

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

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SENATE
S. No. 1912

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Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Studies by the United States Center for Disease Control show that most people carry in their bodies concentrations of a family of synthetic chemicals known as phthalates. Phthalates, or phthalate esters, are a group of chemical compounds that are mainly used as plasticizers or substances added to plastics to increase their flexibility. They are chiefly used to turn polyvinyl chloride from a hard plastic into a flexible plastic.*

Phthalates are commonly found in plastics, pesticides, and personal care products like shampoos, soaps, and makeup. Exposure to phthalates has been linked to malformed sex organs in male lab animals. Alarmingly enough, a recent study revealed that there is a link between mothers exposed to phthalates and genital birth defects in male infants.

As the saying goes, an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure. Thus, this bill seeks to avoid the hazardous effects of phthalates on children by prohibiting the sale of toys and other articles intended for children three (3) years of age and below.

Miriam Defensor Santiago
MIRIAM DEFENSOR SANTIAGO

* <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Phthalates>

1 Any person found in violation of this Act shall be punished by a penalty of *prision*
2 *correctional*, or a fine ranging from Ten Thousand Pesos (P10,000.00) to Fifty Thousand Pesos
3 (P50,000.00), or both, at the discretion of the court, taking into consideration the circumstances
4 of the case.

5 If the offender is a corporation, trust or firm, partnership, association or any other entity,
6 the penalty of imprisonment shall be imposed on the entity's responsible officers, including, but
7 not limited to, the president, vice-president, chief executive officer, general manager, managing
8 director or partner directly responsible therefor.

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

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13 with, the provisions of this Act is hereby repealed, modified or amended accordingly.

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

16 Approved,

/rgs