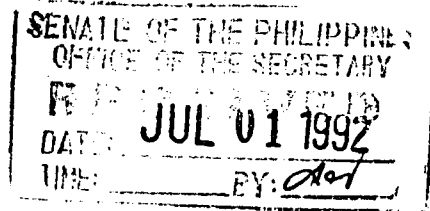


Congress of the Philippines )  
First Regular Session )



S E N A T E

S. No. 161

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Introduced by Senator Herrera  
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AN ACT  
EXTENDING FURTHER BENEFITS TO OVERSEAS CONTRACT WORKERS AND THEIR  
DEPENDENTS BY PROVIDING FOR THE CREATION OF TREATMENT AND  
REHABILITATION CENTERS SPECIALLY FOR DRUG DEPENDENTS AND FOR  
OTHER PURPOSES

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

1           SECTION 1. It is hereby declared the policy of the  
2 State to promote the welfare of overseas contract workers  
3 and their dependents thru the establishment of treatment  
4 and rehabilitation centers for those who suffer from injury  
5 or illness, and specially for drug dependents.

6           SEC. 2. There is hereby created three (3) treatment and  
7 rehabilitation centers, one (1) each for Luzon, Visayas and  
8 Mindanao, for the overseas contract workers and their  
9 dependents which shall, among other services, give  
10 particular importance to the rehabilitation of overseas  
11 contract workers and their dependents suffering from drug  
12 dependence.

13           Workers' dependents are those so defined by Republic  
14 Act No. 1161 as amended, otherwise known as the Social  
15 Security Law.

16           SEC. 3. The Overseas Workers Welfare Administration  
17 (OWWA) shall establish, operate and maintain with the  
18 assistance of the Dangerous Drugs Board the treatment and  
19 rehabilitation centers established under this Act.

1 this Act shall come from the Welfare Fund for Overseas  
2 Workers.

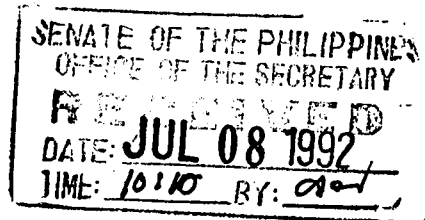
3 SEC. 5. The OWWA is hereby authorized to promulgate  
4 such rules and regulations necessary for the implementation  
5 of this Act.

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

Approved,

sbn1310/ws/glb

9th Congress of the Philippines)  
First Regular Session )



SENATE

S. NO. 312

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Introduced by Senator Maceda

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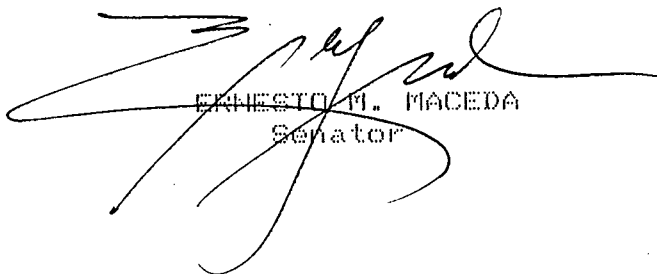
EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill seeks to fix the minimum wage of domestic helpers employed overseas in order to improve their social and economic status and to enhance opportunities for their advancements. It also provides penalties for violation of this Act to prevent their exploitation and protect them from the abuses and unscrupulous practices of placement agencies.

Foreign employers demand high standard of qualifications from our Filipino women applying as domestic helpers for overseas employment requiring not only that they be college graduate but also must possess multi-household skills. The long hours of labor, poor living conditions, the loneliness attendant to working overseas and the fortune spent to get a job. These are enough reasons for overseas domestic helpers to be justly and properly compensated.

With the enactment this bill into law, we shall be alleviating the lot of thousands of Filipino domestic helpers by discouraging abusive employers and attracting only decent ones to employ our women for overseas employment. It is hoped that by raising the ceiling of monthly salary to US\$400 we will disqualify the low income group employers who usually are the ones abusing and bringing many misfortunes to our women. Likewise, placement agencies will be deterred from further exploiting this long suffering segment of our population.

With the foregoing, the passage of this bill is therefore strongly recommended.

  
ERNESTO M. MACEDA  
Senator

LEL:MLO/jmv