

Republic of the Philippines  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
Quezon City

SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS  
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL No. 948

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES	
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REGISTRATION UNIT BILLS AND INDEX SERVICE	

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**Introduced by Hon. ROSENDA ANN OCAMPO**

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**EXPLANATORY NOTE**

The Constitution, Article 2, Section 15 provides:

The State shall protect and promote the right to health of the people and instill health consciousness among them.

Substance abuse is the process of using illegal drugs or other chemicals that have an impact on a person in a detrimental way.

It is the misuse of alcohol, tobacco, illegal drugs, prescription drugs, and other substances (such as paint thinners or aerosol gasses) that change how the mind and body work.

The term can be used to apply to both criminal and non-criminal acts, as substance abuse can refer to overindulgence of legal drugs as well. Someone may abuse alcohol in a way that never specifically causes him or her to break the law, but it may still have serious negative consequence and impacts both on the abuser's life and the lives of those around him or her.

Substance abuse can also involve the use of illegal drugs and can often involve one or more instances of legal repercussions such as police arrest and incarceration.

Drug addiction appears to be on the rise in the Philippines. There are believed to be as many as 6.7 million drug abusers according to figures from 2004. This is a dramatic increase from 1972, when there was only believed to have been around 20,000 drug users in the Philippines.

The drug that is most abused in the Philippines continues to be alcohol. Filipinos are the second highest consumers of alcoholic drinks in South East Asia. Most of the drug users in the Philippines are young people. While there are no hard and fast statistics available, it is estimated that as many as 60,000 young people in the Philippines are dealing with drug addiction.

Unfortunately, most substance abusers are left without proper medical assistance on how to deal with their addiction due to lack of affordability and accessibility of substance abuse rehabilitation centers.

This bill seeks to enhance public safety and promote the health and welfare of indigent addicts and alcoholics whose families cannot afford to send them to a private rehabilitation center, by creating substance abuse rehabilitation centers in every region that will provide affordable and accessible rehabilitation services.



HON. ROSENDA ANN OCAMPO

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**AN ACT**

**PROVIDING FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF SUBSTANCE ABUSE REHABILITATION CENTERS IN EVERY REGION OF THE PHILIPPINES**

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

SECTION 1. *Short Title.* – This Act shall be known as the “**Accessible Substance Abuse Treatment Act.**”

SECTION 2. *Creation of Substance Abuse Rehabilitation Center.* – The Department Health (DOH), in coordinator with the Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG), shall undertake the establishment of a substance abuse rehabilitation center in every region in the country.

SECTION 3. *Lead Agency.* – The Secretary of Health, in coordination with the Secretary of Interior and Local Government (DILG), shall issue the necessary rules and regulations for the effective implementation of the Act.

SECTION 4. *Appropriations.* – There are authorized to be appropriated such sums as may be necessary to carry out this Act.

SECTION 5. *Separability Clause* – If any provision or part thereof is held invalid or unconstitutional, the remainder of the Act or provision not otherwise affected shall remain valid and subsisting.

SECTION 6. *Repealing Clause.* – Any law, presidential decree or issuance, executive order, letter of instruction, administrative order, rule, or regulation contrary to or inconsistent with the provisions of this Act is hereby repealed, modified, or amended accordingly.

SECTION 7. *Effectivity Clause.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,