

NURSING JURISPRUDENCE

Laws Affecting the Practice of Nursing in the Philippines

LAW	DATE PASSED	SALIENT FEATURES
Republic Acts		
RA 386		Ordained and instituted the Civil Code
RA 673		Code of Conduct
RA 877	June 19, 1953	Philippine nursing law
RA 1054		Requires the owner, lessee or operator of any commercial, industrial or agricultural establishments to furnish free emergency, medical and dental attendance to his employees and laborers
RA 1080		Civil Service Act Those who pass the bar and board examinations are declared to be civil service eligible
RA 1082	June 1954	1 st RHU Act (1953) Amended by RA 1891 on June 22, 1957 Creation of 1 st 81 RHUs
RA 1612		Privilege tax shall be paid before any business or occupation can be lawfully begun or pursued
RA 1891	1957	Strengthened dental and health services in RHUs and created RHUs of 8 categories of staffing patterns
RA 2382		Philippine Medical Act
RA 2493	1915	Regulated the practice of medicine
RA 2808	March 1, 1919	First true nursing law
	1920	First board examination in the Philippines was given
RA 3015		Anti-Graft and Corruption Act
RA 3573	1929	All communicable diseases should be reported to nearest health station
RA 3720	June 22, 1963	Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act
RA 4073		Liberalized the treatment of leprosy
RA 4226	June 19, 1965	Hospital Licensure Act Licensing Agency = Office for Hospital and Medical Services, Department of Health
RA 4405	June 16, 1965	Enlarged the staff by integrating into the RHU units the provincial, city, and municipal sanitary inspectors, nurses and midwives
RA 4642	1965-1966	1965-1966 Appropriation Act
RA 4704	June 18, 1966	Amended certain portions of RA 877
RA 5181		Permanent residence and reciprocity as qualifications for any examination or registration for the practice of any profession in the Philippines
RA 5901		Nurses working in 100-bed capacity or above and are working in an area of 1 million population are supposed to work only 40 hours a week
RA 5921	June 23, 1969	Law regulating the practice of Pharmacy as well as set standards for Pharmaceutical Education in the Philippines
RA 6111	1969	Philippine Medical Care (MEDICARE) Act Employees insured with the GSIS and SSS are entitled to hospitalization privileges
RA 6136		Application and execution of legal orders in writing of physicians concerning treatments and medications
RA 6365		National Policy on Population and created the POPCOM
RA 6425	March 30, 1972	Dangerous Drugs Act (old)
RA 6511	July 1, 1972	Amend RA 465 which standardized the examination and registration fees
RA 6675	September 13,	Generics Act of 1988

	1988	
RA 6713		Code of Conduct and Ethical Standards for Public Officials and Employees
RA 6758	1989	Classification and Compensation Act or Salary Standardization Law Standardized the salaries of government employees which include the nursing personnel
RA 6809		Age of majority is 18 years (legal age)
RA 6972		Barangay Day Care Center
RA 7160		Local Government Code
RA 7164	June 6, 1991 By Sen. Heherson Alvarez	Philippine Nursing Act of 1991
RA 7170	February 20, 1995	Organ Donation Act of 1991
RA 7305	March 26, 1992 By Sen. Edgardo Angara	Magna Carta for Public Health Workers
RA 7392	April 10, 1992	Amended RA 2644 (Midwifery Law) Lying-in Clinics
RA 7394	April 13, 1992	Consumer Act of the Philippines
RA 7432		Senior Citizens' Act 20% discount in all public establishments
RA 7600	1992 By Sen. Juan Flavio	Rooming-in and Breastfeeding Act
RA 7610		Act Against Child Abuse, Neglect, Exploitation
RA 7719	May 5, 1994	National Blood Services Act
RA 7846	December 30, 1994	Compulsory immunization against "Hepatitis B" for infants and children below 8 years old
RA 7875	February 14, 1995	National Health Insurance Act
RA 7876		Senior Citizens Day Care Center Act
RA 7877		Anti-Sexual Harassment Act
RA 7883	February 20, 1995	Barangay Health Workers' Benefits and Incentives Act of 1995
RA 8042	1992	Migrant Filipino Overseas Contract Workers Act
RA 8172		Salt Iodization Act
RA 8191		National Diabetes Act
RA 8203	September 4, 1996	Special Law on Counterfeit Drugs
RA 8293	1998	Intellectual Property Code
RA 8344		Prohibits hospitals and clinics from demanding advance payments/cash deposits before patients are admitted/treated
RA 8353	1997	Anti-Rape Law
RA 8423	December 09, 1997	Philippine Institution of Traditional and Alternative Health Act
RA 8749	23 June 1999	Philippine Clean Air Act of 1999.
RA 8792		Electronic Commerce Act of 2000 Computerization of government agencies
RA 8976		Philippine Food Fortification Act of 2000
RA 8980	2000	Early Child Care Development Act "Bright Child"
RA 8981	2000	PRC Modernization/Computerization Act "Professional Identification Card"
RA 9003	January 26, 2001	Ecological Solid Waste Management Act of 2000
RA 9165		Comprehensive Dangerous Drugs Act
RA 9173	October 21, 2002	Philippine Nursing Act Of 2002
RA 9211		Tobacco Regulation Act of 2003
RA 9257	2004	Expanded Senior Citizens' Act 20% discount in meds/transport/theater/food establishments 5% discount on grocery items
RA 9262		Act Defining Violence Against Women and Children,

