

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL **4659**



**Introduced by Representative Mariano Michael M. Velarde Jr. (BUHAY
Party List)**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The present administration of President Duterte has launched an intensive and extensive campaign against the worsening Drug problem in our country to avert a perceive degeneration of the Philippines to a narco-state. But said campaign is being hampered by weaknesses or loop-holes in the present law, Republic Act 9165 or the Comprehensive Dangerous Drugs Act of 2002.

One area wherein the campaign is being limited is the coverage of mandatory drug testing. Recent trends in the drug trade, abuse and use indicates a proliferation of other drugs like "party drugs" ("Ecstasy" or NDMA and "Angel Dust" or phencyclidine) that the present drug test panel cannot detect. I believe that the present test panel can only detect cannabis and methamphetamine hydrochloride.

With this in mind, this representation humbly proposes to amend Section 36 of R.A. 9165 on Authorized Drug testing to include other drugs that are being used and abused by drug dependents and pushers or traders.

It is said the detection is a major part in any crime prevention and reduction.

Therefore, we seek for the passage of this measure.


REP. MARIANO MICHAEL M. VELARDE JR.

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HOUSE BILL NO. 4659

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AN ACT EXPANDING THE COVERAGE OF AUTHORIZED DRUG TESTING AMENDING
FOR THE PURPOSE SECTION 36, ARTICLE III OF REPUBLIC ACT 9165 OR KNOWN AS
THE COMPREHENSIVE DANGEROUS DRUGS ACT OF 2002

Section 1. Section 36 of Article III of Republic Act 9165 is hereby amended to read as:

“Section 36. *Authorized Drug Testing.*

Authorized drug testing shall be done by any government forensic laboratories or by any of the drug testing laboratories accredited and monitored by the DOH to safeguard the quality of test results. The DOH shall take steps in setting the price of the drug test with DOH accredited drug testing centers to further reduce the cost of such drug test. The drug testing shall employ among others, ~~two~~ (2) testing methods THAT SHALL INCLUDE, BUT NOT LIMITED TO THE FOLLOWING DRUGS: CANNABIS, COCAINE, OPIATES, AMPHETAMINES, METHAMPHENTAMINE, PHENCYCLIDINE AND OTHER DRUGS AS DETERMINED BY THE BOARD TO BE PREVALENT AT THE TIME, the screening test which will determine the positive result as well as the type of the drug used and the confirmatory test which will confirm a positive screening test. Drug test certificates issued by accredited drug testing centers shall be valid for ~~one-year~~ EIGHT-MONTH period from the date of issue which may be used for other purposes. The following shall be subjected to undergo drug testing:

Section 2. This Act shall take effectr fifteen (15) days after publication in the Official Gazette or in two national newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,

REP. MARIANO MICHAEL M. VELARDE JR.

