

FIFTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE  
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES  
First Regular Session

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

10 JUN -1 P1:33

SENATE

Senate Bill No. 69 SUBMITTED BY: [Signature]

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INTRODUCED BY HON. MANNY VILLAR

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EXPLANATORY NOTE

An incurable new strain of water borne cholera is threatening the country. Medical scientists call it fibro choleras non-0139, and is said to be widespread in the countryside, particularly in areas where there are inadequate sources of potable water. Six hundred four (604) cases of fibro choleras non-0139 have been reported and a number have already died.

At present, no medical remedy can cure the disease. There are no vaccines to immunize people against it. The only definitive solution to stop the spread of this disease is to have a clean supply of drinking water. There is therefore a need to build sanitary water systems and other facilities as a preventive measure for this epidemic. Such facilities will prevent not only cholera, but other water-borne diseases as well.

This bill seeks to develop a three-year program for the construction of a potable water supply system in every barangay throughout the country. Providing a clean water supply source in rural areas is important in order to prevent the outbreak of cholera and other water-borne diseases.

This bill will realize the long-time dream of the barrio folks, including the few families who manage to afford electric pumps despite exorbitant electric bills, in obtaining a modern and potable water system in their area.

Approval of this bill is earnestly requested.

  
MANNY VILLAR

10 JUL -1 P 1 33

SENATE

Senate Bill No. 69

RECEIVED BY: A

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INTRODUCED BY HON. MANNY VILLAR

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**AN ACT TO PROMOTE RURAL HEALTH BY PROVIDING FOR AN  
ACCELERATED PROGRAM FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF A POTABLE  
WATER SUPPLY SYSTEM IN EVERY BARANGAY IN THE COUNTRY  
WITHIN THREE YEARS**

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

1           SECTION 1. *Policy* – It is hereby declared to be the policy of the State to  
2 promote the quality of health of every Filipino through the provision of adequate social  
3 services including, but not limited to, the provision of an adequate potable water supply  
4 system to minimize the exposure of water borne disease.

5  
6           SECTION 2. *Lead Agency* – The Department of Social Welfare and  
7 Development in coordination with the Department of Health and the Department of  
8 Public Works and Highways shall undertake a three year program for the construction  
9 of potable water supply system in every barangay throughout the country. The program  
10 shall give priority to areas with social and health problems brought about by water-  
11 borne diseases taking into consideration population, area served, project cost and other  
12 economic, social and environmental factors as may be deemed necessary in  
13 undertaking the program within the context of the national development plans. The  
14 lead agencies concerned, in consultation with the provincial and municipal development  
15 councils, shall determine the areas which shall be given priority.

16  
17           SECTION 3. *Program Guidelines* – The lead agencies concerned shall observe  
18 the following priorities and guidelines in the planning, construction and management of  
19 potable water supply projects:

- 20           a. Funds provided for in this Act shall be used only for the construction of the  
21 new potable water supply system;

- 1 b. Priority shall be given to the construction of communal water supply;
- 2 c. The potable water supply projects must be equitably distributed among the
- 3 provinces and municipalities, giving priority to those provinces and
- 4 municipalities having inadequate supply of potable water;
- 5 d. The local government unit concerned shall participate in all stages of the
- 6 project. The local government shall participate in the project planning,
- 7 identification, design, management of the project funds, construction and
- 8 monitoring;
- 9 e. The potable water supply system shall be managed and maintained by the
- 10 local government unit concerned;
- 11 f. The provincial offices of the Department of Social Welfare and Development,
- 12 Department of Health, and Department of Public Works and Highways, shall
- 13 be responsible in the preparation of feasibility studies and design of
- 14 communal potable water supply projects.
- 15

16 SECTION 4. *Appropriation* – The sum of Fifty Million Pesos (50,000,000.00) is

17 hereby appropriated for the initial implementation of the provision of this Act.

18 Thereafter, the succeeding appropriations for its continued implementation shall be

19 included in the annual General Appropriations Act until the program shall have been

20 completed.

21

22 SECTION 5. *Separability Clause* – If any provision of this Act is held

23 unconstitutional, other parts or provisions hereof which are not affected thereby shall

24 continue to be in full force and effect.

25

26 SECTION 6 *Repealing Clause* – All laws, decrees, orders, rules, and regulations

27 and inconsistent with the provisions of this Act, are hereby repealed or modified

28 accordingly.

29

30 SECTION 7. *Effectivity* - This act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its

31 publication in the official Gazette or two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

32

33 Approved,