

Republic of the Philippines
House of Representatives
Quezon City, Metro Manila

SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 3044

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

RECEIVED

DATE: 17 AUG 2016

TIME: 11:30am

BY: [Signature]

REGISTRATION UNIT
BILLS AND INDEX SERVICE

Introduced by Honorable Dale "Along" R. Malapitan

Explanatory Note

The government's aggressive campaign against illegal drugs has revealed the extent of the seriousness of the drug problem in the country. Already, around 120,038 drug personalities have surrendered to authorities since "Oplan Tokhang" and "Project Double Barrel" were launched in July 1, 2016.

Based on information supplied by the Philippine National Police (PNP) and the consolidated data of the Philippine Drug Enforcement Agency (PDEA), there are now 1.33 million drug users in the Philippines with around 8,629 villages out of the 42,065 barangays nationwide have drug related cases. In Metro Manila alone, 92% of the barangays were already exposed to the illegal drugs trade.

In the City of Caloocan, more than 1,000 drug dependents have so far surrendered. This number is expected to rise further as the PNP intensifies its campaign and with the City Government joining the war against this social menace.

But more than the crackdown on illegal drugs, and the arrest and punishment of those involved, is the supreme onus of the government to put these drug dependents under rehabilitation for proper care and treatment. Consistent with the State policies as enshrined in our Constitution, it must endeavor to work for the restoration of their dignity through adequate and relevant medical and psychotherapeutic interventions design for their recovery, reformation and re-integration to society as responsible and productive members thereof.

The establishment of drug rehab centers coupled with the adoption of an effective rehab program is a step towards that direction. But with the limited number facilities such as in Metro Manila where there is only a single DOH supervised rehab center that exist, the objective for the effective recovery, reformation and re-integration of drug users may become too hard to achieve.

This proposed measure aims to address such inadequacy and resolve the needs for rehab facilities for the City of Caloocan. The establishment of a rehabilitation center will not only approximate the holistic treatment of drug dependent but will render the attainment of such goal a near absolute certainty. Thus, the immediate consideration and approval of this proposed bill is highly recommended.



HON. DALE "ALONG" R. MALAPITAN

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AN ACT
ESTABLISHING A DRUG REHABILITATION CENTER IN THE CITY
OF CALOOCAN, METRO MANILA TO BE KNOWN AS THE CALOOCAN
CITY REHABILITATION CENTER FOR DRUG DEPENDENTS,
APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

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

SECTION 1. *Creation.* - There shall be established, under the supervision of the Department of Health, a drug rehabilitation center in the city of Caloocan to be known as the Caloocan City Rehabilitation Center for Drug Dependents, hereinafter referred to as the Center. It shall be responsible for the treatment and rehabilitation of drug dependents from Caloocan City and such other drug users as may be referred to by the Department of Health.

SEC. 2. *Objectives and Functions.* - The Center shall have the following objectives and functions:

- a. To provide care, treatment and accommodation to persons found to be suffering from drug addiction;
- b. To bring such person to a state where he is physically, psychologically and socially capable of coping with problems common to his peer group;
- c. To facilitate and encourage the dissemination and exchange of information on the prevention, care, treatment and control of drug addiction and abuse;
- d. To provide after care, follow-up and social re-integration services to enable a drug dependent to adjust to family and community life after his release;
- e. To provide each drug dependent the motivation for regaining self-confidence, rediscover his working abilities and develop a sense of responsibility for himself;
- f. To encourage the formation of organizations, associations, or groups composed of parents, guardians, and immediate relatives of drug dependents to make them aware and enhance

- their participation in the care, treatment and rehabilitation of their relatives or wards found to be drug dependent;
- g. To undertake continuous training of physicians, nurses, health officers, psychologists, and social workers on the practical and scientific methods of prevention, care, treatment and rehabilitation of persons found to be drug dependent;
 - h. To strengthen the emotional and spiritual make-up of an individual drug dependent by conducting regular guidance and counseling sessions as well as interdenominational church services.

SEC. 3. *Organization.* - The Center shall be headed by a Director who shall be appointed by the Secretary of the Department of Health and vested with the powers and authority generally exercised by a Chief of a government hospital for the effective operation of the Center.

SEC. 4. *Personnel and Staff.* - The Director shall appoint such personnel and staff as may be necessary for the effective operation of the Center subject to existing laws, rules and regulations.

SEC. 5. *Development Plan.* - The Center, through its Director, is hereby authorized to embark on a development plan in the fulfillment of the following:

- a. To establish building facilities equipped with new and modern equipment to serve and cater to the needs of drug dependents;
- b. To initiate plans for the development of income generating programs for the ultimate purpose of generating resources for the Center in the pursuit of its programs involving charitable services;
- c. To provide pharmacy services, dispensaries and health stations; and,
- d. To provide on the job trainings and other educational facilities for interns, graduates and undergraduates of medicine and related fields germane to the rehabilitation of drug dependents.

SEC. 6. *Government Assistance to the Center.* - The Secretary of Health is hereby authorized to call upon any department, bureau, agency or instrumentality of the government for any such assistance as may be necessary for the effective implementation of this Act.

SEC. 7. *Rules and Regulations.* - The Director of the Center is hereby authorized, subject to the approval of the Secretary of the Department of Health, to promulgate such rules and regulations as may be necessary to secure an effective administration of the Center and the effective implementation of the provisions of this Act.

SEC. 8. *Appropriations.* - The amount necessary for the effective implementation of this Act shall be charged against the appropriations for the Department of Health under the current General Appropriations Act.

Thereafter, such sum as may be necessary for the continued operation of the Center shall be included in the Annual General Appropriations Act.

SEC. 9. Effectivity. - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after completion of its publication in the Official Gazette or in two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,