



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

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 3328



Introduced by: **Rep. Ma Isabel L. Sagarbarria**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The bill seeks to provide for the establishment of a drug rehabilitation center in the Municipality of Amlan, Province of Negros Oriental.

The 2015 National Household Survey of the Dangerous Drugs Board showed that there are 1.8 million drugs users in the country. With the unrelenting campaign of the current administration to weed out his country of drug traffickers, thousands of self-confessed drug users also surrendered and reached out to get proper medical assistance. The Philippine National Police last September 6, 2016 reported an alarming statistic of 687,953 self-confessed users and pushers.

With the influx of the overwhelming number of surrenderees, the government was left with merely booking and profiling them. Those who sought help from the government were asked to sign an agreement that they will no longer be involved in drugs and were sent home because they cannot be accommodated by existing rehabilitation centers. There are a total of forty one (41) accredited residential rehabilitation centers nationwide with only six (6) centers in the National Capital Region and none for the Negros Island Region. This emerging problem if left unchecked could later undermine the government's anti-drug policy.

The drug affectation does not only include the victim but their families, friends and communities. Lest we forget that aside from the effect of drugs on the victim, families are the most affected by the drug menace. Broken families, strained relationships, wasted resources and drug related crimes are some of the effects of drug abuse.

Negros Oriental has its share of drug related problems. Surrenderees must be given ample treatment in order to re-integrate them into society as productive citizens. To address this growing concern, the establishment of a rehabilitation center in the Province of Negros Oriental is in order.

In view of the foregoing, early passage of this bill is earnestly requested.


MA ISABEL L. SAGARBARRIA
Representative, 2nd District, Negros Oriental



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AN ACT ESTABLISHING A DRUG REHABILITATION CENTER IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF AMLAN, PROVINCE OF NEGROS ORIENTAL, TO BE KNOWN AS THE NEGROS ORIENTAL REHABILITATION CENTER 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 a drug rehabilitation center in the Municipality of Amlan, Province of Negros Oriental, to be known as the Negros Oriental Rehabilitation Center that shall be responsible for the treatment and rehabilitation of drug dependents within the Province of Negros Oriental.

SECTION 2. *Objectives and Functions.* – The Center shall have the following objectives and functions:

- a) Provide care, treatment and accommodation to persons found to be drug dependents;
- b) Bring a drug dependent to a state of being physically, psychologically and socially capable of coping with problems common to peer groups;
- c) Facilitate and encourage the dissemination and exchange of ideas and information on the prevention, care, treatment and control of drug addiction;
- d) Provide after-care, follow-up and social reintegration services to enable a drug depended to adjust to family and community life after release;
- e) Encourage the formation of organizations and associations composed of parents, guardians and immediate relatives of drug dependents in order to raise awareness and enhance their participation in the care, treatment and rehabilitation of their relatives or wards;
- f) Undertake continuous training of physicians, nurses, health officers and social workers on the practical and scientific methods of prevention, care treatment and rehabilitation of persons found to be drug dependents; and

- g) 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.

SECTION 3. *Site of the Center.* – The Center shall be established in the Municipality of Amlan in the Province of Negros Oriental.

SECTION 4. *Organization.* – The Center shall be headed by a Director, to be assisted by two (2) Deputy Directors, who shall be appointed by the Secretary of Health and vested with powers generally exercised by the Chief and Assistant Chiefs of a government hospital.

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. *Five Year Development Plan.* – The Center, through its Director is authorized to formulate and implement a Development plan in the fulfillment of the following:

- a) Establish additional building facilities equipped with new and modern equipment to serve and cater to drug dependents from the Province of Negros Oriental;
- b) Initiate plans for the development of income generating resources to provide charity service;
- c) Provide pharmacy services, dispensaries and health stations; and
- d) Provide on the job training and other educational facilities for interns and graduate and undergraduate students of medicine.

SECTION 7. *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 8. *Rules and Regulations.* – The Secretary of Health, in coordination with the Dangerous Drugs Board and the Department of Social Welfare and Development is hereby authorized to promulgate such rules and regulations as may be necessary for the effective implementation of the provisions of this Act.

SECTION 9. *Appropriations.* – The amount necessary for the implementation for the implementation of this Act shall be charged against the current appropriations for the Department of Health. Thereafter, such amount as may be necessary for the continued operation of the Negros Oriental Rehabilitation Center shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

SECTION 10. *Separability Clause.* – If any provision or part hereof is held invalid or unconstitutional, the remainder of the law or the provision not otherwise affected shall remain valid and subsisting.

SECTION 11. *Repealing Clause.* – All laws, presidential decrees or issuances, executive orders, letters of instruction, administrative orders, rules and regulations contrary to or inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed, modified or amended accordingly.

SECTION 12. *Effectivity.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its complete publication in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved.