



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

H. No. 10658

BY REPRESENTATIVES ALONTE, HERRERA-DY, ARAGONES, VILLAFUERTE, VIOLAGO, ROMUALDEZ (Y.M.), YAP (E.), RADAZA, VILLARAZA-SUAREZ, ACOSTA-ALBA, VERGARA, ABUNDA, ARROYO, AGUINALDO, MARIANO-HERNANDEZ, SAULOG, BROSAS, ACOP, TAMBUNTING, TUTOR, TY (D.), NIETO, ONG (R.), TALLADO, VILLARICA, DALIPE, ABANTE, ATIENZA, ESCUDERO, RODRIGUEZ, SAVELLANO, QUIMBO, ZARATE, ERMITA-BUHAIN, BAUTISTA-BANDIGAN, DAZA, FARIÑAS I (R.C.), GO (E.C.), HARESCO, LIMKAICHONG, MATUGAS, SAGARBARRIA, TEJADA, BARBA, BASCUG, BENITEZ, BORDADO, CARI, CO (A.N.), DUJALI, ESPINA, MACEDA, ONG (J.), ORTEGA, TAN (A.S.), VILLANUEVA (N.), AGLIPAY, CABOCHAN, ELAGO, ERICE, GAITE, GO (M.), LOYOLA, ORDANES, ROMULO, RIVERA, BARONDA AND DE VENECIA, PER COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 1405

AN ACT

STRENGTHENING THE POLICIES ON ANTI-TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9208, AS AMENDED, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE ANTI-TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS ACT OF 2003

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

1 **SECTION 1.** Section 2 of Republic Act No. 9208 as amended is hereby further
2 amended to read as follows:

1 **“SEC. 2. Declaration of Policy.** – [It is hereby declared that t] The State
2 values the dignity of every human person and guarantees the respect of
3 individual rights. In pursuit of this policy, the State shall give highest priority
4 to the enactment of measures and development of programs that will promote
5 human dignity, protect the people from any threat of violence and
6 exploitation, eliminate trafficking in persons, and mitigate pressures for
7 involuntary migration and servitude of persons, not only to support trafficked
8 persons but more importantly, to ensure their recovery, rehabilitation, and
9 reintegration into the mainstream of society IN A MANNER THAT IS
10 CHILD-SENSITIVE AND GENDER RESPONSIVE.

11 It shall be a State policy to recognize the equal AND INALIENABLE
12 rights and inherent human dignity of ALL MEMBERS OF THE HUMAN
13 FAMILY, [women and men] as enshrined in the *United Nations Universal*
14 *Declaration on Human Rights, United Nations Convention on the Elimination*
15 *of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women, United Nations Convention*
16 *on the Rights of the Child AND ITS OPTIONAL PROTOCOLS TO WHICH*
17 *THE PHILIPPINES IS A PARTY, United Nations Convention on the*
18 *Protection of Migrant Workers and their Families, United Nations*
19 *Convention Against Transnational Organized Crime Including its Protocol to*
20 *Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and*
21 *Children, INTERNATIONAL LABOR ORGANIZATION CONVENTION NO.*
22 *182 CONCERNING THE PROHIBITION AND IMMEDIATE ACTION FOR*
23 *THE ELIMINATION OF THE WORST FORMS OF CHILD LABOR, and all*
24 *other relevant and universally accepted human rights instruments and other*
25 *international conventions to which the Philippines is a PARTY [signatory].*

26 IN ALL ACTIONS CONCERNING TRAFFICKED CHILDREN,
27 THEIR BEST INTEREST SHALL BE THE PRIMARY
28 CONSIDERATION.”

29 **SEC. 2.** Section 3 is hereby further amended to read as follows:

30 **“SEC. 3. Definition of Terms.** – As used in this Act:

- 31 (a) Trafficking in Persons – refers to the recruitment, obtaining, hiring,
32 providing, offering, transportation, transfer, maintaining,
33 harboring, or receipt of persons with or without the victim’s
34 consent or knowledge, within or across national borders by means
35 of threat, or use of force, or other forms of coercion, abduction,
36 fraud, deception, abuse of power or position, taking advantage of
37 the vulnerability of the person, or, the giving or receiving of
38 payments or benefits to achieve the consent of a person having
39 control over another person, for the purpose of exploitation which
40 includes at a minimum, the exploitation or the prostitution of
41 others, OR THE ENGAGEMENT OF OTHERS FOR THE
42 PRODUCTION OF MATERIALS THAT DEPICT CHILD
43 SEXUAL ABUSE AND EXPLOITATION (CSAEM or CSAM),

1 [or other forms of sexual exploitation], forced labor or services,
2 slavery, servitude, or the removal or sale of organs.

3 The recruitment, transportation, transfer, harboring, adoption, or
4 receipt of a child for the purpose of exploitation or when the
5 adoption is induced by any form of consideration for exploitative
6 purposes, shall also be considered as ‘trafficking in persons’ even
7 if it does not involve any of the means set forth in the preceding
8 paragraph;

9 X X X

10 (h) **Sexual Exploitation** – refers to [participation by a person in
11 prostitution, pornography or the production of pornography, in
12 exchange for money, profit or any other consideration or where the
13 participation is caused or facilitated by any means of intimidation
14 or threat, use of force, or other forms of coercion, abduction, fraud,
15 deception, debt bondage, abuse of power or of position or of legal
16 process, taking advantage of the vulnerability of the person, or
17 giving or receiving of payments or benefits to achieve the consent
18 of a person having control over another person; or in sexual
19 intercourse or lascivious conduct caused or facilitated by any
20 means as provided in this Act;] ANY MEANS OF ACTUAL OR
21 ATTEMPTED ABUSE OF A POSITION OF VULNERABILITY,
22 DIFFERENTIAL POWER, OR TRUST, FOR SEXUAL OR
23 LEWD DESIGNS, INCLUDING PROFITING MONETARILY,
24 SOCIALLY, OR POLITICALLY FROM THE SEXUAL
25 EXPLOITATION OF ANOTHER;

26 XXX

27 (L) **CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE AND EXPLOITATION**
28 **MATERIAL OR CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE MATERIAL**
29 **(CSAEM or CSAM)** – REFERS TO ANY REPRESENTATION,
30 WHETHER OFFLINE, OR BY, THROUGH, AND WITH THE
31 USE OF INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATIONS
32 TECHNOLOGY, WHETHER VISUAL, VIDEO, AUDIO,
33 WRITTEN, OR ANY COMBINATION THEREOF, BY
34 ELECTRONIC, MECHANICAL, DIGITAL, OPTICAL,
35 MAGNETIC, OR ANY OTHER MEANS, DEPICTING ACTS
36 OF SEXUAL ABUSE OR EXPLOITATION OF A CHILD AS A
37 SEXUAL OBJECT; IT SHALL ALSO INCLUDE MATERIALS
38 THAT FOCUS ON REAL OR SIMULATED GENITALIA OR
39 OTHER PRIVATE BODY PARTS OF A CHILD;

40
41 (M) **COMMUNICATIONS** – REFER TO ANY SPOKEN OR
42 WRITTEN CONVERSATIONS, DISCUSSIONS, DATA,
43 INFORMATION, OR MESSAGES, FOR INTERCEPTION;

1 (N) **COMPUTER SYSTEM** – REFERS TO ANY DEVICE OR
2 GROUP OF INTERCONNECTED OR RELATED DEVICES,
3 ONE OR MORE OF WHICH, PURSUANT TO A PROGRAM,
4 PERFORMS AUTOMATED PROCESSING OF DATA. IT
5 COVERS ANY TYPE OF DEVICE WITH DATA
6 PROCESSING CAPABILITIES INCLUDING, COMPUTERS
7 AND MOBILE PHONES. THE DEVICE CONSISTING OF
8 HARDWARE AND SOFTWARE MAY INCLUDE INPUT,
9 OUTPUT PROCESS, AND STORAGE COMPONENTS WHICH
10 MAY STAND ALONE OR BE CONNECTED IN A NETWORK
11 OR OTHER SIMILAR DEVICES. IT ALSO INCLUDES
12 COMPUTER DATA STORAGE DEVICES OR MEDIA;
13

14 (O) **COMPUTER AND OTHER COMPUTER-RELATED**
15 **DEVICES** – REFER TO ANY DEVICE OR GROUP OF
16 INTERCONNECTED OR RELATED DEVICES, ONE OR
17 MORE OF WHICH, PURSUANT TO A PROGRAM,
18 PERFORMS AUTOMATED PROCESSING OF DATA. IT
19 COVERS ANY TYPE OF DEVICE WITH DATA
20 PROCESSING CAPABILITIES, INCLUDING COMPUTERS
21 AND MOBILE PHONES;
22

23 (P) **DATA** – REFERS TO EITHER:
24

25 (1) **CONTENT DATA** – THE SUBSTANCE, MEANING OR
26 PURPORT OF THE COMMUNICATION, OR THE
27 MESSAGE OR INFORMATION BEING CONVEYED BY
28 THE COMMUNICATION, OTHER THAN TRAFFIC DATA;
29 OR
30

31 (2) **TRAFFIC DATA OR NON-CONTENT DATA** – ANY
32 COMPUTER DATA OTHER THAN THE CONTENT OF THE
33 COMMUNICATION, INCLUDING THE
34 COMMUNICATION'S ORIGIN, DESTINATION, ROUTE,
35 TIME, DATE, SIZE, DURATION, OR TYPE OF
36 UNDERLYING SERVICE;
37

