



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

SIXTEENTH CONGRESS
Second Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. **5700**

Introduced by Honorable Mark A. Villar

AN ACT
TO ASSIST PERSONS WITH HEMOPHILIA AND OTHER BLEEDING
DISORDERS, ESTABLISHING FOR THE PURPOSE FOUR (4) TREATMENT
CENTERS IN METRO MANILA, LUZON, VISAY AS AND MINDANAO,
PROVIDING FUNDS THEREOF, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The 1987 Constitution states that: "*The State shall protect and promote the right to health of the people and instill health consciousness among them.*" (Section 15, Article III)

Hemophilia is a rare bleeding disorder in which the blood doesn't clot normally. If one has hemophilia, he may bleed for a longer time than others after an injury. He may also bleed inside his body (internally), especially in knees, ankles, and elbows. This bleeding can damage one's organs and tissues and may be life threatening.

Hemophilia usually is inherited. "Inherited" means that the disorder is passed from parents to children through genes. People born with hemophilia have little or no clotting factor. Clotting factor is a protein needed for normal blood clotting.¹

¹ What is Hemophilia? <http://www.nhlbi.nih.gov/health/health-topics/topics/hemophilia>

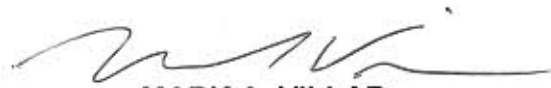
According to the World Hemophilia Foundation, there could be some 10,000 Filipinos affected with hemophilia and around one million others with von Willebrand Disease and other clotting factor deficiency disorders² and only about 1,200 Filipinos were diagnosed of these disorders.

Hemophilia is a lifelong condition with no cure other than liver transplantation, a procedure that can sometimes cause health problems more serious than hemophilia itself. But hemophilia can be successfully managed by knowing when and how to treat a bleeding episode, and getting regular treatments that replace the missing clotting factor. In other words, persons with hemophilia can still lead full and normal lives.

This Bill seeks to address the plight of hemophilia patients for the purpose of providing adequate and easy access to treatment and to raise public awareness regarding these bleeding disorders.

Specifically, the bill provides for the establishment of treatment centers for the early detection of Hemophilia and other bleeding disorders and the treatment thereof, and for continuing studies and researches for various treatments, detection, approaches to deal with Hemophilia and other bleeding disorders.

This bill was originally filed by Senator Grace Poe in the Senate. In view of the foregoing reasons, the passage of this bill is earnestly sought.



MARK A. VILLAR

² *Many Pinoys with Hemophilia Can't Get Treatment, Andrea Trinidad Echaves, Phil. Daily Inquirer, Page A13, April 20, 2015*



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

SECTION 1. Establishment of Treatment Centers for Persons with Hemophilia and Other Bleeding Disorders. There shall be four (4) treatment centers to be established for persons with Hemophilia and other bleeding disorders - one in the Philippine General Hospital (PGH) for Metro Manila, one each in a public- or state-owned hospital in Luzon, Visayas and Mindanao.

SEC. 2. Establishment of a Small Council to Implement the Provisions of this Act. A small council shall be established to implement the provisions of this Act. Said small council shall be composed of the following:

- a) A representative from the Department of Health (DOH) to be designated by, and shall be acting as the representative of, the Secretary of DOH;
- b) One medical practitioner or a representative from the academe specializing in Hemophilia and other bleeding disorders; and
- c) One representative from an organization of patients or persons suffering from Hemophilia and other bleeding disorders.

SEC. 3. Appropriation. The amount of One Hundred Million Pesos (Php100,000,000.00) shall be initially appropriated for the implementation of the provisions of this Act.

SEC. 4. Continuing Studies and Researches. The small council shall cause continuing studies and researches for various treatments, detection, approaches to deal with Hemophilia and other bleeding disorders.

SEC. 5. Effectivity. This Act shall take effect after fifteen (15) days following its publication in the Official Gazette or in at least two newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,