

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

FIFTEENTH CONGRESS

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

House Bill No. 4558


Introduced by Representative **Carlo V. Lopez**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Human blood is a vital fluid needed for major and radical and the treatment of bleeding diseases. And one of the problem faced by the doctors and hospitals alike is the shortage of blood because the country's blood supply cannot keep up with the rising demand.

To make blood more readily available to the hospitals and patients, the Department of Health Together with the Philippine National Red Cross and the Philippine Blood Coordination Council formulated the National Services Program. The program encourages the people who are the only source of human blood to donate his vital fluid voluntarily.

This bill endorse the National Blood Service Program and encourages the establishment of blood collection centers in the country. Blood banks shall be encouraged to be established and operated according to professional and scientific standards and encouraged to be on a non-profit basis.


CARLO V. LOPEZ
2nd District, Manila

April 4, 2011

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AN ACT

PROMOTING VOLUNTARY BLOOD DONATION, PROVIDING FOR AN ADEQUATE SUPPLY OF SAFE BLOOD, REGULATING BLOOD BANKS AND PROVIDING PENALTIES FOR VIOLATIONS THEREOF.

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

Section 1. Title – This Act shall be known as the “Blood Services Act of 2011”

Section 2. Declaration of Policy – In order to promote the public health, it is hereby declared the policy of the State:

1. to promote and encourage voluntary blood donations by the citizenry;
2. to lay down the legal principle that the provision of blood for transfusion is medical service and not a sale of a commodity;
3. to promote the establishment of mechanism for the collection of blood from the various sectors of the community;
4. to teach the benefits and rationale of voluntary blood donation in the existing health subjects of schools, both public and private, at the elementary, high school and college level;
5. to encourage and exhort the blood bank services be operated on a non-profit basis and to assure that blood bank facilities are established and operated according to professional and scientific standards;

6. to provide for an adequate, equitable and safe supply of blood products; and

7. to provide for adequate financial assistance to institutions providing blood bank services, either through a system of reimbursements for costs from who can afford to pay, or donations from government and non-government entities.

Section 3. Definitions – For purposes of this Act, the terms;

1. “Blood/Blood Products – means human blood, processed or unprocessed and includes blood components, its products and derivatives.
2. “Blood Bank” – a laboratory or institution where the screening of blood are performed.
3. “Blood Collection Center” – an institution in which donors are recruited and screened and where blood is collected.
4. “Voluntary Blood Donation” – the donation of blood on one’s own volition or initiative and without monetary compensation.
5. “Department” – refers to the Department of Health.

Section 4. Promotion of Voluntary Blood Donation – In order to have an adequate supply of human blood, voluntary blood donation shall be promoted by an organization and sustained public education campaign by the Department of Health, as the lead agency, the Philippine National Red Cross, other government agencies, non-governmental organizations, mass media and other sectors. The Department of Health is hereby authorized to set aside funds for the purpose of providing incentives to hospitals, blood banks and other institutions to collect blood from voluntary donors.

Section 5. Blood Collection Centers – Blood Collection Centers shall be established in hospitals and in Philippines National Red Cross Chapters. The collection of blood in various areas in the community such as schools, business enterprises, barangays, and military camps shall be promoted.

Section 6. Promotion in Schools – The benefits and rationale of voluntary blood donation shall be included and given emphasis in Health subjects of schools, both public and private, at the elementary, high school and college levels.

Section 7. Non-Profit Operation – All blood banks shall operate on a non-profit basis; Provided that they may collect charges and fees not greater than the maximum prescribed by the Department and they shall collect blood from voluntary donors only.

Section 8. Regulation of Blood Services – It shall be unlawful for any person to establish and operate a blood bank unless is registered and issued a license to operate by the Department; Provided. That in case of emergency, blood collection and transfusion under the responsibilities of the attending physician shall be allowed in hospitals without such license certain condition prescribed by the Department. No license shall be granted or renewed by the Department for the establishment and operation of a blood bank unless it complies with the standards prescribed by the Department. Such blood bank shall be under the management of a licensed and qualified physician duly authorized by the Department.

Section 9. Effectivity – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in at least two (2) national newspapers of general circulations, whichever comes earlier.

Approved.