

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

First Regular Session
THIRTEENTH CONGRESS

House Bill No. 3640



Introduced by Rep. Manuel "Way Kurat" E. Zamora

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Outbreaks and even epidemics of highly communicable and infectious diseases have been hugging the headlines apart from natural and man-made disasters lately. So much scare has gripped us with news about SARS, dengue, meningococcemia, bird flu and other deadly illnesses that it would seem we are helpless in the face of their onslaught.

On the other hand, we tend to forget about the age old prescription of medical authorities that an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure. It is proven time and again that outbreaks and epidemics happen because of unhygienic and careless practices tolerated for a long time prior to their occurrence. If only we consciously eradicate the sources and breeding grounds of these diseases and their known carriers, their incidence will be greatly curbed if not totally reduced to nil. In most instances, acting only after the appearance of a confirmed case of a deadly disease may be too late in preventing its spread.

This bill provides for the destruction of disease-bearing insects in private and public establishments to prevent the outbreak of fatal diseases. It mandates the Department of Health to conduct medical inspections to ensure compliance and it also prescribes the penalties for violations of the law.

This legislative measure's approval is timely, beneficial and necessary.


MANUEL "WAY KURAT" E. ZAMORA

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

First Regular Session
THIRTEENTH CONGRESS

House Bill No. **3640**

Introduced by Rep. Manuel “Way Kurat” E. Zamora

THE DESTRUCTION OF DISEASE-BEARING INSECTS LAW OF 2005

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

SECTION 1. Declaration of Policy. It is declared the policy of the State to promote and protect the health of the people by eliminating and preventing the causes of diseases.

Section 2. Responsibility of Citizens. Owners of private residences and establishments and the heads of public or government establishments and buildings, shall be held responsible for the destruction of disease-bearing insects within their respective residences, establishments, buildings and the premises of such residences, establishments and buildings.

Section 3. Authority of the Department of Health. The Department of Health, in coordination with the concerned local government unit and by virtue of an order duly signed by the Secretary of Health, is hereby granted the authority to conduct a medical inspection in any private or public establishment and its premises to determine whether or not such private residences, private and public establishments and buildings and their premises harbor disease-bearing insects.

Section 4. Penalty. Private and public establishments found to be in violation of this Act shall be imposed the following penalties:

- a. The owners of private residences and their premises found to be harboring disease-bearing insects shall be fined the amount of P20,000 for the first offense and P50,000 for the second offense and the succeeding offenses thereafter.
- b. The owner of private establishments such as, but not limited to, hotels, restaurants, malls, and the like, and their premises, found to be harboring disease-bearing insects shall be fined the amount of P100,000

for the first offense and the immediate closure of the establishment for the second offense.

- c. The head of the agency occupying a public or government establishment and building and its premises found to be harboring disease-bearing insects shall be suspended for three (3) months without pay for the first offense and six (6) months without pay for every succeeding offenses thereafter.

Section 5. Implementing Rules and Regulations. The Secretary of the Department of Health shall formulate the necessary rules and regulations for the implementation of this Act.

Section 6. Repealing Clause. All laws, decrees, rules or regulations or parts thereof, which are inconsistent with the provisions of this Act, are hereby deemed repealed, amended or modified accordingly.

Section 7. Separability Clause. If, for any reason, any part or provision of this Act is declared invalid, such declaration shall not affect the other provisions of this Act.

Section 8. Effectivity. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in two national newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,