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

8 AUG 14 P2:17

SENATE

S. No. **2537**

NECEIVED BY:

Introduced by Senator Manny Villar

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The promotion and protection of the right to health among Filipinos is a policy of the State and guaranteed under our Constitution. The government therefore, is mandated to enhance and intensify its programs concerning health and health care in the pursuit of this policy.

Near fatal injuries resulting from accidents and in some cases from violence require immediate emergency response. With that, a victim's identity and other information is imperative which can only be obtained from his or her identification card. Normally, identification cards particularly those issued by the government usually contain the name, address, person to be notified and other relevant information of the cardholder. Most often, the blood type is not included.

In cases where the cardholder was victimized by an accident or violence that resulted in a heavy loss of blood, survival will depend, aside from other medical treatment, on blood transfusion. As such, immediate identification of the person's blood type is very important to the person's survival.

The proposed measure therefore, seeks to prevent any delay in blood transfusion by requiring government offices to include in their identification cards information on the holder's blood type.

Early passage of this bill is earnestly sought.

MANNY VILLAR

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

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SENATE

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S. No. **2537**

Introduced by Senator Manny Villar

AN ACT REQUIRING ALL GOVERNMENT-ISSUED IDENTIFICATION CARDS, CERTIFICATES AND LICENSES TO INCLUDE A PORTION INDICATING THE BLOOD TYPE OF THE HOLDER THEREOF AND PROVIDING PENALTIES FOR VIOLATIONS THEREOF

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

SECTION 1. *Title.* – This Act shall be known as the "Blood Type Identification Act of 2008".

- SEC. 2. Declaration of Policy. In order to promote public health, it is hereby declared the policy of the State:
 - (a) To promote awareness about the importance of blood type which is to be found in all government-issued identification cards; and
 - (b) To facilitate immediate transfusion response during medical emergencies.
- SEC. 3. *Implementing Agencies.* The Government Service Insurance System (GSIS), Social Security System (SSS), Professional Regulation Commission (PRC), Land Transportation Office (LTO), Philippine National Police (PNP), Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA), Local Treasurer's Office and the Local Registrar's Office shall implement the provisions of this Act.
- SEC. 4. Rules and Regulations. All government implementing agencies, in coordination with the Department of Health, shall formulate the rules and regulations necessary to implement the provisions of this Act within six (6) months of its effectivity.
- SEC. 5. Coverage. The following government-issued identification documents shall bear the blood type of its owner-holder:
 - (a) Certificates:
 - (1) Birth Certificate or Certificate of Live Birth; and
 - (2) Community Tax Certificate, as issued by the Local Treasurer's Office

- (b) Licenses:
 - (1) Driver's license, as issued by the LTO; and
 - (2) Firearms license, as issued by the PNP
- (c) Identification Cards:
 - (1) SSS Card, as issued by the SSS;
 - (2) GSIS card, as issued by the GSIS;
 - (3) Passport, as issued by the DFA; and
 - (4) Professional Identification Card (PIC), as issued by the PRC and such other identification documents in the same classification as enumerated above.
- SEC. 6. Appropriations. The amount necessary for the implementation of this Act shall be charged to the appropriations of the implementing agencies under the General Appropriations Act. Thereafter, such sums as may be necessary for its continued implementation shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.
- SEC. 7. *Penal Provision.* Any person who, on his own volition, bears false information regarding his or her blood type on his or her license and/or other government identification cards shall be punished by a fine of not less than Five thousand pesos (P5,000.00).

Any person in government office who violates the provisions of this Act shall, in addition to the penalty stated above, be dismissed from government service.

- SEC. 8. Separability Clause. In the event that any provision of this Act is declared unconstitutional, the validity of the other provisions shall not be affected by such declaration.
- SEC. 9. Repealing Clause. All laws, decrees, orders, rules and regulations and other issuances or parts thereof which are inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.
- SEC. 10. *Effectivity.* This Act shall take effect after fifteen (15) days following its full and complete publication in the *Official Gazette* or in any newspaper of general circulation in the Philippines.

Approved,