

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS
Second Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 8058



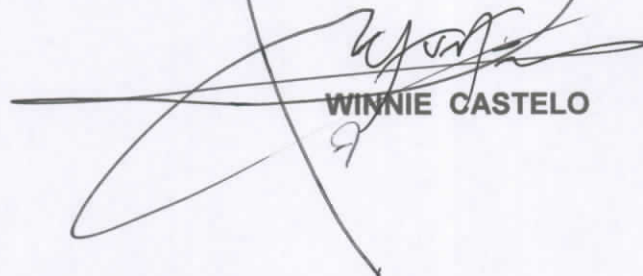
Introduced by Rep. Winston "Winnie" Castelo

EXPLANATORY NOTE

"Nature-based interventions for mental health are beginning to become more common in the United Kingdom. The evidence for their usefulness is building. Taking the "A Dose of Nature" in the south-west as an example, factors for making such interventions a success are described."¹ Other initiatives position nature explicitly as the source of betterment, for example ecotherapy programs. In all examples, nature is understood to hold therapeutic potential, and the relationship between experiencing nature and being mentally healthier is the focus.²

It would take only a little initiative from the government to achieve quantum leap in mental health care. A mere tweaking of the ambience that allows for even just a bit of experience of nature would spell a great deal of improvement in Philippine mental health care.

The immediate passage of this timely proposed measure is thus most earnestly sought.


WINNIE CASTELO

¹ <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC5663019/> viewed June 18, 2018

² Ibid.

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS
Second Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 8058

Introduced by Rep. Winston "Winnie" Castelo

AN ACT
CALIBRATING ASYLUMS AND PSYCHIATRIC INSTITUTIONS IN THE COUNTRY IN
SUCH MANNER AS TO SIMULATE NATURAL ENVIRONMENT AND APPROPRIATING
FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

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

SECTION 1. This Act shall be known as the "National Asylum Calibration Act."

SEC. 2. With the end in view of bolstering mental health of the patients, all asylums or psychiatric institutions shall hereby be calibrated so as to simulate natural environment, including but not limited to, recreating natural habitats, setting up botanical and floral ambience, paint work that mimics nature.

SEC. 3. The Department of Health shall issue pertinent implementing rules and regulations to effectively carry out the provisions of this Act.

SEC. 4. The amount needed to carry out the provisions of this Act shall be charged against the 2018 appropriations of the Department of Health. Thereafter, such sums as may be necessary for the effective implementation of this Act shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

SEC. 5 The competent courts shall determine the appropriate penalties for violations of the provisions of this Act.

SEC. 6 This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days following its publication in the Official Gazette or in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,