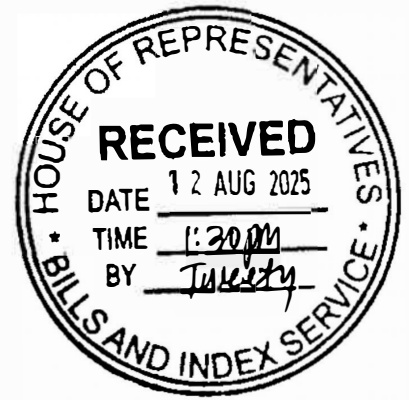


Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

House Bill No. 3564



Introduced by **Hon. Dante S. Garcia and Hon. Kenneth Paolo Tereng**

AN ACT
MANDATING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A REHABILITATION CENTER FOR
ILLEGAL DRUG USERS IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF TUBAO, PROVINCE OF LA
UNION, PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The bill seeks to provide for the establishment of a drug rehabilitation center in the Municipality of Tubao, Province of La Union.

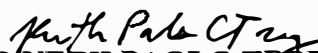
One of the pressing social issues that our country continues to face is drug abuse and addiction. Although some substances, like prescription drugs, may not have an unlawful nature, once overused, they can have the same negative effects as illegal substances, but dependency on drugs is already considered a disease, thus needing a professional intervention by means of rehabilitation.

The 2023 National Household Survey on the Patterns and Trends of Drug Abuse showed that 1.48 Million or two out of every 100 Filipinos aged 10-69 were using dangerous drugs within the last six months. Considering that in the Philippine society, one can't deny to face the reality that there are indeed a lot of people who suffer from drug addiction, rehabilitation of Persons Who Use Drugs (PWUDs) is expensive, having a lingering fear of being discriminated by others for having an addiction, and the concern to the cost and fees with doubts of whether or not the rehabilitation will succeed in taking away the addiction.

It is the policy of the State to establish effective mechanisms for the reintegration of individuals who have fallen victim to drug abuse or dangerous drug dependence through sustainable treatment and rehabilitation programs. The state further promotes the health, safety and general welfare of its citizens by providing humane and effective rehabilitation services for the Persons Who Use Drugs (PWUD's). The state will provide sufficient facilities, therapy, and support networks in acknowledging the significance of recovery and reintegration to assist individuals in overcoming addiction and becoming law-abiding, productive members of society.

The Province of La Union continues to face drug-related challenges; hence, the immediate passage of this bill is earnestly sought.


DANTE S. GARCIA
2nd District, La Union


KENNETH PAOLO TERENG
KM Ngayon Na Party-list

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UNION, PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

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

Section 1. Declaration of Policy. Pursuant to Republic Act No. 9165 (RA 9165), it is the policy of the State to establish effective mechanisms for the reintegration of individuals who have fallen victim to drug abuse or dangerous drug dependence through sustainable treatment and rehabilitation programs. The State further promotes the health, safety, and general welfare of its citizens by providing humane and effective rehabilitation services for illegal drug users and dependents. Recognizing the importance of recovery and reintegration, the State shall establish adequate facilities and support systems to help individuals overcome addiction and resume productive roles in their families and communities.

Sec. 2. Establishment. There shall be established, through the Department of Health (DOH), jointly with the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD), the Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG) and the concerned local government, a Rehabilitation center for Illegal Drugs users in the Municipality of Tubao, Province of La Union, which shall provide comprehensive drug treatment and rehabilitation programs.

SEC. 3. Location. – The Local Government Unit, in coordination with the Secretary of Health and the Secretary of Public Works and Highways, shall determine the location of the said Rehabilitation Center for Illegal Drugs Users, taking into consideration its accessibility to the residents of remote areas.

SEC. 4. Supervision and Control. The DOH, in coordination with the local government, shall exercise supervision and control over such Rehabilitation Center for Illegal Drugs Users, in addition to the duties and responsibilities of the Department under section 76 of Republic Act No. 9165, otherwise known as the Comprehensive Dangerous Drugs Act of 2002, as amended.

SEC. 4. Application of Republic Act No. 9165. The program for the voluntary or compulsory submission of a drug dependent and other legal processes related thereby shall be in compliance to the provisions in Article VIII of RA 9165.

SEC. 4. *Affordable and Accessible Treatment.* The rehabilitation Center for Illegal Drugs Users shall provide affordable and accessible treatment and care to persons who committed abuse of illegal drugs and voluntarily submit for rehabilitation. It shall further make available a comprehensive social reintegration program and follow-up for illegal drug dependents to prepare them for reintegration in the community after the treatment.

SEC. 16. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.* The DOH, in consultation with the DSWD and the DILG, shall promulgate the necessary rules and regulations to implement the provisions of this Act.

SEC. 17. *Appropriations.* The funds necessary for the implementation of this Act shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act under the budget of the concerned national agencies. The local government unit of Tubao, La Union, may likewise allocate funds to support the operation and maintenance of the rehabilitation center.

SEC. 18. *Separability Clause.* If any provision of this Act is declared invalid or unconstitutional, the other provisions not affected thereby shall remain valid and subsisting.

SEC. 19. *Repealing Clause.* All laws, decrees, orders, issuances, rules, and regulations, or other issuances or parts thereof inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SEC. 20. *Effectivity.* This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the *Official Gazette* or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,