

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City



THIRTEENTH CONGRESS

First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 3392

Introduced by HON. DANTON Q. BUESER

This bill seeks the establishment of a Drug Rehabilitation Center in the City of San Pablo, Province of Laguna.

Drug abuse is not a new problem. It has been there incessantly and has reached alarming proportions affecting all cross-sections of society. While the government is claimed to have taken serious initiatives to curb the menace, the crisis persists and continues to wreck individuals, families and communities. Of late, the government has beefed up its battle against prohibited drugs through the passage of laws that created law enforcement agencies focused on illegal drugs and encourages active participation of the local government units as well as concerned citizens in a unified crusade to stop this public enemy.

Left in the sidelines, however, are the victims of this societal menace. The drug users and dependents who have been lured into the trap by unscrupulous illegal drug dealers, aside from being subjected to public disdain, are deprived of accessible and efficient professional help. Statistics show that those affected by the drug problem are young and old alike, rich and poor, employed or unemployed, students and out-of-school youth, women and men, all of whom can still be useful members of society if afforded the necessary medical attention. It has thus become imperative for the government to not only direct its efforts at stopping illegal drugs trade, but also rehabilitating the innocent victims who have fallen prey to it.

The Province of Laguna is one of the provinces, if not the province with the highest incidence of reported drug abuse cases in the Southern Tagalog Region. Reported cases of unwanted pregnancies, dropping out of school, resignation or expulsion from employment, separation of families, all due to drug-related issues have soared. Lamentably, however, there are no medical facilities easily accessible in the area where drug victims can find refuge for their recovery. It is in this regard that the approval of this bill is earnestly sought.

The establishment of a Drug Rehabilitation Center in San Pablo City, Laguna shall cater to patients not only from Laguna but also other provinces in the Southern Tagalog Region.



DANTON Q. BUESER
Representative
Third District, Laguna

THIRTEENTH CONGRESS

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Introduced by HON. DANTON Q. BUESER

AN ACT
ESTABLISHING A DRUG REHABILITATION CENTER IN THE CITY OF SAN
PABLO PROVINCE OF LAGUNA, TO BE KNOWN AS THE SAN PABLO CITY
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 City of San Pablo Province of Laguna to be known as the San Pablo City Drug Rehabilitation Center.

SECTION 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.

SECTION 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.

SECTION 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.

SECTION 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 IV 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.

SECTION 6. *Government Assistance to the Center.* – The Secretary of Health is hereby authorized to call upon any department, bureau, agency or instrumentally of the government for such assistance as may be necessary to effectively implement this Act.

SECTION 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.

SECTION 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.

SECTION 9. *Effectivity.* – This Act shall take effect upon its approval.