

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

SIXTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 1037



Introduced by HONORABLE FERDINAND MARTIN G. ROMUALDEZ

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill seeks to establish a drug rehabilitation center in Palo, Leyte.

Drug abuse and addiction has already become prevalent not only in Metro Manila but also in provinces and other highly-urbanized areas of the country. Moreover, the incidence of crime, particularly drug-related crimes, is increasing all over the country. Citizens are continuously being victimized by these dangerous substances, either as users or victims of crimes committed by users.

It is the duty of the State to provide rehabilitation for those hooked on these dangerous substances. There is a need for them to be rehabilitated, especially if there is extreme abuse, so as to avoid the psychological, legal, financial, social and physical consequences. Their welfare is often overlooked because most of our efforts are focused on nabbing the pushers and perpetrators.

The establishment of the Palo Drug Rehabilitation Center is imperative in order to address drug-related problems within the province especially the First District of Leyte. It is in this facility that people involved in and affected by drug-related problems will be given the opportunity to battle their addiction, reform and be brought back to society's fold.

Considering the merits of this Bill, its early approval is earnestly requested.


FERDINAND MARTIN G. ROMUALDEZ

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HOUSE BILL NO. 1037

Introduced by Hon. FERDINAND MARTIN G. ROMUALDEZ

AN ACT
ESTABLISHING A DRUG REHABILITATION CENTER IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF
PALO, IN THE PROVINCE OF LEYTE, TO BE KNOWN AS THE PALO DRUG
REHABILITATION CENTER AND ALLOCATING FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR
OTHER PURPOSES

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

SECTION 1. *Declaration of Policy.* – There shall be established a drug rehabilitation center in the Municipality of Palo, in the Province of Leyte, to be known as the Palo Drug Rehabilitation Center that be responsible for the handling and implementation of programs for the rehabilitation of drug addicts and other drug-related cases within the Province of Leyte.

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 drug dependent to adjust to family and community life after his release;
- e. To encourage the formation of organizations, associations or groups 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;

- f. To undertake continuous training of physicians, nurses, health officers, psychologists and social workers on the practical and scientific methods of prevention, care, treatment and rehabilitation of persons found to be drug dependents;
- g. To strengthen the emotional and spiritual make-up of an individual drug dependent by conducting regular guidance and counselling sessions as well interdominated church services.

SECTION 3. *Organization.* – The Center shall be headed by a Director who shall be appointed by the Secretary of Health and vested with powers generally exercised by the Chief of a government devolved hospital.

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. *Development Plan.* – The Center, through its Director, is hereby authorized to embark on a development plan in the fulfilment of the following:

- a. To establish additional building facilities equipped with new and modern equipment to serve and cater to drug dependent from the Province of Leyte;
- b. To initiate plans for the development of income generating resources to provide additional projects for the Center, particularly charity services;
- c. To provide pharmacy services, dispensaries and health stations; and
- d. To provide on the job training and other educational facilities for interns, graduates and undergraduates of medicine and related fields germane to the rehabilitation of drug dependents.

SECTION 6. *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 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 Secretary of Health shall immediately include in the programs of the Department of Health the establishment and operationalization of the Palo Drug Rehabilitation Center in the Municipality of Palo, in the Province of Leyte, the funding shall be included in the General Appropriations Act.

Approved.