38 (Q) **INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATIONS**
39 **TECHNOLOGY** – REFERS TO THE TOTALITY OF
40 ELECTRONIC MEANS TO ACCESS, CREATE, COLLECT,
41 STORE, PROCESS, RECEIVE, TRANSMIT, PRESENT, AND
42 DISSEMINATE INFORMATION;
43

44 (R) **INTERCEPTION** – REFERS TO THE ACT OF LISTENING
45 TO, RECORDING, MONITORING, OR SURVEILLANCE OF
46 THE CONTENT OF COMMUNICATIONS, INCLUDING

1 PROCURING OF THE CONTENT DATA, EITHER DIRECTLY,
2 THROUGH ACCESS AND USE OF A COMPUTER SYSTEM,
3 OR INDIRECTLY, THROUGH THE USE OF ELECTRONIC
4 EAVESDROPPING OR TAPPING DEVICES, AT THE SAME
5 TIME THAT THE COMMUNICATION IS OCCURRING;
6

7 (S) **INTERNET INTERMEDIARIES** – REFER TO NATURAL
8 AND JURIDICAL PERSONS THAT PROVIDE
9 INFRASTRUCTURE, PLATFORMS, ACCESS TO HOST,
10 TRANSMIT, AND INDEX CONTENT, PRODUCTS, AND
11 SERVICES ORIGINATED BY THE THIRD PARTY ON THE
12 INTERNET. THEY INCLUDE:
13

- 14 (1) INTERNET SERVICE PROVIDERS (ISPS);
- 15 (2) WEB HOSTING PROVIDERS INCLUDING DOMAIN
16 NAME REGISTRARS;
- 17 (3) INTERNET SEARCH ENGINES AND PORTALS;
- 18 (4) E-COMMERCE INTERMEDIARIES; AND
- 19 (5) PARTICIPATIVE NETWORKING PLATFORMS
20 PROVIDERS;

21
22 (T) **SUBSCRIBER'S OR REGISTRANT'S INFORMATION** –
23 REFERS TO ANY INFORMATION CONTAINED IN THE
24 FORM OF COMPUTER DATA OR ANY OTHER FORM THAT
25 IS HELD BY INTERNET INTERMEDIARIES, RELATING TO
26 THE SUBSCRIBERS OR REGISTRANTS WHO AVAIL OF
27 SERVICES, OTHER THAN TRAFFIC OR CONTENT DATA,
28 AND BY WHICH ANY OF THE FOLLOWING CAN BE
29 ESTABLISHED:
30

- 31 (1) THE TYPE OF COMMUNICATION SERVICE USED, THE
32 TECHNICAL PROVISIONS TAKEN THERETO, AND THE
33 PERIOD OF SERVICE;
- 34 (2) THE SUBSCRIBER'S OR REGISTRANT'S IDENTITY,
35 POSTAL OR GEOGRAPHIC ADDRESS, TELEPHONE
36 AND OTHER ACCESS NUMBER, ANY ASSIGNED
37 NETWORK ADDRESS, BILLING, AND PAYMENT
38 INFORMATION THAT ARE AVAILABLE ON THE BASIS
39 OF THE SERVICE AGREEMENT OR ARRANGEMENT;
40 OR,
- 41 (3) ANY OTHER AVAILABLE INFORMATION ON THE SITE
42 OF THE INSTALLATION OF COMMUNICATION
43 EQUIPMENT THAT IS AVAILABLE ON THE BASIS OF
44 THE SERVICE AGREEMENT OR ARRANGEMENT; AND,
45

46 (U) **TOURISM ENTERPRISES** – REFER TO FACILITIES,
47 SERVICES AND ATTRACTIONS INVOLVED IN TOURISM,

1 SUCH AS TRAVEL AND TOUR SERVICES; TOURIST
2 TRANSPORT SERVICES, WHETHER FOR LAND, SEA OR
3 AIR TRANSPORTATION; TOUR GUIDES; ADVENTURE
4 SPORTS SERVICES INVOLVING SUCH SPORTS AS
5 MOUNTAINEERING, SPELUNKING, SCUBA DIVING, AND
6 OTHER SPORTS ACTIVITIES OF SIGNIFICANT TOURISM
7 POTENTIAL; CONVENTION ORGANIZERS;
8 ACCOMMODATION ESTABLISHMENTS, INCLUDING,
9 HOTELS, RESORTS, APARTELLES, TOURIST INNS,
10 MOTELS, PENSION HOUSES, AND HOME STAY
11 OPERATORS; TOURISM ESTATE MANAGEMENT
12 SERVICES, RESTAURANTS, SHOPS AND DEPARTMENT
13 STORES, SPORTS AND RECREATIONAL CENTERS, SPAS,
14 MUSEUMS AND GALLERIES, THEME PARKS,
15 CONVENTION CENTERS, AND ZOOS.”

16
17 **SEC. 3.** Section 4 of the same law is hereby further amended to read as
18 follows:

19 **“SEC. 4. *Acts of Trafficking in Persons.*** – It shall be unlawful for any
20 person, natural or juridical, to commit BY MEANS OF THREAT, OR USE
21 OF FORCE OR OTHER FORMS OF COERCION, THROUGH
22 ABDUCTION, FRAUD, DECEPTION, ABUSE OF POWER OR
23 POSITION, OR BY TAKING ADVANTAGE OF THE VULNERABILITY
24 OF THE PERSON, OR BY GIVING OR RECEIVING OF PAYMENT OR
25 BENEFIT TO OBTAIN THE CONSENT OF A PERSON HAVING
26 CONTROL OVER ANOTHER PERSON, any of the following acts:

27 (a) To recruit, obtain, hire, provide, offer, transport, transfer, maintain,
28 harbor, or receive a person by any means, including those done
29 under the pretext of domestic or overseas employment or training
30 or apprenticeship, for the purpose of prostitution, pornography, [or]
31 sexual ABUSE OR exploitation, PRODUCTION, CREATION,
32 OR DISTRIBUTION OF CSAEM or CSAM, FORCED LABOR,
33 SLAVERY, INVOLUNTARY SERVITUDE, OR DEBT
34 BONDAGE;

35
36 (b) To introduce or match for money, profit, or material, economic or
37 other consideration, any person or, as provided for under Republic
38 Act No. [6955] 10906 OR *THE ANTI-MAIL ORDER SPOUSE*
39 *ACT*, any Filipino [woman] to a foreign national, for marriage for
40 the purpose of acquiring, buying, offering, selling or trading
41 him/her to engage in prostitution, pornography, sexual exploitation,
42 forced labor, slavery, involuntary servitude or debt bondage;

43
44 XXXX

- 1 (g) To adopt or facilitate the adoption of persons WITH OR
2 WITHOUT CONSIDERATION for the purpose of prostitution,
3 pornography, sexual exploitation, forced labor, slavery,
4 involuntary servitude or debt bondage AND OTHER
5 EXPLOITATIVE PURPOSES;
6
- 7 (h) To recruit, hire, adopt, transport, transfer, obtain, harbor, maintain,
8 provide, offer, receive, or abduct a person, [by means of threat or
9 use of force, fraud, deceit, violence, coercion, or intimidation] for
10 the purpose of removal or sale of organs of said person;
11
- 12 (i) XXX;
- 13 (j) To recruit, transport, transfer, harbor, obtain, maintain, offer, hire,
14 provide or receive a person by means defined in Section 3 of this
15 Act for purposes of forced labor, slavery, debt bondage and
16 involuntary servitude, including a scheme, plan, or pattern intended
17 to cause the person either:
- 18 (1) To believe that if the person did not perform such labor or
19 services, he or she or another person would suffer serious harm
20 or physical restraint; or
21 (2) To abuse or threaten the use of law or the legal processes; [and]
- 22 (k) To recruit, transport, harbor, obtain, transfer, maintain, hire, offer,
23 provide, adopt or receive a child for purposes of exploitation or
24 trading them, including but not limited to, the act of baring and/or
25 selling a child for any consideration or for barter for purposes of
26 exploitation. Trafficking for purposes of exploitation of children
27 shall include:
- 28 (1) All forms of slavery or practices similar to slavery, involuntary
29 servitude, debt bondage and forced labor, including recruitment
30 of children for use in armed conflict;
31 (2) The use, procuring or offering of a child for prostitution, for the
32 production of pornography, or for pornographic performances;
33 (3) The use, procuring or offering of a child for the production and
34 trafficking of drugs; and
35 (4) The use, procuring or offering of a child for illegal activities or
36 work which, by its nature or the circumstances in which it is
37 carried out, is likely to harm their health, safety or morals; [and]
- 38 (l) To organize or direct other persons to commit the offenses defined
39 as acts of trafficking under this Act; AND,
- 40 (M) TO RECRUIT, TRANSPORT, OBTAIN, TRANSFER, HARBOR,
41 MAINTAIN, OFFER, HIRE, PROVIDE, RECEIVE, OR ADOPT
42 A CHILD FOR DEPLOYMENT ABROAD AS MIGRANT
43 WORKER.

1 *PROVIDED*, THAT WHEN THE VICTIM IS A CHILD, THE MEANS
2 TO COMMIT THESE UNLAWFUL ACTS AS ENUMERATED IN THE
3 FIRST PARAGRAPH OF THIS SECTION SHALL NOT BE NECESSARY.

