

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

SIXTEENTH CONGRESS

First Regular Session

House Bill No. 2421



Introduced by: Representative Nelson "Sonny" P. Collantes

Explanatory Note

Article II (Declaration of Principles and State Policies) of the 1987 Constitution provides that:

"SECTION 5. The maintenance of peace and order, the protection of life, liberty and property, and the promotion of the general welfare are essential for the enjoyment by all the people of the blessings of democracy."

"SECTION 13. The State recognizes the vital role of the youth in nation-building and shall promote and protect their physical, moral, spiritual, intellectual and social well-being. It shall inculcate in the youth patriotism and nationalism, and encourage their involvement in public and civic affairs."

"SECTION 15. The State shall protect and promote the right to health of the people and instill health consciousness among them."

Section 2 of Republic Act No. 9165, otherwise known as the Comprehensive Dangerous Drugs Act of 2002 declares that:

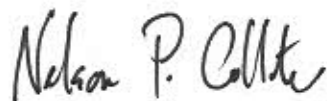
"SECTION 2. It is the policy of the State to provide effective mechanisms or measures to re-integrate into society individuals who have fallen victims to drug abuse or drug dependence through sustainable programs of treatment and rehabilitation."

The national policy-making and strategy formulating body for drug abuse prevention and control is the Dangerous Drugs Board (DDB). The said agency has stated that based on household surveys, the estimated number of drug users in the country: in 1999 (DDB Survey) – 3.4 million (1.8 regular and 1.4 occasional users); in 2001 (SWS Survey) 2.2 to 9.3 million; in 2004 (DDB Survey) – 6.7 million; and in 2008 (DDB-DILG Survey) – estimated 1.7 million users.

The citizens of the Philippines are the most important asset of the society. An unhealthy citizen cannot function to improve the State. It was stated that 80% of Filipino families have a family member who is dependent on drugs. The said families cannot simply turn their backs on their relatives who are victims of drug abuse. Hence, the families must be given assistance by the State as to their possible re-integration in the society.

The proposed measure for the establishment of a Drug Rehabilitation Center in Tanauan City, Batangas will provide the necessary treatment for drug dependents, guide former drug dependents to become productive members of society, and supplement drug eradication efforts of the State.

In view of the foregoing, the passage of this measure is earnestly sought.


NELSON "SONNY" P. COLLANTES

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

SIXTEENTH CONGRESS

First Regular Session

House Bill No. **2421**

Introduced by: Representative Nelson "Sonny" P. Collantes

**AN ACT ESTABLISHING A DRUG REHABILITATION CENTER IN TANAUAN CITY, BATANGAS
AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR**

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

SECTION 1. *Creation.* - There shall be established under the supervision of the Department of Health, a Drug Rehabilitation Center in Tanauan City, Batangas.

SECTION 2. *Objectives and Function.* - The Center shall have the following objectives and functions:

- a) To provide care, treatment and accommodation to persons found to be drug dependent;
- b) To bring a drug dependent to a state where he/she is physically, and psychologically and socially capable of coping with drug problems;
- 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 science methods of prevention, care treatment and rehabilitation of persons found to be drug dependents;
 - h) To strengthen the spiritual and emotional make-up of an individual drug dependent by conducting regular guidance and counseling sessions as well as interdenominational church services; and
 - i) The Center shall be responsible for the implementation of programs for the rehabilitation of drug dependents and other related cases within the City of Tanauan, Batangas.

SECTION 3. *Site of the Drug Rehabilitation Center.* - The Center shall be placed in the City of Tanauan, the location of which to be identified by the local government unit.

SECTION 4. *Organization and Qualification.* - The Center shall be headed by a Director who shall be appointed by the Secretary of Health upon recommendation of the City Mayor and Congressman, and shall be vested with powers generally exercised by a Chief of a government hospital.

No person shall be appointed as Director unless he possesses the following qualifications:

- a) At least thirty-five (35) years of age;
- b) A physician of good repute; and
- 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 regulations.

SECTION 6. *Development Plan.* - The Center, through its Director is authorized to formulate and implement a Development Plan in the fulfillment of the following:

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

SECTION 7. *Government Assistance to the Drug Rehabilitation Center.* - The Secretary of Department of Health is hereby authorized to call upon any department, bureau, agency of instrumentality of the government for such assistance as may be necessary to effectively implement this Act.

SECTION 8. *Implementing 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 9. *Appropriations.* - The amount necessary for the establishment and initial operation of the Tanauan City Drug Rehabilitation Center shall be included in the Annual General Appropriations Act.

SECTION 10. *Repealing Clause.* - All laws, ordinances, rules and regulations, and other issuances or parts thereof which are inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed or modified.

SECTION 11. *Separability Clause.* - If for any reason any section or provision of this Act is declared unconstitutional or invalid, the other sections or provisions thereof, shall not be repealed or modified.

SECTION 12. *Effectivity.* - This Act shall take effect upon its complete publication in at least two (2) national newspapers in general circulation.

Approved,