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

THIRTEENTH CONGRESS

First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 1739



Introduced by Honorable Albert S. Garcia

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill seeks to establish a Drug Rehabilitation Center in the Province of Bataan.

Drug addiction has already become prevalent not only in Metro Manila but also in the neighboring provinces of the highly urbanized cities of the country. Recent reports indicate the rampant spreading of this problem which turn into the major cause of crimes of robbery and rape among others which leave behind immeasurable grief, wasted lives and clogging of cases in courts. People of all ages are continuously being victimized by these dangerous and potent substances. Our law enforcement agencies, although relentless in their efforts, could not bust all the drug rings that operate in the country as readily as they are formed. More often, these become so well-syndicated before they are discovered so much so that their infiltration give various government agencies enormous and tedious task of eradication.

It is the corresponding duty of the State to provide rehabilitation for those hooked to these dangerous substances. The drug victims, truly, are in dire need of immediate rehabilitative assistance. Their welfare is often overlooked because most of our efforts and the solutions we all want to seek are focused on crippling the perpetrators.

The Province of Bataan has not been spared by this drug plague due to its proximity to areas noted to the immediacy of these prohibited drugs, thus the need for the establishment of a drug rehabilitation center. It is in this facility that people who are affected will be given the opportunity to reform and be brought back to society's fold.

In view thereof, support and immediate passage of this bill is earnestly sought.

ALBERT S. GARCIA

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AN ACT
ESTABLISHING A DRUG REHABILITATION CENTER IN THE PROVINCE OF BATAAN, TO BE KNOWN AS THE BATAAN DRUG REHABILITATION CENTER, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREOF

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 Province of Bataan to be known as the Bataan Drug Rehabilitation Center.

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 drug dependents;

(b) To bring a drug dependent 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 ideas and information on the prevention, care treatment and control of drug addiction and abuse;

(d) To provide after-care, follow-up and social reintegration services to enable a drug dependent to adjust to family and community life after his release;

(e) To provide each drug dependent motivation to regain self-confidence, rediscover his working abilities and develop a sense of responsibility for himself;

(f) To encourage the formation of organizations and associations composed of parents, guardians and immediate relatives of drug dependents in order to incite their awareness and enhance their participation in the care, treatment and rehabilitation of their relatives or wards found to be drug dependent patients;

(g) To undertake continuous training of physicians, nurses, health officers, and social workers on the practical and scientific methods of prevention, care, treatment and rehabilitation of persons found to be drug dependents;

(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 to be assisted by two (2) Deputy Directors who shall be appointed by the Secretary of Health and

vested with powers generally exercised by a Chief and Assistant Chiefs, respectively of a government hospital.

No person shall be appointed Director or Deputy Director unless he possesses the following qualifications:

(a) At least thirty-five (35) years of age;

(b) A physician of good repute;

(c) At least five (5) years experience in the care, treatment and rehabilitation of drug dependents.

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

SEC. 5. *Five-year Development Plan.* - The Center, through its Director, shall be authorized to embark on a five-year development Plan in the fulfillment of the following:

(a) To establish additional building facility equipped with new and modern equipment to serve and cater not only to drug dependents from Region III but also from other regions;

(b) To initiate plans for the development of income generating programs for the ultimate purpose of generating resources to provide charity services;

(c) To provide hospital pharmacy services, free dispensaries and health stations; and

(d) To provide educational facilities for interns, graduates and undergraduates of medicine.

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 such assistance as may be necessary to effectively implement this Act.

SEC. 7. *Rules and Regulations.* - The Director of the Center is hereby authorized, with the approval of the Secretary 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 sum 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 amount 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 upon its approval.

Approved,