Reports from the Commission on Audit (COA) have shown that the country's jails are experiencing an overpopulation of 439.48 percent. The Bureau of Corrections admitted that that 20 percent of the total population of the New Bilibid Prison die annually due to various illnesses.

This shows the inhumane conditions at our jails and the lack of funding of the Bureau of Jail Management and Penology (BJMP).

At present, the budget of the government for the food of prisoners is at Php 70 per day per prisoner. Unfortunately, this is not enough to provide for decent meals for prisoners. With today's increasing costs, 70 pesos just won't cut it. Further, the BJMP budget for medicines of inmates is at Php 15 per inmate per day which is insufficient for the health needs of our prisoners. These contribute to the reasons why inmates die and are definitely violations of the UN's "Minimum Standard Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners".

This bill seeks to increase the budget for food and medicines of prisoners in order to provide them with better food and medicines.

In view of the foregoing, immediate approval of this measure is earnestly requested.

RUFUS B. RODRIGUEZ
EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS)
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
First Regular Session)

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Introduced by Representative Rufus B. Rodriguez

House Bill No. 6400

AN ACT
PROVIDING BETTER CONDITIONS FOR INMATES BY ADJUSTING THE COST OF
SUBSISTENCE ALLOWANCE PER INMATE PER DAY FROM PHP 70.00 TO PHP 100.00
AND INCREASING THE MEDICINE ALLOWANCE PER INMATE PER DAY FROM PHP
15.00 TO PHP 30.00 AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

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

SECTION 1. – The Cost of Subsistence Allowance per day of every inmate is hereby
adjusted from Php 70.00 to Php 100.00

SEC. 2. The amount allocated for medicines of inmates is hereby increased from Php 15.00
per prisoner per day to Php 30.00 per prisoner per day.

SEC 3. The amount necessary to implement the provisions of this Act shall be provided for
in the annual General Appropriations Act upon the approval of this Act and every year
thereafter.

SEC 4. Separability Clause. - If any portion or provision of this Act is declared
unconstitutional, the same shall not affect the validity and effectivity of the other provisions
not affected thereby.

SEC 5. Repealing Clause. – All laws, decrees, orders, rules and regulations, and other
issuances, or parts thereof, which are inconsistent with the provisions of this Act, are hereby
deemed repealed, amended or modified accordingly.

SEC 6. Effectivity. – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its complete publication
in the Official Gazette or in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation, whichever
comes earlier.

Approved,