		Domestic Violence
RA 9288	April 7, 2004	Newborn Screening Act of 2004
RA 9376	January 17, 2007 By Rep. Juan Miguel Zubiri	Biofuel Act of 2006, An Act that would Allow the Use of Biofuels as an Alternative Source of Fuel for the Transport Sector. Two kinds of biofuel: 1. Bioethanol or E10 (5%) from sugarcane as an additive to gasoline (4 th year = 10%) 2. Biodiesel or B1 from coconut, as an additive to diesel.

Presidential Decrees		
PD 48		Limits paid maternity leave privileges to four children
PD 69		Limits the number of children to 4 for tax exemption purposes
PD 148		Amended RA 679 (Woman and Child Labor Law) Employable age shall be 16 years and privileges for working women
PD 166		Amended PD 791 Strengthens family planning programs through participation of private organizations and individuals
PD 223	June 23, 1973	Creation of Professional Regulation Commission "License"
PD 442		Labor Code of the Philippines Right to self-organization and collective bargaining
PD 603		Child and Youth Welfare Code
PD 626		Employee Compensation and State Insurance Fund Act
PD 651		Registration of birth of a child within 30 days with the Civil Registrar
PD 791		Revised Population Act Defines the objectives, duties and functions of the POPCOM
PD 807		Civil Service Law
PD 825		Penalty for improper disposal of garbage and other forms of uncleanliness
PD 856		Code of Sanitation
PD 881	January 30, 1976	Empowers the Secretary of Health to regulate the sale, labeling, manufacture, and distribution of hazardous substances
PD 965		Requires couples to undergo family planning and responsible parenthood seminars prior to the issuance of a marriage license
PD 996	September 16, 1976	Compulsory immunization for all children below eight years old
PD 1204		Includes DILG and DOLE in national family planning health and welfare programs
PD 1519		Medicare benefits to all government employees regardless of status of appointment
PD 1636	January 1980	Compulsory membership in the GSIS or SSS Retirement Fund

Executive Orders		
EO 2		Redirecting the Functions and Operations of the Department of Health
EO 51		Milk Code
EO 209		Family Code of the Philippines
EO 280		Avian influenza/bird flu virus and other related matters
EO 503		Transfer of personnel, assets, liabilities and records of national government agencies whose functions are to be devolved to LGUs

Administrative Orders		
AO 70	2002	Licensing of Botika ng Barangay in various Local

		Government Units
AO 70-A	2002	Revised Rules & Regulations Governing the Registration, Licensure & Operation of Hospitals & Other Health Facilities in the Philippines
AO 71	2002	Implementing Guidelines for the Polio-Free Maintenance Immunization Campaign
AO 73	2002	Implementation Guidelines for the Unified GTZ Support to the Philippines Health Sector
AO 76	2001	Creation of DOH National Infectious Disease Advisory Council (NIDAC)
AO 78	2002	Amendment to A.O. No. 7-C s. 2001, Section A 1, 1.1, 2, 2.1 (Decentralization of some regulatory functions of the BHFS on Cinical Lab & HIV Testing Lab to the CHD in the Transition Phase)
AO 90	2002	Current Good Manufacturing Practice Guidelines for Cosmetic Products
AO 114	1991	Revised the roles and functions of Public Health Workers