4 XXX”

5 **SEC. 4.** Section 5 is hereby amended to read as follows:

6 “**SEC. 5. *Acts that Promote Trafficking in Persons.*** – The following
7 acts which promote or facilitate trafficking in persons, shall be unlawful:

8 (a) To knowingly lease or sublease, use, or allow to be used any house,
9 building, TOURISM-ENTERPRISES, or ANY SIMILAR
10 establishment; VEHICLES OR CARRIERS BY LAND, SEA,
11 AND AIR; or any OF THEIR COMPUTER SYSTEM OR
12 COMPUTER HARDWARE AND OTHER COMPUTER-
13 RELATED DEVICES for the purpose of promoting trafficking in
14 persons;

15 XXX;

16 (i) To destroy, conceal, remove, confiscate or possess, or attempt to
17 destroy, conceal, remove, confiscate or possess, any actual or
18 purported passport or other travel, immigration or working permit
19 or document, or any other actual or purported government
20 identification, of any person in order to prevent or restrict, or
21 attempt to prevent or restrict, without lawful authority, the person’s
22 liberty to move or travel in order to maintain the labor or services
23 of that person; [or,]

24 (j) XXX;

25 (K) TO KNOWINGLY ALLOW THEIR INTERNET
26 INFRASTRUCTURE TO BE USED FOR THE PURPOSE OF
27 PROMOTING TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS;

28 (L) TO KNOWINGLY ALLOW THEIR INTERNET CAFES AND
29 KIOSKS, INCLUDING WI-FI ACCESS SERVICES AND
30 FACILITIES IN THEIR ESTABLISHMENTS TO BE USED FOR
31 THE PURPOSE OF PROMOTING TRAFFICKING IN
32 PERSONS;

33 (M) TO KNOWINGLY ALLOW THEIR FINANCIAL SERVICES,
34 NOT LIMITED TO BANKS AND CREDIT CARDS, INTERNET
35 PAYMENT SYSTEMS, MONEY TRANSFERS OR
36 REMITTANCES INCLUDING ITS ONLINE PLATFORM AND
37 APPLICATIONS, TO BE USED FOR THE PURPOSE OF
38 FULFILLING TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS;

1 (N) TO KNOWINGLY FACILITATE, ASSIST, OR HELP IN THE
2 ENTRY INTO THE COUNTRY OF PERSONS WHO ARE
3 CONVICTED SEX OFFENDERS WHETHER AT
4 INTERNATIONAL AND LOCAL AIRPORTS, TERRITORIAL
5 BOUNDARIES AND SEAPORTS FOR THE PURPOSE OF
6 PROMOTING TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS; OR,
7

8 (O) TO KNOWINGLY ARRANGE, FACILITATE, EXPEDITE, OR
9 CAUSE THE INTRODUCTION OR ENCOUNTER OF
10 PERSONS WHO ARE SUSPECTED OR CONVICTED SEX
11 OFFENDERS IN ANY JURISDICTION, TO A CHILD. THE
12 ACTUAL INTRODUCTION OR ENCOUNTER NEED NOT
13 OCCUR TO BE LIABLE UNDER THIS PROVISION, IT IS
14 ENOUGH THAT THERE IS A DELIBERATE ATTEMPT TO
15 CAUSE THE INTRODUCTION OR ENCOUNTER.”
16

17 **SEC. 5.** Section 6 is hereby amended to read as follows:

18 “**SEC. 6. *Qualified Trafficking in Persons.*** – Violations of Section 4
19 of this Act shall be considered as qualified trafficking:

20 X X X

21 (h) When the offender commits one or more [violations] ACTS of
22 TRAFFICKING UNDER Section 4 over a period of AT LEAST
23 sixty (60) [or more] days, whether those days are continuous or not;
24 [and]
25

26 (i) When the offender [directs], or through another, DIRECTS OR
27 manages the ACTIONS OF A [trafficking] victim in carrying out
28 the exploitative purpose of trafficking;
29

30 (J) WHEN THE CRIME IS COMMITTED DURING A CRISIS,
31 DISASTER, PANDEMIC, OR EMERGENCY SITUATION, OR
32 WHEN THE TRAFFICKED PERSON IS A SURVIVOR OF A
33 DISASTER OR A HUMAN-INDUCED CONFLICT;
34

35 (K) WHEN THE TRAFFICKED PERSON BELONGS TO AN
36 INDIGENOUS COMMUNITY AND IS CONSIDERED AN
37 INDIGENOUS PERSON;
38

39 (L) WHEN THE TRAFFICKED PERSON IS A PERSON WITH
40 DISABILITY;
41

42 (M) WHEN THE CRIME HAS RESULTED IN PREGNANCY; OR,

1 (N) WHEN THE ACT IS COMMITTED BY OR THROUGH THE
2 USE OF INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATIONS
3 TECHNOLOGY OR USING ANY COMPUTER SYSTEM.”
4

5 **SEC. 6.** Section 8 of Republic Act No. 9208, as amended, is hereby further amended
6 to read as follows:

7 “**SEC. 8. INVESTIGATION [Initiation] and Prosecution of Cases.** –
8

9 (a) Initiation of Investigation. – Law enforcement agencies (LEAs) are
10 mandated to immediately initiate investigation and counter-
11 trafficking-intelligence gathering upon receipt of statements,
12 REPORTS, or affidavit from victims of trafficking, migrant
13 workers, or their families, AND INTERNET INTERMEDIARIES,
14 who are in possession of knowledge or information about
15 trafficking in persons cases. THEY SHALL INITIATE
16 BILATERAL OR MULTI-LATERAL AGREEMENTS WITH
17 OTHER STATES TO ALLOW FOREIGN INTERNET
18 INTERMEDIARIES TO SHARE WITH LOCAL AUTHORITIES
19 POSSIBLE INVESTIGATION DATA NECESSARY FOR
20 PROSECUTION OF CASES; IN ALL INSTANCES THE RIGHT
21 TO PRIVACY OF THE CHILD AND ALL VICTIMS, AND
22 THEIR FAMILIES, MUST BE RESPECTED AND
23 PROTECTED.
24

25 (B) INTERCEPTION OF COMMUNICATIONS. – IN CASES
26 INVOLVING CHILD TRAFFICKING, NOTWITHSTANDING
27 THE PROVISIONS OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 4200
28 OTHERWISE KNOWN AS *THE ANTI-WIRE TAPPING LAW*, A
29 LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER (LEO) MAY, UPON A
30 WRITTEN ORDER FROM THE AUTHORIZING COURT,
31 INTERCEPT COMMUNICATIONS, INVOLVING AT LEAST
32 ONE PERSON CHARGED WITH OR SUSPECTED OF
33 TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS, WITH THE USE OF ANY
34 MODE, FORM, KIND, OR TYPE OF ELECTRONIC OR
35 INTERCEPTING DEVICES, OR WITH THE USE OF ANY
36 OTHER SUITABLE WAYS AND MEANS FOR THAT
37 PURPOSE: *PROVIDED, THAT* THE REQUIREMENT OF A
38 COURT ORDER SHALL NOT APPLY TO A LEO ACTING IN
39 AN UNDERCOVER CAPACITY AND RECORDING A
40 COMMUNICATION WITH A PERSON REASONABLY
41 BELIEVED TO HAVE COMMITTED, IS COMMITTING, OR
42 ABOUT TO COMMIT ANY OF THE VIOLATIONS UNDER
43 THIS ACT: *PROVIDED, FURTHER, THAT*
44 NOTWITHSTANDING THE PROCEDURE IN THIS
45 PROVISION, A LEO SHALL NOT BE PRECLUDED FROM
46 OBTAINING A WARRANT TO INTERCEPT COMPUTER

1 DATA (WICD) UNDER THE RULE ON CYBERCRIME
2 WARRANTS.
3

4 [(b)] (C) Prosecution of Cases. - Any person who has personal knowledge of
5 the commission of any offense under this Act, such as the trafficked
6 person, the parents, spouse, siblings, children or legal guardian may
7 file a complaint for trafficking.
8

9 (D) FORMAL APPLICATION FOR JUDICIAL AUTHORIZATION.
10 - THE CHIEF OF THE PHILIPPINE NATIONAL POLICE (PNP)
11 OR THE DIRECTOR OF THE NATIONAL BUREAU OF
12 INVESTIGATION (NBI) MAY SUBMIT *EX PARTE*
13 APPLICATIONS FOR THE ISSUANCE OF WRITTEN ORDERS
14 FROM THE AUTHORIZING COURT, TO CONDUCT
15 INTERCEPTION ON ANY COMMUNICATION, *PROVIDED,*
16 *THAT* THE FOLLOWING FACTS OR CIRCUMSTANCES ARE
17 ESTABLISHED:
18

19 (1) THE CRIME OF TRAFFICKING HAS BEEN COMMITTED,
20 OR IS BEING COMMITTED, OR IS ABOUT TO BE
21 COMMITTED;
22

23 (2) EVIDENCE, WHICH IS ESSENTIAL TO THE
24 CONVICTION OF ANY CHARGED OR SUSPECTED
25 PERSON FOR, OR TO THE SOLUTION OR PREVENTION
26 OF, ANY SUCH CRIMES, WILL BE OBTAINED; AND,
27

28 (3) THERE IS NO OTHER EFFECTIVE MEANS READILY
29 AVAILABLE FOR ACQUIRING SUCH EVIDENCE.
30

31 (E) CLASSIFICATION AND CONTENT OF THE ORDER OF THE
32 AUTHORIZING COURT. -
33

34 THE WRITTEN ORDER OF THE COURT AUTHORIZING THE
35 CONDUCT OF INTERCEPTION, SHALL SPECIFY THE
36 FOLLOWING:
37

38 (1) THE IDENTITY, SUCH AS NAME AND ADDRESS, IF
39 KNOWN, OF THE CHARGED OR SUSPECTED PERSON
40 WHOSE COMMUNICATIONS, ARE TO BE
41 INTERCEPTED;
42

