

**Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF THE REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City, Metro Manila.**

Thirteenth Congress
First Regular Session

House Bill No. 1381



Introduced by **Honorable Matias V. Defensor, Jr.**

**AN ACT AMENDING SESSIONS 61 AND SECTION 103 OF PRESIDENTIAL
DECREE NO. 856 OR OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE "CODE ON
SANITATION"**

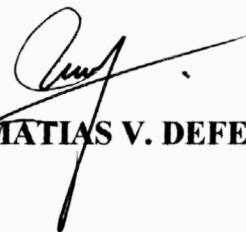
EXPLANATORY NOTE

Our Constitution emphasizes the rights of women to due respect and dignity as provided in Section 14, Article XIII which states, thus " State shall protect working women by providing safe and healthful working conditions, taking into account their maternal function, and such facilities and opportunities that will enhance their welfare and enable them to realize their full potential in the service of the nation."

In the Philippines, sauna baths and massage parlors have been known throughout our neighboring countries to be the dens of prostitution. Unfortunately, these establishments meant for hygienic and health purposes have turned into cages of immorality. To aggravate the problem, surveys show that these places are the womb the HIV infected sex workers. In a 1993 survey of the Field Epidemiology Training Program of the Department of Health, it shows that one out of every 300 female sex workers examined for HIV in the metropolis were HIV positive. It further disclosed that 1.31% of the female sex workers in Metro Manila are HIV positive and with a 5% growth rate.

The legislature Address the decadence of our morality today. Usually, the women working in the sauna baths and massage parlors are victim of poverty who is often the prey of the owners of these establishments to pleasure hungry domestic and foreign tourists.

In view of the foregoing considerations, approval of this bill is highly recommended.


ATTY. MATIAS V. DEFENSOR, JR.

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SECTION 1. Section 61 and 103 of Presidential Decree No. 856 Otherwise knows as “Code of Sanitation “ are hereby amended and shall read as follows and shall be numbered accordingly:

Sec 61. Sanitary Requirements

A. Massage Clinic and Bath Establishments

1. The Following requirements shall be enforced

- a. Every massage cubicle and sauna bath cubicle must adequately be ventilated and provided with sliding translucent curtains or transparent sliding glass doors without lock which will be seven feet height with a clearance of two (2) feet from the floor with a two feet from below and one foot from above. Each cubicle must also be equipped with a suitable and clean massage table.
- b. The operation hours of massage and sauna baths is from twelve (12) in the morning to twelve in the evening.
- c. No display window for the masseurs, massage clinic attendants and sauna bath attendants shall be provided.

Sec. 103. Penal Provisions

Unless otherwise provided in any Chapter or section in this Code, any person who shall violate, disobey, refuse, omit or neglect Comply with any of the rules and regulation of this Act shall be Liable, for the offense, to a fine of not less than five thousand pesos (5,000.00) but not more than ten thousand pesos (10,000.00) and by imprisonment of not less than one year but not more than years as determined by the Court; for the second offense, to a fine of not less than ten thousand pesos (P 10,000.00) but not more than fifteen thousand pesos (P 15,000.00) but not more than twenty thousand pesos (P 20,000.00) and/or by imprisonment of not less than six years but not more than ten years us determined by the Court.

If the offender is an establishment, corporation or a company, it Shall be liable, for the first offense, to a fine of not less than ten thousand Pesos (P 10,000.00) but not more than twenty five thousand pesos (P 25,000.00) and/or suspension of its operations for at least one month as determined by the Court; for the

second offense, to a fine of not less than twenty five thousand pesos n(P 25,000.00) but not more than fifty thousand pesos (P 25,000.00) and/ or suspension of its operations for at least three month as determined by the Court; for the third offense, to a fine of not less than fifty thousand pesos (P 50,000.00) but not more than seventy five thousand pesos (P 75,000.00) and/or cancellation on its operation as determined by the Court.

SECTION 2. This Act shall effect upon its approval

Approved.