



SIXTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE )  
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES )  
First Regular Session )

'13 SEP 24 P5:16

RECEIVED BY: *ji*

SENATE  
SENATE BILL NO. **1734**

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**Introduced by SENATOR FERDINAND R. MARCOS, JR.**

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**Explanatory Note**

The Criminal Justice System, essentially, is the system or process in the community by which crimes are investigated, and the persons suspected thereof are taken into custody, prosecuted in court, and punished if found guilty, provision being made for their correction and rehabilitation. In the Philippines, the Criminal Justice System is made up of five (5) components, namely: law enforcement, prosecution, judiciary, corrections, and the community. These five (5) elements are known as the Five Pillars of the Criminal Justice System. On them obviously depend the effective and efficient operation of the system.

Among the five pillars of the justice system, it is the corrections pillar that is given the mandate to bring about the correction, rehabilitation and reintegration of criminal offenders as law abiding and productive members of our society. With the development of our penal system directed towards placing an increasing importance on correction and rehabilitation, it is incumbent upon the State to provide the necessary measures and assistance to bring about the full rehabilitation and reintegration of erstwhile criminal offenders into the mainstream of society without further relapse into criminal behavior. Appropriate positive interventions should be instituted in order for these people not to go back to their sullied past.

Experiences of those entrusted by law to provide correctional and rehabilitative assistance to criminal offenders suggest that after convicts have passed through the penal components – either unconditionally as by full service of the term of imprisonment imposed on them, or by parole or pardon – most of them emerged from prison ill-prepared and ill-equipped to meet the demands and realities of life in the outside. Regrettably, some of them commit other crimes; and thus defeating the very purpose of our penal system, which is the rehabilitation of the criminal offender.

One major positive intervention that the State may make to address this concern is to establish a Community Corrections Development Center (CDCC) in each region of the country to provide facilities and services indispensable to help former convicts become psychologically, emotionally, spiritually, socially, physically and economically prepared to go back to mainstream society. The Center shall function as a research, training and show window of community corrections program. For the recently released convicts, the Center will serve as a halfway house, a transition point between jail and freedom. For clients with special clients, i.e. drug abusers, the Center will serve as a venue for specialized treatment.

In view of the foregoing, the enactment and approval of this Bill is earnestly recommended.



FERDINAND R. MARCOS, JR

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**AN ACT PROMOTING THE CORRECTION AND REHABILITATION OF CRIMINAL OFFENDERS AND FACILITATING THEIR REINTEGRATION INTO THE COMMUNITY, ESTABLISHING FOR THE PURPOSE COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS DEVELOPMENT CENTERS IN EACH REGION OF THE COUNTRY, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

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

**SECTION 1. Short Title.** - This Act shall be known as the "**Community Corrections Development Center Act.**"

**SECTION 2. Declaration of Policy.** - (a) It is hereby declared the policy of the State to promote the correction and full rehabilitation of criminal offenders placed on probation, parole, executive clemency, first-time minor drug offenders, Juvenile in Conflict with the Law and promote their development as productive members of the society;

(b) It is the policy of the State to prepare the reintegration of criminal offenders into the society without further relapse into criminal behavior;

(c) It is the policy of the State to facilitate the reintegration of criminal offenders to face the challenges and demands to be expected in their return to the community;

(d) It is the policy of the State to provide the necessary assistance and measures to help criminal offenders lead a law-abiding and productive life after release.

**SECTION 3. Community Corrections Development Center.** - There is hereby established a Community Corrections Development Center in each region of the country, herein referred to as the "Center," which shall be managed, operated and maintained by the Parole and Probation Administration, Department of Justice. The Center shall primarily serve as research and training facility for the development of community corrections - the community-based program of treatment of offenders, as a cheaper alternative to imprisonment. It shall also function as the community correctional halfway house for former inmates released on parole and pardon.

**SECTION 4. Power and Functions.** - The Center shall have the following functions and responsibilities:

(a) To conduct research studies for the development of community-based type of correction as an effective and cheaper alternative to imprisonment;

(b) To provide its clients the appropriate programs that are the extensions of the rehabilitative efforts carried out within the penal institution;

(c) To provide discharged prisoners or inmates with the necessary facilities for their gradual transition from incarceration to community life;

(d) To ensure that continued care and guidance, and statutory aftercare supervision are provided to those who have been granted probation, parole, or pardon and are on active supervision as probationers, parolees and pardonees;

(e) To provide livelihood training programs for probationers, parolees and pardonees in cooperation with other government agencies and private entities;

(f) To accept or receive donations and other conveyances by gratuitous title or funds, materials and services for use in the rehabilitation of its clients consistent with its mandate, subject to the usual accounting and auditing rules and regulations;

(g) To call upon any agency of the Government for such assistance as may be necessary in the performance of its functions;

(h) Perform such other functions as may be directed by the Secretary of the Department of Justice and the President of the Republic of the Philippines.

**SECTION 5. Rules and Regulations.** - The Parole and Probation Administration-Department of Justice shall, within ninety (90) days upon approval of this Act, formulate the rules and regulations necessary for the implementation of the provisions of this Act.

**SECTION 6. Appropriations.** - The amount of TWO HUNDRED MILLION PESOS (Php200,000,000.00) needed to carry out the provisions of this Act is hereby authorized to be appropriated in the General Appropriations Act of the year following its enactment into law, in addition to the amount appropriated for the Parole and Probation Administration-Department of Justice

**SECTION 7. Fees and Charges.** - The Center may impose fees and other charges sufficient to cover the costs of subsidizing the operation and maintenance of the facilities of the Center.

**SECTION 8. Repealing Clause.** - All laws, decrees, rules and regulations inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or amended accordingly.

**SECTION 9. Separability Clause.** - In case any provision of this Act is declared unconstitutional or invalid, the other provisions hereof which are not affected thereby shall continue in full force and effect.

**SECTION 10. Effectivity.** - This Act shall take effect after fifteen (15) days from its publication in the Official Gazette and in any newspaper of general circulation.

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Approved,