43 (2) IN THE CASE OF COMMUNICATIONS MADE THROUGH
44 THE USE OF INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATIONS
45 TECHNOLOGY, THE PARTICULAR DESCRIPTION OF
46 THE NUMBER OR ACCOUNT OF THE SUBSCRIBER OR
47 REGISTRANT TO BE INTERCEPTED AND THEIR
48 LOCATIONS, IF KNOWN;

1 (3) IF THE PERSON SUSPECTED OF THE CRIME IS NOT
2 FULLY KNOWN, SUCH PERSON SHALL BE SUBJECT
3 TO CONTINUOUS SURVEILLANCE PROVIDED THERE
4 IS A REASONABLE GROUND TO DO SO;
5

6 (4) THE IDENTITIES OF THE INTERCEPTING LEOS, OR
7 THE IDENTITIES OF INDIVIDUALS OR JURIDICAL
8 PERSONS WHO WILL ASSIST THE LEA IN CARRYING
9 OUT SAID INTERCEPTION;
10

11 (5) THE OFFENSE OR OFFENSES COMMITTED OR BEING
12 COMMITTED, OR SOUGHT TO BE PREVENTED; AND,
13

14 (6) THE LENGTH OF TIME WITHIN WHICH THE
15 AUTHORIZATION SHALL BE USED OR CARRIED OUT.
16

17 (F) EFFECTIVE PERIOD OF JUDICIAL AUTHORIZATION. –
18 ANY AUTHORIZATION GRANTED BY THE AUTHORIZING
19 COURT PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION SHALL ONLY BE
20 EFFECTIVE FOR THE LENGTH OF TIME SPECIFIED IN THE
21 WRITTEN ORDER, WHICH SHALL NOT EXCEED THIRTY
22 (30) DAYS, BUT WHICH CAN BE EXTENDED TO ANOTHER
23 THIRTY (30) DAYS TO SERVE THE PUBLIC INTEREST:
24 *PROVIDED*, THAT THE AUTHORIZING COURT IS
25 SATISFIED THAT SUCH EXTENSION OR RENEWAL IS
26 NECESSARY IN THE FURTHERANCE OF THE
27 INVESTIGATION.
28

29 IN CASE THE ORIGINAL APPLICANT IS NOT AVAILABLE
30 TO FILE THE APPLICATION FOR EXTENSION OR
31 RENEWAL, ANY OTHER MEMBER OF THE TEAM DULY
32 AUTHORIZED BY THEIR SUPERIOR OFFICER MAY
33 INSTEAD FILE THE APPLICATION FOR EXTENSION OR
34 RENEWAL: *PROVIDED*, THAT THE APPLICANT POLICE OR
35 LEO SHALL HAVE THIRTY (30) DAYS AFTER THE
36 TERMINATION OF THE PERIOD GRANTED BY THE
37 AUTHORIZING COURT AS PROVIDED IN THE PRECEDING
38 PARAGRAPHS WITHIN WHICH TO FILE THE
39 APPROPRIATE CASE BEFORE THE PUBLIC PROSECUTORS
40 OFFICE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE FOR ANY
41 VIOLATION OF THIS ACT.
42

43 IF NO CASE IS FILED WITHIN THE THIRTY (30) DAY
44 PERIOD, THE APPLICANT POLICE OR LEO SHALL, WITHIN
45 THIRTY (30) DAYS FROM THE EXPIRATION OF THE
46 ORDER NOTIFY THE AUTHORIZING COURT THAT NO
47 CASE HAS BEEN FILED. FAILURE TO NOTIFY THE
48 AUTHORIZING COURT WITHIN THE REQUIRED PERIOD
49 SHALL BE PENALIZED UNDER SECTION 10 (G) OF THIS
50 ACT.

1 (G) CUSTODY OF INTERCEPTED COMMUNICATIONS. – ALL
2 TAPES, DISCS, AND RECORDINGS MADE PURSUANT TO
3 THIS SECTION, INCLUDING ALL EXCERPTS AND
4 SUMMARIES THEREOF AS WELL AS ALL WRITTEN
5 NOTES OR MEMORANDA MADE IN CONNECTION
6 THEREWITH, SHALL, WITHIN FORTY-EIGHT (48) HOURS
7 AFTER THE EXPIRATION OF THE PERIOD FIXED IN THE
8 WRITTEN ORDER, OR WITHIN FORTY-EIGHT (48) HOURS
9 AFTER THE EXPIRATION OF ANY EXTENSION OR
10 RENEWAL, BE SUBMITTED TO THE AUTHORIZING
11 COURT OR ITS APPOINTED CUSTODIAN. IT SHALL BE
12 CONTAINED IN A SEALED ENVELOPE OR PACKAGE, AS
13 THE CASE MAY BE, AND SHALL BE ACCOMPANIED BY A
14 JOINT AFFIDAVIT OF THE APPLICANT POLICE OR LEO
15 AND THE TEAM MEMBERS. IN CASE OF DEATH OR
16 PHYSICAL INCAPACITY OF THE APPLICANT TO
17 EXECUTE THE REQUIRED AFFIDAVIT, THE TEAM
18 MEMBER WHO IS NEXT IN RANK TO THE APPLICANT
19 NAMED IN THE WRITTEN ORDER SHALL, TOGETHER
20 WITH THE OTHER TEAM MEMBERS EXECUTE THE
21 REQUIRED AFFIDAVIT. THE LEA MAY, WITH PROPER
22 COURT AUTHORIZATION, COPY COMPUTER DATA THAT
23 SHALL BE UTILIZED FOR CASE BUILD-UP OR
24 PRELIMINARY INVESTIGATION PURPOSES.

25
26 THE COPY OF THE COMPUTER DATA MAY BE RETAINED
27 BY THE LEAs WHILE THE DIGITAL DEVICES EXAMINED
28 AND THE RESULT OF THE DIGITAL FORENSIC
29 EXAMINATION SHALL BE DEPOSITED WITH THE COURT
30 THAT ISSUED THE COURT WARRANT, OR, IN CASE
31 WHERE A CRIMINAL CASE IS ALREADY FILED IN COURT,
32 THE COURT HEARING THE CRIMINAL CASE.

33
34 IT SHALL BE UNLAWFUL FOR ANY PERSON, POLICE
35 OFFICER, OR ANY CUSTODIAN TO MAKE A COPY OF THE
36 MATERIALS IN THEIR CUSTODY, SUCH AS TAPES, DISCS,
37 VIDEO FOOTAGES AND OTHER RECORDINGS, OR
38 EXCERPTS AND SUMMARIES THEREOF INCLUDING
39 WRITTEN NOTES AND MEMORANDA MADE IN
40 CONNECTION THEREWITH, WITHOUT COURT
41 AUTHORIZATION, OR TO REMOVE, DELETE, EXPUNGE,
42 INCINERATE, SHRED, OR DESTROY IN ANY MANNER THE
43 ITEMS ENUMERATED ABOVE IN WHOLE OR IN PART
44 UNDER ANY PRETEXT WHATSOEVER.

45
46 (H) CONTENTS OF JOINT AFFIDAVIT. – THE JOINT AFFIDAVIT
47 OF THE POLICE OR OF THE LEO AND THE INDIVIDUAL
48 TEAM MEMBERS SHALL STATE:

- 1 (1) THE NUMBER OF TAPES, DISCS, AND RECORDINGS
2 THAT HAVE BEEN MADE, AS WELL AS THE NUMBER
3 OF EXCERPTS AND SUMMARIES THEREOF, AND THE
4 NUMBER OF WRITTEN NOTES AND MEMORANDA, IF
5 ANY, MADE IN CONNECTION THEREWITH;
6
7 (2) THE DATES AND TIMES COVERED BY EACH OF SUCH
8 TAPES, DISCS, AND RECORDINGS;
9
10 (3) THE NUMBER OF TAPES, DISCS, AND RECORDINGS,
11 AS WELL AS THE NUMBER OF EXCERPTS AND
12 SUMMARIES THEREOF AND THE NUMBER OF
13 WRITTEN NOTES AND MEMORANDA MADE IN
14 CONNECTION THEREWITH THAT HAVE BEEN
15 INCLUDED IN THE DEPOSIT; AND,
16
17 (4) THE DATE OF THE ORIGINAL WRITTEN
18 AUTHORIZATION GRANTED BY THE DEPARTMENT
19 OF JUSTICE (DOJ) TO THE APPLICANT TO FILE THE *EX*
20 *PARTE* APPLICATION TO CONDUCT THE
21 INTERCEPTION, AS WELL AS THE DATE OF ANY
22 EXTENSION OR RENEWAL OF THE ORIGINAL
23 WRITTEN AUTHORITY GRANTED BY THE
24 AUTHORIZING COURT.

25
26 THE JOINT AFFIDAVIT SHALL ALSO CERTIFY UNDER
27 OATH THAT NO UNAUTHORIZED DUPLICATES OR
28 COPIES OF THE WHOLE OR ANY PART OF ANY OF
29 SUCH TAPES, DISCS, AND RECORDINGS, EXCERPTS,
30 SUMMARIES, WRITTEN NOTES, AND MEMORANDA,
31 HAVE BEEN MADE, OR, IF MADE, THAT ALL SUCH
32 DUPLICATES AND COPIES ARE INCLUDED IN THE
33 SEALED ENVELOPE OR PACKAGE, AS THE CASE MAY
34 BE, DEPOSITED WITH THE AUTHORIZING DIVISION
35 OF THE AUTHORIZING COURT.

