

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 5749



INTRODUCED BY: HONORABLE MARISOL C. PANOTES


EXPLANATORY NOTE

The rising cases of dog bites inflicted with rabies continue to be a public health problem in the Philippines as it is responsible for the deaths of 200 to 300 Filipinos every year. In fact, in the year 2010, 257 persons died of rabies and in 2011, 202 deaths were reported. It is a sad reality among poor pet lovers that, due to inadequate financial resources, and the severe lack of access to affordable veterinary clinic, majority of household pet dogs and cats do not receive proper care and treatment, and even anti-rabies vaccination.

This bill therefore, seeks to address this problem by establishing public veterinary clinic in every province.

It is the paramount objective of this bill to protect and promote the welfare of pet household animals by establishing veterinary facilities that will be utilized for treating household pets. Free anti-rabies vaccination for pets shall be offered in the public veterinary clinic. Other services such as spray and neuter castration, deworming and ear clearing will also be available. With the availability of public veterinary clinic in every province, low income pet owners will have access to veterinary services where household pets can receive veterinary consultation, treatments, vaccinations, and medicines.

In view of the foregoing reasons, the approval of this bill is earnestly sought.


MARISOL C. PANOTES
Representative
Second District, Camarines Norte

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AN ACT
ESTABLISHING A PUBLIC VETERINARY CLINIC IN EVERY PROVINCE AND
APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

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

SECTION 1. Establishment. - There shall be established in every province a public veterinary clinic under the supervision and control of the Department of Health (DOH).

SEC. 2. Provision of Lot. - The provincial government shall provide a lot where the veterinary clinic shall be constructed at the expense of the DOH.

SEC. 3. Design, Policies, Terms and Conditions. - The DOH shall prepare the design of the structure, in consultation with the Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH), with due consideration to service facilities. It shall also formulate policies, guidelines, terms and conditions relative to the operation and maintenance of the Veterinary Clinic.

SEC. 4. Organization, Compensation, and Qualifications: Personnel and Staff. - The Secretary of the DOH shall appoint the Chief of the Veterinary Clinic, who shall have the same qualifications, compensation and powers generally exercised by the Section Chief of a hospital. The DOH Regional Director shall appoint the necessary personnel and staff of the veterinary clinic.

SEC. 5. Appropriations. - The amount necessary for the construction, operation and maintenance of the Veterinary Clinic shall be charged against the appropriations of the DOH. Thereafter, such sums as may be necessary for the continued operation and maintenance shall be included in the General Appropriations Act.

SEC. 6. Effectivity. - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) after its publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,