

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

FIFTEENTH CONGRESS
Second Regular Session
HOUSE BILL NO. 5264

Introduced By **HONORABLE CATALINA CABRERA-BAGASINA**
Association of Laborers and Employees (ALE) Partylist

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill seeks to provide a perfect approach to eradicate lice infestations as part of the nutritional campaign of the Department of Health and Department of Education in preparatory school, kindergarten, elementary and high school. The campaign will be known as "ALEs Kuto Ni ALE".

It is a Constitutional guarantee that the State shall protect and promote the right to health of the people. It also recognizes the importance of the youth in nation-building so the promotion of their physical well-being is an utmost priority.

To achieve a healthy and nutritious life, the two departments must spearhead this campaign as a complement of their feeding programs. Lice infestation is dangerous because they not only suck blood from the host's head but they also chew it. However, there are numerous ways to solve the problem it can be controlled with lice combs, and medicated shampoos or washes. With the proper support and assistance from the two of the biggest departments of the government, the incidence of infestations will be lowered significantly.

Thus, the passage of this bill is earnestly sought.


HON. CATALINA CABRERA-BAGASINA

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AN ACT

PROVIDING FOR THE MANDATORY INCLUSION OF ANTI - LICE CAMPAIGN PROGRAM IN THE PRE-SCHOOL, ELEMENTARY AND HIGHSCHOOL, BOTH IN PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SCHOOLS AND EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

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

SECTION 1. *Title.* - This Act shall be known as the "Anti-Lice Campaign Act of 2011".

SECTION 2. *Declaration of Policy.* - The State shall protect and promote the right to health of the people and instill health consciousness among them. Moreover, it is the policy of the State to recognize the important role of the youth in nation-building. It shall promote and protect their physical and social welfare.

In view of this, the anti-lice campaign is launched for the betterment of their health and social well-being.

SECTION 3. *Definition of Terms.* The following terms when used in this Act shall mean:

- a. **Child** - a person between the age of zero (0) to below eighteen (18) years of age;
- b. **Department** - the Department of Education (DEPED) and Department of Health (DOH);
- c. **Lice** - are scavengers, feeding on skin and other debris found on the host's body, but some species feed on sebaceous secretions and blood. Most are found only on specific types of animal, and, in some cases, only to a particular part of the body; some animals are known to host up to fifteen different species
- d. **Student** - a person who is enrolled in an educational institution;

SECTION 4. *Department of Education and Department of Health as implementing agencies.* - The Department of Education (DEPED) and Department of Health shall lead to provide rules and regulations in relation to this Act and ensure the implementation of the same. The Anti-Lice Campaign in pre-school institutions, grade school and high school shall be the main focus every school opening and this will be an integral part of the joint nutrition campaign of both departments. This will be carried out by programs of the DOH and DEPED.

SECTION 5. *Time allotted in Anti-Lice Campaign.* - Time allotted in the campaign shall be implemented as follows: (a) For Pre-School, Kindergarten and Elementary students – Twenty (20) minutes every two (2) weeks; (b) For High School students – Five to Ten (5-10) Minutes every month.

SECTION 6. *The Health Director and Medical School Staff.* - A Health Director shall be appointed by the school's principal. The Health Director shall possess the skills, knowledge, understanding and competence necessary to effectively carry out the program implemented by the DEPED and DOH. All teachers in the education institution concerned shall be adequately prepared and shall regularly participate in the implementation of the program.

SECTION 7. *Anti-Lice Campaign Progress Report* - All schools and educational institutions under the jurisdiction of the DEPED and appointed Health directors appointed under the close supervision of the DOH shall submit a monthly progress report regarding the status of their institution's Anti-Lice Campaign. The assessment of students in pre-school, kindergarten, elementary and high school must be recorded and kept so as to closely monitor their individual progress in keeping with the set nutritional target.

SECTION 8. *Appropriation.* – The funding for this campaign shall be sourced from the yearly general appropriations of both DEPED and DOH.

SECTION 9. *Separability Clause.* - If any provision or part hereof, is held invalid or unconstitutional, the remainder of the law or the provision not otherwise affected shall remain valid and subsisting.

SECTION 10. *Repealing Clause.* - Any law, presidential decree or issuance, executive order, letter of instruction, administrative order, rule or regulation contrary to or is inconsistent with the provision of this Act is hereby repealed, modified, or amended accordingly.

SECTION 11. *Effectivity Clause.* - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,