- 36
37 (I) DISPOSITION OF DEPOSITED MATERIAL. – THE SEALED
38 ENVELOPE OR PACKAGE AND THE CONTENTS THEREOF,
39 WHICH ARE DEPOSITED WITH THE AUTHORIZING
40 COURT, DEEMED AND ARE HEREBY DECLARED
41 CLASSIFIED INFORMATION, SHALL NOT BE OPENED
42 AND ITS CONTENTS, INCLUDING THE TAPES, DISCS, AND
43 RECORDINGS, AND ALL THE EXCERPTS AND
44 SUMMARIES THEREOF AND THE NOTES AND
45 MEMORANDA MADE IN CONNECTION THEREWITH,
46 SHALL NOT BE DIVULGED, REVEALED, READ,
47 REPLAYED, OR USED AS EVIDENCE UNLESS
48 AUTHORIZED BY WRITTEN ORDER OF THE
49 AUTHORIZING COURT. FOR THIS PURPOSE, THE DOJ
50 SHALL FILE A WRITTEN APPLICATION TO OPEN THE

1 SEALED ENVELOPE OR PACKAGE BEFORE THE
2 AUTHORIZING COURT, WITH PROPER WRITTEN NOTICE
3 TO THE PERSON WHOSE COMMUNICATIONS HAVE BEEN
4 THE SUBJECT OF INTERCEPTION TO OPEN, REVEAL,
5 DIVULGE, AND USE THE CONTENTS OF THE SEALED
6 ENVELOPE OR PACKAGE AS EVIDENCE.

7
8 THE WRITTEN APPLICATION WITH NOTICE TO THE
9 PARTY CONCERNED TO OPEN THE DEPOSITED SEALED
10 ENVELOPE OR PACKAGE SHALL CLEARLY STATE THE
11 PURPOSE OR REASON:

- 12
13 (1) FOR OPENING THE SEALED ENVELOPE OR PACKAGE;
14
15 (2) FOR REVEALING OR DISCLOSING ITS CLASSIFIED
16 CONTENTS;
17
18 (3) FOR REPLAYING, DIVULGING, OR READING
19 INTERCEPTED COMMUNICATIONS, INCLUDING ANY
20 OF THE EXCERPTS AND SUMMARIES THEREOF AND
21 ANY OF THE NOTES OR MEMORANDA MADE IN
22 CONNECTION THEREWITH; AND,
23
24 (4) FOR USING ANY OF THE INTERCEPTED
25 COMMUNICATIONS, INCLUDING ANY OF THE
26 EXCERPTS AND SUMMARIES THEREOF AND ANY OF
27 THE NOTES OR MEMORANDA MADE IN CONNECTION
28 THEREWITH, AS EVIDENCE.

- 29
30 (J) EVIDENTIARY VALUE OF DEPOSITED MATERIALS. –
31 INTERCEPTED COMMUNICATIONS, OR ANY PART OR
32 PARTS THEREOF, OR ANY INFORMATION OR FACT
33 CONTAINED THEREIN, INCLUDING THEIR EXISTENCE,
34 CONTENT, SUBSTANCE, PURPORT, EFFECT, OR
35 MEANING, WHICH HAVE BEEN SECURED IN VIOLATION
36 OF THE PERTINENT PROVISIONS OF THIS ACT, SHALL
37 ABSOLUTELY NOT BE ADMISSIBLE AND USABLE AS
38 EVIDENCE AGAINST ANYBODY IN ANY JUDICIAL,
39 QUASI-JUDICIAL, LEGISLATIVE, OR ADMINISTRATIVE
40 INVESTIGATION, INQUIRY, PROCEEDING, OR HEARING.

- 41
42 [(c)] (K) *Affidavit of Desistance*. – Cases involving trafficking in persons
43 should not be dismissed based on the affidavit of desistance
44 executed by the victims or their parents or legal guardians. Public
45 and private prosecutors are directed to oppose and manifest
46 objections to motions for dismissal.

47
48 Any act involving the means provided in this Act or any attempt
49 thereof for the purpose of securing an Affidavit of Desistance from
50 the complainant shall be punishable under this Act.

1 **SEC. 8-A. DUTIES OF INTERNET INTERMEDIARIES.** –
2 INTERNET INTERMEDIARIES SHALL HAVE THE FOLLOWING
3 FUNCTIONS:

4 (A) ADOPT IN THEIR TERMS OF SERVICE OR SERVICE
5 AGREEMENTS WITH THIRD-PARTY USERS OR
6 CREATORS OF CONTENTS, PRODUCTS, AND SERVICES
7 THE PROHIBITION OF ANY FORM OF CHILD
8 TRAFFICKING, CSAEM or CSAM, OR EXHIBITION OF ANY
9 FORM OF SEXUAL EXPLOITATION OF CHILDREN IN
10 THEIR WEBSITE, PLATFORM, SERVER, OR FACILITY;

11
12 (B) COMPILE AND MAINTAIN A COMPREHENSIVE LIST OF
13 CHILD TRAFFICKING, CSAEM or CSAM, OR ANY FORM OF
14 SEXUAL EXPLOITATION OF CHILDREN-RELATED URLS:
15 *PROVIDED*, THAT THE LIST IS UPDATED REGULARLY BY
16 PARTNERING OR OBTAINING MEMBERSHIPS IN
17 ORGANIZATIONS AND COALITIONS THAT MAINTAIN A
18 COMPREHENSIVE LIST OF CHILD ABUSE IMAGE
19 CONTENT URL LIST AND IMAGE HASHES, AMONG
20 OTHERS;

21
22 (C) PRESERVE AND PROTECT THE INTEGRITY OF ALL
23 SUBSCRIBER'S OR REGISTRANT'S INFORMATION AND
24 TRAFFIC DATA, IN ITS CONTROL AND POSSESSION,
25 RELATING TO COMMUNICATION SERVICES PROVIDED
26 BY AN INTERNET INTERMEDIARY, WITHIN ONE (1) YEAR
27 FROM THE DATE OF THE TRANSACTION, FOR THE
28 PURPOSE OF INVESTIGATION AND PROSECUTION OF
29 ALL FORMS OF TRAFFICKING, CSAEM or CSAM, OR ANY
30 FORM OF SEXUAL EXPLOITATION OF CHILDREN'S
31 CASES: *PROVIDED*, THAT UPON NOTICE BY THE DOJ,
32 PNP, OR THE NBI THE PRESERVATION OF SUCH
33 RELEVANT EVIDENCE SHALL BE EXTENDED FOR
34 ANOTHER YEAR AS MAY BE DEEMED NECESSARY:
35 *PROVIDED, HOWEVER*, THAT THE RELEVANT EVIDENCE
36 THAT NEEDS PRESERVATION SHALL BE EXPRESSLY
37 IDENTIFIED AND SPECIFIED;

38
39 (D) IMMEDIATELY BLOCK ACCESS TO, REMOVE, OR TAKE
40 DOWN THE INTERNET ADDRESS, URL, WEBSITE, OR ANY
41 CONTENT THEREOF, CONTAINING ALL FORMS OF
42 TRAFFICKING, CSAEM or CSAM, OR ANY FORM OF
43 SEXUAL EXPLOITATION OF CHILDREN, WITHIN
44 TWENTY FOUR (24) HOURS FROM NOTICE OF THE DOJ,
45 PNP, OR NBI, OR UPON KNOWLEDGE OF THE EXISTENCE

1 OF TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS COMMITTED WITHIN
2 THEIR CONTROL: *PROVIDED*, THAT THE PROVISION IN
3 THE PRECEDING PARAGRAPH ON PRESERVATION OF
4 SUBSCRIBER DATA SHALL APPLY AND SHALL BE
5 EXTENDED AS MAY BE DEEMED NECESSARY BY THE
6 DOJ, PNP, OR NBI;

7
8 (E) REPORT TO THE DOJ, PNP, NBI, OR THE DICT-CICC THE
9 INTERNET ADDRESSES OR WEBSITES BLOCKED,
10 REMOVED, OR TAKEN DOWN, OR ANY FORM OF
11 UNUSUAL CONTENT OR TRAFFIC DATA INVOLVING ALL
12 FORMS OF TRAFFICKING, CHILD PORNOGRAPHY, OR
13 ANY FORM SEXUAL EXPLOITATION OF CHILDREN IS
14 BEING COMMITTED USING ITS SERVER OR FACILITY
15 ACTIVITY USING ITS SERVER OR FACILITY, WITHIN
16 THREE (3) DAYS OF THE BLOCKING, REMOVAL OR
17 TAKING DOWN OF THE SAME: *PROVIDED*, THAT IN CASE
18 A FOREIGN INTERNET INTERMEDIARY IS PROHIBITED
19 BY ITS COUNTRY TO SHARE DATA, THE REPORTS FILED
20 BY SUCH FOREIGN INTERNET INTERMEDIARY TO THE
21 CORRESPONDING ENTITY TASKED BY ITS
22 GOVERNMENT TO RECEIVE CYBERCRIME REPORTS
23 SHALL BE DEEMED IN COMPLIANCE WITH THIS
24 PROVISION: *PROVIDED HOWEVER*, THAT THE SAID
25 FOREIGN INTERNET INTERMEDIARY SHALL INFORM
26 THE DOJ, PNP, NBI, OR THE DICT-CICC OF SUCH
27 REPORTING: *PROVIDED FURTHER*, THAT WHATEVER
28 RELEVANT DATA SAID FOREIGN INTERNET
29 INTERMEDIARY IS NOT PROHIBITED TO SHARE SHALL
30 NEVERTHELESS BE REPORTED TO THE DOJ, PNP, NBI, OR
31 THE DICT-CICC: *PROVIDED, FINALLY*, THAT NO
32 INTERNET INTERMEDIARY SHALL BE HELD CIVILLY
33 LIABLE FOR DAMAGES ON ACCOUNT OF ANY NOTICE
34 GIVEN IN GOOD FAITH IN COMPLIANCE WITH THIS
35 SECTION; AND,

