

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

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SENATE
S. No. 3003

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Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

EXPLANATORY NOTE

According to ARTICLE XIII Section 12 of the 1987 Constitution:

“The State shall establish and maintain an effective food and drug regulatory system and undertake appropriate health, manpower development, and research, responsive to the country's health needs and problems.”

Nosocomial infections are infections which are a result of treatment in a hospital or a healthcare service unit, but secondary to the patient's original condition. This type of infection is also known as a hospital-acquired infection (or more generically healthcare-associated infections). Health experts have warned that one out of 20 patients confined in a hospital or health care unit acquires infection during admission. Dr. Victor Rosenthal, of the World Health Organization's Infection Control Guidelines External Reviewer, said that in most developing countries 15 out of 100 patients confined in the intensive care unit are at risk of acquiring hospital-related infection. Hospital-acquired infections have been identified as responsible for a large number of deaths in the world. The most efficient way to reduce the spread of this type of infection is to improve hygiene practices in the hospital.

This bill seeks to address a very much preventable cause of death and hospital-related illnesses by keeping track of all possible sources of infection that will guide hospital administrators in addressing these problems.

MIRIAM DEFENSOR SANTIAGO

SENATE
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HOSPITAL INFECTIONS DISCLOSURE ACT

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

3 SECTION 1. *Definition.* – As used in this Act, “Hospital-Acquired Infection” shall
4 mean any localized or systemic patient condition that:

5 (A) Results from an adverse reaction to the presence of an infectious agent or agents, or its toxin
6 or toxins; and

7 (B) Was not present or incubating at the time of the patient’s admission to the hospital.

8 SECTION 2. *Hospital Record.* – All hospitals shall collect and maintain records of data
9 on hospital-acquired infection rates for specific surgical procedures and/or surveillance in critical
10 care and/or intensive care units performed by the hospital, as determined by the Secretary of
11 Health, including the following types of infections:

12 (A) Surgical Site Infections;

13 (B) Ventilator Associated Pneumonia;

14 (C) Central Line Related Bloodstream Infections;

15 (D) Urinary Tract Catheter Infections; and

16 (E) Such other types of infections as shall be determined by the Secretary of Health.

17 SECTION 3. *Reporting.* The information obtained in accordance with section 2 of this
18 Act shall be reported as follows :

1 (A) Each year on or before April 30, July 31, October 31, and January 31, each hospital shall
2 report all data collected on hospital-acquired infections in such hospital during the immediately
3 preceding quarter.

4 (B) Each year on or before March 1, the Department of Health shall submit a report to the
5 legislature, summarizing the data included in the hospital quarterly reports for the previous
6 calendar year. In addition, such report shall be available to the public upon request.

7 SECTION 4. *Advisory Committee.* The Secretary of Health shall establish and appoint
8 members to an advisory committee. The members of the advisory committee shall include
9 representation of infection control department of both public and private hospitals, physicians,
10 epidemiologists with hospital-acquired infection expertise, academic researchers, health insurers,
11 health maintenance organizations, organized labor, consumer organizations and purchasers of
12 insurance, such as employers. The majority of the members of the advisory committee shall
13 represent interests other than hospitals. The advisory committee shall work with the Department
14 of Health to establish standards, rules and regulations necessary to implement the provisions of
15 this Act.

16 SECTION 5. *Repealing Clause.* – All laws, decrees, orders, rules and regulations or
17 parts thereof inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed, amended or
18 modified accordingly.

19 SECTION 6. *Separability Clause.* – If, for any reason, any provision of this Act is
20 declared to be unconstitutional or invalid, the other sections or provisions hereof which are not
21 affected thereby shall continue to be in full force and effect.

22 SECTION 7. *Effectivity Clause.* – This Act shall take effect after fifteen (15) days
23 following its publication in the *Official Gazette* or in two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

24 Approved,