

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

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Introduced by Representative Maximo B. Rodriguez, Jr.

House Bill No. 2579

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill was originally introduced as House Bill No. 2647 during the Fourteenth Congress where it was approved by the House of Representatives and transmitted to the Senate. It was again re-filed during the 15<sup>th</sup> Congress as House Bill No. 590 where it was again approved by the Committee on Health, approved on 2<sup>nd</sup> reading, approved on 3<sup>rd</sup> reading and was transmitted to the Senate where it was not acted upon. It was again re-filed during the 16<sup>th</sup> Congress.

Prostate cancer is one of the leading causes of death among Filipino males. Statistics show that about 25 percent (25%) of men afflicted with prostate cancer die ultimately. Patients who survive the cancer still require treatment to ease symptoms such as pain, bleeding and urinary obstruction.

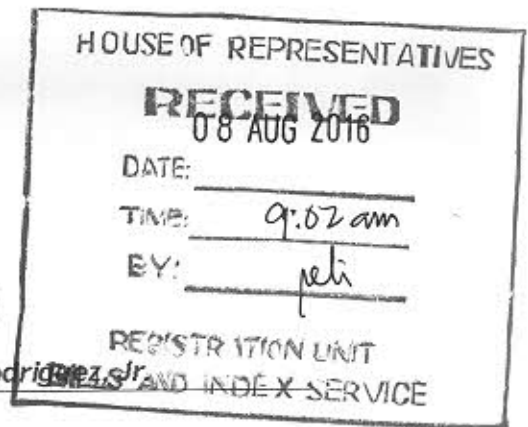
The American Cancer Society and the American Urological Association recommend that men forty (40) years or older undergo periodic testing for the early detection of prostate cancer. Early detection will prevent future disease progression.

Also, treatment in the early stages of cancer is less costly than when done in its advanced stages.

This bill seeks to establish a program to educate the public and increase awareness on prostate cancer.

In view hereof, the early passage of this proposed measure is highly recommended.

  
MAXIMO B. RODRIGUEZ, JR.



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AN ACT  
ESTABLISHING A PROGRAM FOR PUBLIC EDUCATION ON PROSTATE  
CANCER AND OTHER LEADING TYPES OF CANCER

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

**SECTION 1.** Short Title. – This Act shall be known as the “Prostate Cancer Public Awareness Act”.

**SEC. 2.** Definition. – For purposes of this Act, the term:

(a) Director means the Director of the Non-Communicable Disease Control Service of the Department of Health.

**SEC. 3.** Establishment of Program for Public Education on Prostate Cancer and Other Leading Types of Cancer. – The Director shall carry out a program on prostate cancer and other leading types of cancer. Through the program, he shall conduct or support activities to achieve the following purposes:

(a) To educate males who are forty (40) years of age or older on the need to periodically undergo physical examinations for prostate cancer and other leading types of cancer, including education on the frequency and type of such examinations that are appropriate for various age groups of such men;

(b) To educate males on the availability and appropriateness of procedures for detecting the cancer in its early stages, including the procedure known as prostate ultrasound; and

(c) To educate males on the value of good nutrition and maintaining a healthy lifestyle.

**SEC. 4.** Separability Clause. – If any provision or part hereof is held invalid of unconstitutional, the remainder of the law or the provision not otherwise affected shall remain valid and subsisting.

**SEC. 5.** Repealing Clause. – Any law, presidential decree or issuance, executive order, letter of instruction, administrative order, rule or regulation contrary to or inconsistent with the provisions of this Act is hereby repealed, amended or modified accordingly.

**SEC. 6.** Effectivity Clause. – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,