36
37 (F) UPON REQUEST AND NOTWITHSTANDING THE
38 PROVISIONS OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 10175, OTHERWISE
39 KNOWN AS THE CYBERCRIME PREVENTION ACT OF 2012
40 AND IN ACCORDANCE WITH REPUBLIC ACT NO. 10173,
41 OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE DATA PRIVACY ACT OF
42 2012, PROVIDE TO THE DOJ, PNP, NBI, OR THE DICT-CICC,
43 THE SUBSCRIBER INFORMATION OF ANY PERSON WHO
44 GAINED OR ATTEMPTED TO GAIN ACCESS TO AN
45 INTERNET SITE OR INTERNET APPLICATION WHICH
46 CONTAINS ANY FORM OF CHILD TRAFFICKING, CSAEM
47 OR CSAM, OR ANY FORM SEXUAL EXPLOITATION OF

1 CHILDREN: *PROVIDED*, THAT THE REQUEST MUST
2 PARTICULARLY DESCRIBE THE INFORMATION ASKED
3 FOR AND INDICATE THE RELEVANCY OF SUCH
4 INFORMATION TO SUCH A CASE.
5

6 **SEC. 8-B. SUPPLIERS, DISTRIBUTORS, AND STORES OF**
7 **COMPUTER AND OTHER COMPUTER-RELATED DEVICES.** –
8 ALL SUPPLIERS, DISTRIBUTORS, AND STORES ARE REQUIRED TO
9 PROCURE AND INSTALL, AT THE OPTION OF THE CONSUMER,
10 ANY AVAILABLE SOFTWARE, PROGRAM, TECHNOLOGY THAT
11 CAN BLOCK, FILTER, REMOVE CSAEM or CSAM, AND PROHIBIT
12 ACCESS TO LIVE SEX STREAMING: *PROVIDED*, THAT WHEN SUCH
13 COMPUTER AND COMPUTER- RELATED DEVICES ARE INTENDED
14 FOR PUBLIC USE, THE INSTALLATION SHALL BE MANDATORY.
15

16 **SEC. 8-C. RESPONSIBILITY OF TOURISM ENTERPRISES.** –
17 ALL TOURISM ENTERPRISES SHALL NOTIFY THE DEPARTMENT
18 OF SOCIAL WELFARE AND DEVELOPMENT (DSWD), DOJ,
19 DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT (DOLE), PNP, OR
20 THE NBI WITHIN FORTY-EIGHT (48) HOURS FROM OBTAINING
21 FACTS AND CIRCUMSTANCES THAT TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS,
22 INCLUDING CHILD TRAFFICKING OR SEXUAL EXPLOITATION OF
23 CHILDREN, IS BEING COMMITTED IN THEIR PREMISES:
24 *PROVIDED*, THAT PUBLIC DISPLAY OF ANY FORM OF CSAEM or
25 CSAM WITHIN THEIR PREMISES IS A CONCLUSIVE PRESUMPTION
26 OF THE KNOWLEDGE OF THE OWNERS, OPERATORS, OR LESSORS
27 OF BUSINESS ESTABLISHMENTS OF THE VIOLATION OF THIS
28 ACT.
29

30 ALL TOURISM ENTERPRISES SHALL POST A NOTICE
31 CONTAINING THE CONTACT DETAILS OF TRAFFICKING IN
32 PERSONS HOTLINES, BOTH NATIONAL AND LOCAL, IN A
33 CONSPICUOUS PLACE NEAR THE PUBLIC ENTRANCE, INSIDE
34 REST ROOMS, ELEVATORS, OR PARKING AREAS OF THE
35 ESTABLISHMENT AND IN OTHER CONSPICUOUS LOCATIONS
36 WHERE SIMILAR NOTICES ARE CUSTOMARILY POSTED IN CLEAR
37 VIEW OF THE PUBLIC AND EMPLOYEES. THEY SHALL LIKEWISE
38 ENGAGE IN ANTI-TRAFFICKING ADVOCACY AS PART OF THEIR
39 CORPORATE RESPONSIBILITY. FOR THIS PURPOSE, THE INTER-
40 AGENCY COUNCIL AGAINST TRAFFICKING (IACAT) SHALL
41 DEVELOP A MODEL NOTICE THAT COMPLIES WITH THE
42 REQUIREMENTS OF THIS SECTION AND MAKE THE MODEL
43 NOTICE AVAILABLE FOR DOWNLOADING IN ITS INTERNET
44 WEBSITE, AND FOR POSTING OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNITS
45 (LGUS) AND TOURISM ENTERPRISES.
46

47 FURTHER, ALL TOURISM ENTERPRISES SHALL DEVELOP
48 THEIR OWN TOURISM CHILD PROTECTION POLICY IN
49 ACCORDANCE WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF TOURISM'S
50 TOURISMSWORKS PROGRAM. THEY SHALL ALSO, IN

1 COOPERATION WITH THE DSWD, IACAT, OR A REPUTABLE
2 NONGOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION (NGO) FOCUSED ON ANTI-
3 TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS, TRAIN THEIR EMPLOYEES WHO ARE
4 LIKELY TO INTERACT OR COME INTO CONTACT WITH VICTIMS
5 OF TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS IN RECOGNIZING THE SIGNS OF
6 HUMAN TRAFFICKING AND HOW TO REPORT SUSPECTED
7 TRAFFICKING ACTIVITY TO THE APPROPRIATE LEA. THE IACAT
8 SHALL, TOGETHER WITH THE DSWD, DEVELOP A TRAINING
9 CURRICULUM OR PROGRAM AND MAKE THE SAME AVAILABLE
10 FOR DOWNLOADING IN ITS INTERNET WEBSITE.

11 THE PRECEDING RESPONSIBILITIES OF TOURISM
12 ENTERPRISES SHALL BE MADE PART OF THE REQUIREMENTS
13 FOR ACCREDITATION BY THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND FOR
14 THE ISSUANCE OF THE LOCAL BUSINESS PERMIT TO OPERATE.

15
16 **SEC. 8-D. RESPONSIBILITIES OF FINANCIAL**
17 **INTERMEDIARIES.** – ANY PERSON WORKING FOR, RELATED TO,
18 OR WHO HAS DIRECT KNOWLEDGE OF ANY TRAFFICKING IN
19 PERSONS-RELATED FINANCIAL ACTIVITY OR TRANSACTION
20 CONDUCTED THROUGH A FINANCIAL INTERMEDIARY SHALL
21 HAVE THE DUTY TO REPORT ANY SUSPECTED TRAFFICKING IN
22 PERSONS-RELATED ACTIVITY OR TRANSACTION TO THE LEAs.
23 LIKEWISE, FINANCIAL INTERMEDIARIES SHALL HAVE THE DUTY
24 TO REPORT THESE ACTIVITIES TO THE ANTI-MONEY
25 LAUNDERING COUNCIL (AMLC) IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE
26 SUSPICIOUS TRANSACTION REPORTING MECHANISM UNDER
27 REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9160, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE ANTI-
28 MONEY LAUNDERING ACT OF 2001, AS AMENDED.”

29 **SEC. 7.** Section 10 of Republic Act No. 9208, as amended, is hereby further
30 amended to read as follows:

31
32 **“SEC. 10. Penalties and Sanctions.** – The following penalties and
33 sanctions are hereby established for the offenses enumerated in this Act:

34 x x x

35 (G) ANY APPLICANT POLICE OR LEO AND THE TEAM
36 MEMBERS AUTHORIZED TO INTERCEPT ANY
37 COMMUNICATIONS UNDER SECTION 8 HEREOF, SHALL
38 BE PENALIZED FOR COMMITTING THE FOLLOWING
39 PROHIBITED ACTS:

40
41 (1) THE PENALTY OF TEN (10) YEARS AND ONE (1) DAY TO
42 TWELVE (12) YEARS OF IMPRISONMENT SHALL BE
43 IMPOSED UPON THE APPLICANT POLICE OR LEO WHO
44 FAILS TO INFORM THE AUTHORIZING COURT OF THE
45 FACT THAT NO CASE HAS BEEN FILED UNDER
46 SECTION 8 (F) THEREOF;