Letter of Instructions

LOI 47		Integration of family planning in the curricula and to require graduates sufficient licensing information
LOI 949	October 19, 1979	Primary Health Care In lined with Alma Ata WHO Convention USSR on September 6-12, 1978
LOI 1000	March 20, 1980	Members of accredited professional organizations shall be given priority in the hiring of employees in the government service and in the engagement of professional services

Presidential Proclamations

PP 4	July 29, 1998	Declaring the period from September 16-October 14, 1998 as the "Ligtas Tigdas Month" and launching the Philippines Measles Elimination Campaign
PP 6	April 3, 1986	Implementing a UN goal on "Universal Child Immunization" by 1990
PP 46	September 16, 1992	Reaffirming the commitment of the Philippines to the "Universal Child and Mother Immunization" goal of the World Health Assembly
PP 147	March 3, 1993	Declaring April 21 and May 19, 1993 and every 3 rd Wednesday of January and February for 2 years as "National Immunization Days (NIDs)"
PP 539	October 17, 1958	Nurses' Week every 4 th Week of October
PP 773	March 28, 1996	Declaring April 17 and May 15, 1996 and every 3 rd Wednesday of April and May from 1996-2000 as "Knock Out Polio Days"
PP 1064	August 27, 1997	Enjoining all sectors of society to participate in the "Acute Flaccid Paralysis (AFP)" surveillance component of polio eradication campaign of the Philippines
PP 1066	August 26, 1997	Declaring a national "neonatal tetanus" elimination campaign starting 1997
PP 1275		Midwifery Week every 3 rd Week of October

Ministry Circulars

MC 2	1986	AIDS as notifiable disease
MC 14	1965	Requires health examination and immunization of all prospective Grade 1 pupils against smallpox, diphtheria and TB as a prerequisite for enrolment
MC 30	1989	Guidelines in the application of penalties in administrative cases

PRC BON Resolutions

PRC BON Res. 633	October 1982	Code of Ethics for Nurses by Dr. Julita V. Sotejo
	July 14, 2004	New Code of Ethics for Nurses by PNA

PRC BON Res. 1955		Continuing Education Program for the Nurses
Other related laws		
Dept. of Labor 7		Requires all industrial establishments to provide family planning services
General Order 18		Enjoins all citizens of the Philippines....to promote the concept of family welfare, responsible parenthood, and family planning
PRC Memo 90-11	August 20, 1990	Provided new rates for examination and registration
ILO Convention 149		Improvement of life and work conditions of nursing personnel
UN Int'l Labor Org'n Res. 149		Ratified by the Pres. Proclamation 1851 Treated the nurses as a labor force in need of: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. good salary 2. humane working condition 3. power of control exercised by the superior over the subordinate 4. power of dismissal
Department Circular No. 273-A, s. 2003		Implementation of the Health Promotion Plan for the Philippine Follow-up Measles Elimination Campaign 2004
Department Order No. 162-E, s. 2003		Creation of Sub-Committee for Social Mobilization/IEC on Philippine Measles Elimination Campaign dubbed as "Ligtas Tigdas"
Memorandum No. 164-A, s. 2003		Identifying Priority Areas for Philippine Measles Elimination Campaign for February 2004
NCDPC Order No.123-E, s. 2003		Authority for Selected NCDPC Staff to monitor Pre-Implementation Activities of Philippine Follow-Up Measles Elimination Campaign and Garantisadong Pambata Campaign on October 2003 to November 2003.
Resolution No. 99-624		Revised continuing education program for all professions
PRC Resolution No. 507		Continuing education program (old)
Memorandum Circular No. 2000-05		Qualifications of nursing service administrators
BON Memorandum Circular No. 99-14		Qualifications of deans and faculty members in schools and colleges of nursing
BON No. 14		Adoption of nursing specialty certification program and creation of a nursing specialty certification council
Parliamentary Bill 446		Widen the scope of nursing practice (Philippine Nursing Act of 1976)

NOTE: Some laws may have been repealed or amended.