, non-profit organization and is the mother association of all medical organizations in the Philippines. It was founded September 15, 1903, at a time when the country was under the American rule.

The Philippine Medical Association brings together the entire medical profession under one roof to serve as an authoritative source of information on health, disease and medical practice. It is responsible for the Training of Specialists through its Specialty Societies. It is responsible for the sustained excellent quality healthcare delivery through its continuing medical education, formulation of clinical practices, guidelines, directly or through the specialty societies. It polices its ranks through the rigid Code of Ethics of the medical profession.

Aside from its by-laws, duly registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission, the PMA has codes governing its affairs and the conduct of its members. Among its codes are the Administrative Code, the Code on Continuing Medical Education, Code of Ethics, the Election Code and Mutual Aid Code and Guidelines on Protocol and Procedures and Guidelines on Affiliate Societies.

Given the need for an integrated medical professional organization and the breadth, composition, membership and nationwide coverage of the PMA, this bill seeks to accredit the PMA as the integrated medical professional organization in the Philippines and all physicians wanting to practice medicine will be required to become members of the PMA. If the bill is passed into law, we will be creating a professional medical organization already in place that can serve as an extension of the government in regulating the medical profession, maintaining the high and ethical conduct of the medical professionals and help in the continued delivery of quality health care.


The immediate approval of this bill is recommended.


COMPAÑERA PIA S. CAYETANO
Senator

THIRTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC)
OF THE PHILIPPINES)
Third Regular Session)

6 NOV -7 10:08

SENATE

RECEIVED BY: 

S. B. No. 2498

Introduced by **SENATOR COMPAÑERA PIA S. CAYETANO**

AN ACT ACCREDITING THE PHILIPPINE MEDICAL ASSOCIATION AS THE INTEGRATED MEDICAL PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATION OF THE PHILIPPINES

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

SEC. 1. Title – This Act shall be known and cited as the “INTEGRATED MEDICAL PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATION ACT OF 2005”.

SEC. 2. The Philippine Medical Association, Inc., shall be the only Integrated Medical Professional Organization in the Philippines.

SEC. 3. Membership – All physicians duly registered by the Professional Regulations Commission shall become members of the Philippine Medical Association, Inc. Membership in good standing of the PMA shall be a condition precedent for his renewal of license and for the continuous practice of medicine.

SEC. 4. Organization – The organizational structure of the Philippine Medical Association Inc. including the specialty divisions, specialty and sub-specialty societies and the component medical societies and as a non-stock, non-profit corporation duly registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission shall be retained.

SEC. 5. Rules and Regulations – The Philippine Medical Association shall prescribe rules and regulations to implement the integration of the medical profession including the various specialty divisions, the specialty and subspecialty societies and their training program, and the component and affiliate medical societies.

SEC. 6. Complaints – The Philippine Medical Association shall hear complaints against its members. The Philippine Medical Association shall prescribe its rules to govern the conduct of its proceedings and the rules of its procedures. The rules shall be *liberally construed and the technical rules of procedure on evidence shall not be strictly applied.*

SEC. 7. Grounds – A person may file a verified complaint before the Philippine Medical Association against a PMA member based on the following grounds:

- a.) gross negligence, ignorance or incompetence in the practice of his/her profession resulting to death, physical injury to a person
- b.) conviction by a court of competent jurisdiction of any criminal offense involving moral turpitude;
- c.) immoral or dishonorable conduct;
- d.) insanity
- e.) fraud in the acquisition of the certificate of registration, and professional license or renewal thereof;

- f.) addiction to alcoholic beverages or to any habit-forming drug rendering him or her incompetent to practice his or her profession;
- g.) false or extravagant or unethical advertisement;
- h.) performing or aiding in any criminal abortion;
- i.) knowingly issuing any false medical certificate;
- j.) Issuing any statement or spreading any news or humor which is derogatory to the character and reputation of another physician without justifiable motive;
- k.) Aiding or acting as a dummy of unqualified or unregistered person to practice medicine;
- l.) Violation of the Code of Ethics of the PMA.

SEC. 8. Penalties – The Philippine Medical Association may impose penalties of reprimand, suspension or expulsion. All cases filed or pending under this act shall not be discussed or taken in any forum until after the same shall have been decided with finality.

SEC. 9. Implementing Rules – The Philippine Medical Association shall promulgate the implementing rules and guidelines of this act within 60 days after the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 10. Separability Clause – If any provision of this Act is declared unconstitutional or not valid, other provisions not affected herein shall remain in full force and effect.

SEC. 11. Repealing Clause – Provisions on the integration of professionals/professions in the professional regulatory laws and all provisions of laws, decrees, order, rule and regulations that are inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed and/or modified accordingly.

SEC. 12. Effectivity – This act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in any major leading newspaper of national circulation, which ever is earlier.

Approved.