- 1 (2) THE PENALTY OF NOT LESS THAN SIX (6) YEARS AND
2 ONE (1) DAY TO TWELVE (12) YEARS OF
3 IMPRISONMENT SHALL BE IMPOSED ON ANY PERSON
4 WHO COPIES WITHOUT COURT AUTHORIZATION,
5 REMOVES, DELETES, EXPUNGES, INCINERATES,
6 SHREDS OR DESTROYS THE TAPES, DISCS, AND
7 RECORDING; AND THEIR EXCERPTS AND SUMMARIES,
8 WRITTEN NOTES, OR MEMORANDA MADE IN
9 CONNECTION WITH THE AUTHORIZED INTERCEPTION
10 AND RECORDING UNDER SUB-SECTION (G) THEREOF;
11
- 12 (3) THE PENALTY OF NOT LESS THAN TEN (10) YEARS
13 AND ONE (1) DAY TO TWELVE (12) YEARS OF
14 IMPRISONMENT SHALL BE IMPOSED ON ANY PERSON,
15 POLICE, OR LEO WHO INTENTIONALLY OMITS OR
16 EXCLUDES FROM THE JOINT AFFIDAVIT ANY ITEM OR
17 PORTION THEREOF MENTIONED IN SUB-SECTION (I)
18 THEREOF;
19
- 20 (4) THE PENALTY OF SIX (6) YEARS AND ONE (1) DAY TO
21 EIGHT (8) YEARS OF IMPRISONMENT SHALL BE
22 IMPOSED ON ANY PERSON WHO VIOLATES THE DUTY
23 TO NOTIFY IN WRITING THE AUTHORIZING COURT OF
24 THE INTERCEPTION UNDER SECTION 8 (E) THEREOF;
25
- 26 (5) THE PENALTY OF TEN (10) YEARS AND ONE (1) DAY TO
27 TWELVE (12) YEARS OF IMPRISONMENT SHALL BE
28 IMPOSED ON ANY POLICE OR LEO WHO, WITHOUT
29 AUTHORITY FROM THE AUTHORIZING COURT TO
30 INTERCEPT IN WHATEVER MANNER OR FORM
31 COMMUNICATIONS OF A PERSON CHARGED WITH OR
32 SUSPECTED OF CHILD TRAFFICKING UNDER THIS
33 ACT; AND
34
- 35 (6) IN ADDITION TO THE LIABILITY OF THE OFFENDER
36 FOR THE COMMISSION OF ANY OTHER OFFENSE, THE
37 PENALTY OF TEN (10) YEARS AND ONE (1) DAY TO
38 TWELVE (12) YEARS OF IMPRISONMENT AND THE
39 ACCESSORY PENALTY OF PERPETUAL ABSOLUTE
40 DISQUALIFICATION FROM PUBLIC OFFICE SHALL BE
41 IMPOSED UPON ANY POLICE OR LEO WHO
42 MALICIOUSLY OBTAINED AN AUTHORITY TO
43 INTERCEPT IN WHATEVER MANNER OR FORM
44 COMMUNICATIONS, OF A PERSON CHARGED WITH OR
45 SUSPECTED OF CHILD TRAFFICKING UNDER THIS
46 ACT; FURTHER, THE PARTY AGGRIEVED BY SUCH
47 AUTHORIZATION SHALL BE ALLOWED ACCESS TO
48 THE SEALED ENVELOPE OR PACKAGE AND THE

1 CONTENTS THEREOF AS EVIDENCE FOR THE
2 PROSECUTION OF CASES;
3

4 (H) ANY INTERNET INTERMEDIARY FOUND GUILTY OF
5 WILLFULLY AND KNOWINGLY FAILING TO COMPLY
6 WITH THE NOTICE AND INSTALLATION REQUIREMENTS
7 UNDER SECTION 8-A OF THIS ACT SHALL SUFFER THE
8 PENALTY OF A FINE OF NOT LESS THAN FIVE HUNDRED
9 THOUSAND PESOS (PHP500,000.00) BUT NOT MORE THAN
10 ONE MILLION PESOS (PHP1,000,000.00) FOR THE FIRST
11 OFFENSE. IN CASE OF A SUBSEQUENT OFFENSE, THE
12 PENALTY SHALL BE A FINE OF NOT LESS THAN ONE
13 MILLION PESOS (PHP1,000,000.00) BUT NOT MORE THAN
14 TWO MILLION PESOS (PHP2,000,000.00);
15

16 (I) A TOURISM ENTERPRISE AND SUPPLIER, DISTRIBUTOR,
17 AND STORE SELLING COMPUTER AND OTHER
18 COMPUTER-RELATED DEVICES THAT WILLFULLY AND
19 KNOWINGLY FAILS TO COMPLY WITH THE
20 REQUIREMENTS UNDER SECTIONS 8-B AND 8-C OF THIS
21 ACT SHALL SUFFER THE PENALTY OF A FINE OF NOT
22 LESS THAN FIVE HUNDRED THOUSAND PESOS
23 (PHP500,000.00) BUT NOT MORE THAN ONE MILLION
24 PESOS (PHP1,000,000.00) FOR THE FIRST OFFENSE. IN CASE
25 OF A SUBSEQUENT OFFENSE, THE PENALTY SHALL BE A
26 FINE OF NOT LESS THAN ONE MILLION PESOS
27 (PHP1,000,000.00) BUT NOT MORE THAN TWO MILLION
28 PESOS (PHP2,000,000.00), AND THE REVOCATION OF ITS
29 LICENSE TO OPERATE AND IMMEDIATE CLOSURE OF THE
30 ESTABLISHMENT;
31

32 (J) ANY UNAUTHORIZED DISCLOSURE OF PERSONAL
33 INFORMATION ABOUT CHILDREN VICTIMS TO ANY
34 THIRD PARTY SHALL BE PENALIZED WITH
35 IMPRISONMENT RANGING FROM ONE (1) YEAR TO THREE
36 (3) YEARS OR A FINE OF NOT LESS THAN FIVE HUNDRED
37 THOUSAND PESOS (PHP500,000.00) BUT NOT MORE THAN
38 ONE MILLION PESOS (PHP1,000,000.00), OR BOTH;
39

40 (K) THE LICENSE OF A RECRUITMENT OR MANNING AGENCY
41 WHICH RECRUITED OR DEPLOYED AN UNDERAGE
42 MIGRANT WORKER SHALL BE AUTOMATICALLY
43 REVOKED AND SHALL BE PENALIZED WITH A FINE OF
44 NOT LESS THAN FIVE HUNDRED THOUSAND PESOS (PHP
45 500,000.00) BUT NOT MORE THAN ONE MILLION PESOS
46 (PHP 1,000,000.00). ALL FEES PERTINENT TO THE
47 PROCESSING OF PAPERS OR DOCUMENTS IN THE
48 RECRUITMENT OR DEPLOYMENT OF THE UNDERAGE
49 MIGRANT WORKER SHALL BE REFUNDED BY THE
50 RESPONSIBLE RECRUITMENT OR MANNING AGENCY,

1 WITHOUT NEED OF NOTICE, TO THE UNDERAGE
2 MIGRANT WORKER OR TO THE LATTER'S PARENTS OR
3 GUARDIAN. THE REFUND SHALL BE INDEPENDENT OF
4 AND IN ADDITION TO THE INDEMNIFICATION FOR THE
5 DAMAGES SUSTAINED BY THE UNDERAGE MIGRANT
6 WORKER. THE REFUND SHALL BE PAID WITHIN THIRTY
7 (30) DAYS FROM THE DATE OF THE MANDATORY
8 REPATRIATION;
9

10 (L) ANY PERSON WHO VIOLATES SECTION 8 (k) SHALL
11 SUFFER THE PENALTY OF IMPRISONMENT OF NOT LESS
12 THAN SIX MONTHS TO NOT MORE THAN SIX YEARS AND
13 A FINE OF NOT LESS THAN FIVE HUNDRED THOUSAND
14 PESOS (PHP500,000.00) TO NOT MORE THAN ONE MILLION
15 PESOS (PHP1,000,000.00);
16

17 (M) ANY PERSON WHO VIOLATES SECTION 8 (l) SHALL
18 SUFFER THE PENALTY OF IMPRISONMENT OF NOT LESS
19 THAN SIX MONTHS TO NOT MORE THAN SIX YEARS, AND
20 A FINE OF NOT LESS THAN FIVE HUNDRED THOUSAND
21 PESOS (PHP500,000.00) TO NOT MORE THAN ONE MILLION
22 PESOS (PHP1,000,000.00): *PROVIDED*, THAT A
23 GOVERNMENT OFFICIAL OR EMPLOYEE OFFENDER
24 SHALL BE HELD ADMINISTRATIVELY LIABLE, WITHOUT
25 PREJUDICE TO ANY CRIMINAL LIABILITY UNDER THIS
26 ACT. THE CONCERNED GOVERNMENT OFFICIAL OR
27 EMPLOYEE MAY, UPON CONVICTION, BE DISMISSED
28 FROM THE SERVICE AND BE BARRED PERMANENTLY
29 FROM HOLDING PUBLIC OFFICE. THE RETIREMENT AND
30 OTHER BENEFITS OF SUCH DISMISSED GOVERNMENT
31 OFFICIAL OR EMPLOYEE SHALL LIKEWISE BE
32 FORFEITED;
33

34 (N) ANY PERSON WHO VIOLATES SECTIONS 4, 5, AND 6 OF
35 THIS ACT SHALL BE DEEMED TO HAVE COMMITTED
36 UNLAWFUL ACTIVITIES TO AND PENALIZED OF MONEY
37 LAUNDERING AS DEFINED IN REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9160,
38 OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE ANTI-MONEY LAUNDERING
39 ACT OF 2001, AS AMENDED;
40

41 (O) ANY FINANCIAL INTERMEDIARY FOUND GUILTY OF
42 WILLFULLY AND KNOWINGLY FAILING TO COMPLY
43 WITH SECTION 8-D OF THIS ACT SHALL SUFFER THE
44 PENALTY OF A FINE NOT LESS THAN FIVE HUNDRED
45 THOUSAND PESOS (PHP500,000.00) BUT NOT MORE THAN
46 ONE MILLION PESOS (PHP1,000,000.00) FOR THE FIRST
47 OFFENSE. IN CASE OF SUBSEQUENT OFFENSE, THE
48 PENALTY SHALL BE A FINE OF NOT LESS THAN ONE
49 MILLION PESOS (PHP1,000,000.00) BUT NOT MORE THAN
50 TWO MILLION PESOS (PHP2,000,000.00);

1 [g] (P) If the offender is a corporation, partnership, association, club,
2 establishment or any juridical person, the penalty shall be imposed
3 upon the owner, president, partner, manager, [and/]or any
4 responsible officer, OR ANY TWO (2) OR MORE OF THEM, who
5 participated in the commission of the crime or who shall have
6 [knowingly] permitted or KNOWINGLY failed to prevent its
7 commission;
8

9 [h] (Q) The registration with the Securities and Exchange Commission XXX;

10
11 [i] (R) If the offender is a foreigner XXX;

12
13 [j] (S) Any employee or official of government agencies XXX; and,

14
15 [k] (T) Conviction XXX.”

