

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



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Introduced by Representative Rufus B. Rodriguez

House Bill No. **5545**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Data from the Dangerous Drugs Board show that for the year 2018 alone, fifty-four (54) treatment and rehabilitation facilities in the Philippines reported to the Treatment and Rehabilitation Information System (TRAIS).

From the facilities reporting, a total of five thousand, four hundred forty-seven (5,447) admissions were recorded. Five thousand, one hundred eighty-eight (5,188) of this are new cases, one hundred seventy-one (171) are relapsed or readmitted cases and eighty-eight (88) have sought treatment in an out-patient facility.

This shows a significant increase in admission of 34.66% as compared to the previous year. Also, this number only shows those drug users who entered the facilities. The Philippine National Police, National Bureau of Investigation and Philippine Drug Enforcement Agency all agree that there are at least 8 million drug users in the Philippines.

It is therefore clear that the treatment and rehabilitation facilities of the government are not enough. There is a need to provide for more accessible and affordable rehabilitation centers for drug users who are willing to change and become clean.

In view of the foregoing, immediate approval of this measure is earnestly requested.


RUFUS B. RODRIGUEZ

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AN ACT

MANDATING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A REHABILITATION CENTER FOR ILLEGAL DRUGS USERS IN EVERY PROVINCE OF THE PHILIPPINES, PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

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

SECTION 1. There shall be established, through the Department of Health (DOH), jointly with the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD), the Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG) and the concerned provincial government, a Rehabilitation Center for Illegal Drugs Users in every province in the country.

SEC 2. The Provincial Governor, in coordination with the Secretary of Health and the Secretary of Public Works and Highways, shall determine the location of each Rehabilitation Center for Illegal Drugs Users, taking into consideration its accessibility of to the residents of remote areas.

SEC 3. The DOH, in coordination with the provincial government, shall exercise supervision and control over each Rehabilitation Center for Illegal Drugs Users, in addition to the duties and responsibilities of the Department under Section 767 of Republic Act No. (RA) 9165, otherwise known as the Comprehensive /Dangerous Drugs Act of 2002.

SEC 4. The program for the voluntary or compulsory submission of a drug dependent and other legal processes related thereby shall be in compliance to the provisions in Article VII of RA 9165.

SEC 5. The Rehabilitation Center for Illegal Drugs Users shall provide affordable and accessible treatment and care to persons who committed abused of illegal drugs and voluntarily submit for rehabilitation. It shall further make available a comprehensive social reintegration program and follow-up for illegal drug dependents to prepare them for re-integration in the community after the treatment.

SEC 6. Funding. – The funds necessary for the implementation of this Act shall be included in the General Appropriations of Act of each concerned Agency as part of their annual budget.

SEC. 7. Implementing Rules and Regulations. – The DOH, in consultation with the DSWD and the DILG, shall promulgate the necessary rules and regulations to implement the provisions of this Act.

SEC. 8. Separability Clause. – If any portion or provision of this Act is declared unconstitutional, the same shall not affect the validity and effectivity of the other provisions not affected thereby.

SEC. 9 Repealing Clause. – All laws, parts of laws, decrees, presidential decrees, issuances, proclamations, orders, and administrative regulations in conflict with the provisions of this Act are hereby amended, modified or repealed accordingly.

SEC. 10 Effectivity Clause. – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation, whichever comes earlier.

Approved,