

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

FIFTEENTH CONGRESS
Second Regular Session

HOUSE BILL No. 4900

Introduced by: HON. SALVIO B. FORTUNO

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The severe lack of employment opportunities in the Philippines has compelled our nurses to go abroad to seek a better future for themselves and their families. Due to the declining demands in the United Kingdom and the United States of America, our licensed nurses have been forced to accept even lower level medical jobs.

As the job abroad requires work experience or at least training, many licensed nurses have been forced to pay for the required training and our local hospitals, including our government hospitals take the opportunity by demanding payment for training fees, which can be considered an exploitation of the highest order because you are paying the hospital for the services you rendered to their patients.

It is therefore the paramount objective of this bill to curb this exploitative practice of demanding payment for training and to equip our nurses desiring to go abroad to acquire the necessary training without having to pay the hospital or medical center, which will issue the training certificate.

The foregoing reasons warrant the approval of this important piece of legislation.


REP. SALVIO B. FORTUNO
Fifth District, Camarines Sur

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AN ACT
PROVIDING FOR FREE ON-THE-JOB-PROFESSIONAL TRAINING FOR LICENSED NURSES IN ANY GOVERNMENT AND PRIVATE HOSPITALS OR MEDICAL CENTERS AND PENALIZING ANY VIOLATION THEREFOR

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

SECTION 1. *Mandatory-On-The-Job-Professional Training.* – All nurses, who passed and obtained license from the Professional Regulations Commission (PRC) are required to undergo at least six (6) months training in any government or private hospitals or medical centers.

No nurse shall be allowed to leave for employment abroad unless the prescribed training has been completed as certified by the hospital or medical center concerned: *Provided*, however, that those who have already been employed or acquired training for the same period are not covered by this Act.

SEC. 2. *Mandatory Training Acceptance by Government and Private Hospitals or Medical Centers.* – No government and private hospitals or medical centers shall refuse to provide Free On-the-Job-Professional Training to nurses as described in the immediately preceding Section except when the required number of trainees already exceeds the patient to trainee ratio as determined by the Department of Health (DOH), in coordination with the Philippine Nurses Association (PNA).

SEC. 3. *Penalty.* – Any person or corporation found guilty of violating this Act shall suffer the penalty of imprisonment of not less than six (6) month nor more than one (1) year and a fine of not exceeding two hundred thousand pesos (P200,000.00).

If the offender is a corporation or any juridical person, the penalty shall be imposed upon the President, Chief Operating Officer and any other person responsible for the violation.

If the offender is a foreigner, he shall be summarily deported and be barred permanently from entering the country.

SEC. 4. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.* – The Department of Health (DOH), in coordination with the Philippine Nurses Association (PNA), shall issue the necessary rules and regulations to implement this Act.

SEC. 5. *Effectivity.* – This Act shall take effect upon its publication in any newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,