

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

THIRTEENTH CONGRESS
Second Regular Session

House Bill No. 5479



Introduced by **HON. IGNACIO T. ARROYO**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Drug addictions have become prevalent in our society nowadays. As a matter of fact, most of the crimes committed in our country are drug related.

However, not all drug dependents are considered hopeless cases; hence, the need to establish drug rehabilitation center in every region to provide care, treatment and accommodation to persons found to be drug dependents.

This bill also seeks to facilitate and encourage the dissemination and exchange of ideas and information on the prevention, care, treatment and control of drug addiction. Moreover, the center will help in providing each drug dependent motivation in regaining self-confidence, rediscover his working abilities and develop a sense of responsibility.

The strengthening of the emotional and spiritual make-up of an individual drug dependent is likewise aimed by conducting regular guidance and counseling sessions as well as interdenominational church services.

In view of this, the immediate approval of this bill is earnestly requested.


IGNACIO T. ARROYO

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AN ACT
PROVIDING FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF DRUG REHABILITATION
CENTER IN EVERY REGION OF THE COUNTRY AND APPROPRIATING
FUNDS THEREFOR

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

SECTION 1. Creation. – There shall be established, under the supervision of the Department of Health, drug rehabilitation center in every region of the country, herein referred to as the 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;
- (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 arouse 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. Site of the Center. – The Secretary of Health in coordination with the Secretary of Public Works and Highways shall, taking into consideration the accessibility of the Center to its clientele, determine the location thereof.

SECTION 4. 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 possess 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 5. 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 regulation..

SECTION 6. 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:

1. To establish additional building facilities equipped with new and modern equipment to serve and cater to drug dependents of the region;
2. To initiate plans for the development of income generating programs for the ultimate purpose of generating resources to provide charity services;
3. To provide hospital pharmacy services, free dispensaries and health stations; and
4. To provide educational facilities for interns and graduate and undergraduate students of medicine.

SECTION 7. 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.

SECTION 8. 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.

Day care workers assigned to hazardous places shall be given hazard pay.

SECTION 9. 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 as may be necessary for the continued operation of the Center shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

SECTION 10. Effectivity. – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in any newspaper of General Circulation.

Approved,