16
17 **SEC. 8.** Section 16 of Republic Act No. 9208 is hereby further amended to read as
18 follows:
19

20 “**SEC. 16. *Programs that Address Trafficking in Persons.*** – The
21 government shall establish and implement preventive, protective, and
22 rehabilitative programs for trafficked persons. For this purpose, the following
23 agencies are hereby mandated to implement the [following]
24 CORRESPONDING programs:
25

26 (a) Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA) – shall make available XXX

27 The DFA shall take necessary measures XXX

28 In coordination with the Department of Labor and Employment,
29 XXX.

30 THE DFA SHALL ENSURE THE REPATRIATION OF
31 MIGRANT WORKERS WHOSE AGES FALL BELOW THE
32 MINIMUM AGE REQUIREMENT FOR OVERSEAS
33 DEPLOYMENT, WITHOUT DELAY, UPON DISCOVERY OR
34 BEING INFORMED OF THEIR PRESENCE. ALL
35 RESPONSIBLE OFFICERS IN THE FOREIGN SERVICE SHALL
36 HAVE THE DUTY TO ADVISE THE DFA THROUGH THE
37 FASTEST MEANS OF COMMUNICATION AVAILABLE THE
38 DISCOVERY AND OTHER RELEVANT INFORMATION ON
39 SAID UNDERAGED MIGRANT WORKERS.

40 (b) Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) – shall
41 [implement rehabilitative and protective programs for trafficked
42 persons. It shall provide counseling and temporary shelter to
43 trafficked persons and develop a system for accreditation among
44 NGOs for purposes of establishing centers and programs for
45 intervention in various levels of the community. It shall establish free

1 temporary shelters, for the protection and housing of trafficked
2 persons to provide the following basic services to trafficked persons:

- 3
- 4 (1) Temporary housing and food facilities;
- 5 (2) Psychological support and counseling;
- 6 (3) 24-hour call center for crisis calls and technology-based
7 counseling and referral system;
- 8 (4) Coordination with local law enforcement entities; and
- 9 (5) Coordination with the Department of Justice, among others.]

10
11 DEVELOP GENDER-RESPONSIVE AND TRAUMA-
12 INFORMED COUNSELING, REHABILITATIVE, AND
13 PROTECTIVE PROGRAMS FOR TRAFFICKED PERSONS;
14 PREVENTION, REHABILITATION, AND REINTEGRATION
15 FOR CHILDREN TAKING INTO CONSIDERATION THE
16 UNIQUE NEEDS AND REQUIREMENTS TO ENABLE THEM
17 TO COPE WITH THE TRAUMA THAT THEY HAVE SUFFERED
18 ON ACCOUNT OF TRAFFICKING. IT SHALL ENSURE THAT
19 THE NATIONAL RECOVERY AND REINTEGRATION
20 DATABASE IS UPDATED AND MAINTAINED, AND THAT
21 THE NATIONAL REFERRAL SYSTEM WHICH SHALL
22 COINCIDE WITH THE LOCAL REFERRAL SYSTEM, SHALL
23 BE IMPLEMENTED. IT SHALL MAINTAIN A 24-HOUR CALL
24 CENTER FOR CRISIS CALLS AND TECHNOLOGY-BASED
25 COUNSELING AND REFERRAL SYSTEM.

26
27 The DSWD must conduct information campaigns in communities
28 and schools teaching parents and families that receiving
29 consideration in exchange for adoption is punishable under the law.
30 Furthermore, information campaigns [must be conducted with the
31 police that they must not induce poor women] SHALL EDUCATE
32 AND ENJOIN PARENTS NOT to give their children up for
33 adoption in exchange for ANY consideration.

34
35 (c) x x x

36
37 (d) Department of Justice (DOJ) – shall ensure the prosecution of
38 persons accused of trafficking and designate and train special
39 prosecutors who shall handle and prosecute cases of trafficking.
40 FOR THIS PURPOSE, IT SHALL PROVIDE LEGAL AND
41 TECHNICAL ADVICE TO THE LEAs AND FACILITATE
42 INTERNATIONAL AND MUTUAL LEGAL ASSISTANCE ON
43 THE PRESERVATION AND PRODUCTION OF COMPUTER
44 DATA AND COLLECTION OF ELECTRONIC EVIDENCE. It
45 shall also establish a mechanism for free legal assistance for
46 trafficked persons, in coordination with the DSWD, Integrated Bar
47 of the Philippines (IBP) and other NGOs and volunteer groups.

48
49 XXX

1 (i) Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG) – shall
2

3 (1) Institute a systematic information and prevention campaign in
4 coordination with pertinent agencies of government as provided
5 for in this Act;

6 (2) TOGETHER WITH THE LEAGUES OF PROVINCES,
7 CITIES, AND MUNICIPALITIES, DEVELOP A PROTOCOL
8 FOR LGU ACCREDITATION AND ISSUANCE OF LOCAL
9 PERMITS OF TOURISM ENTERPRISES; and

10 (3) Provide training programs to [local government units] LGUS, in
11 coordination with [the]THEIR LOCAL ANTI- TRAFFICKING
12 IN PERSONS COMMITTEES OR Council, in ensuring wide
13 understanding and application of this Act at the local level.
14

15 (j) Commission on Filipinos Overseas (CFO) – shall conduct pre-
16 departure counseling services for Filipinos in intermarriages AND
17 BI-NATIONAL COUPLES. It shall develop a system for
18 accreditation of NGOs that may be mobilized for purposes of
19 conducting pre-departure counseling services for Filipinos in
20 intermarriages. As such, it shall ensure that the counselors
21 contemplated under this Act shall have the minimum qualifications
22 and training of guidance counselors as provided for by law.
23

24 IT SHALL SUPERVISE THE OPERATION OF A 24/7 HOTLINE
25 FACILITY, 1343 ACTION LINE, AGAINST HUMAN
26 TRAFFICKING THAT RESPONDS TO EMERGENCY OR
27 CRISIS CALLS FROM VICTIMS OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING,
28 THEIR FAMILIES, AND THE GENERAL PUBLIC. HENCE, IT
29 SHALL COLLABORATE WITH THE CICC-ECPAT-INHOPE
30 ONLINE REPORTING HOTLINE SYSTEM, RESPONDING TO
31 REPORTS ON THE REMOVAL AND TAKING DOWN OF
32 CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE AND EXPLOITATION MATERIALS.
33

34 It shall likewise assist in the conduct of information campaigns
35 against trafficking in coordination with [local government units]
36 LGUS, the Philippine Information Agency (PIA), and NGOs.
37

38 (K) DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH (DOH) – SHALL DEVELOP A
39 COMPREHENSIVE PROGRAM TO PREVENT THE
40 TRAFFICKING OF HUMAN ORGANS FOR
41 IMPLEMENTATION BY THE LOCAL HEALTH OFFICES. IT
42 SHALL ALSO UNDERTAKE AND SUSTAIN ACTIVITIES TO
43 INCREASE PUBLIC AWARENESS ON AND CONDUCT AN
44 ADVOCACY CAMPAIGN AGAINST ORGAN TRAFFICKING,
45 INCLUDING THE EDUCATION OF MEDICAL
46 PRACTITIONERS, FAMILIES, PATIENTS, AND THE
47 GENERAL PUBLIC ON THE MODUS OPERANDI OF ORGAN
48 TRAFFICKERS. THE DOH SHALL LIKEWISE RENDER

1 ASSISTANCE IN THE INVESTIGATION AND PROSECUTION
2 OF ORGAN TRAFFICKING CASES.
3

4 (L) DEPARTMENT OF INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATIONS
5 TECHNOLOGY (DICT) – IN COORDINATION WITH THE
6 CYBERCRIME INVESTIGATION AND COORDINATING
7 COUNCIL (CICC), NATIONAL PRIVACY COMMISSION
8 (NPC) AND NATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATIONS
9 COMMISSION (NTC) SHALL FORMULATE POLICIES,
10 RULES, AND REGULATIONS TO ENSURE THAT INTERNET
11 INTERMEDIARIES WILL COMPLY WITH THEIR DUTIES TO
12 NOTIFY, PRESERVE, AND DISCLOSE DATA, AS WELL AS
13 INSTALL AVAILABLE TECHNOLOGY TO BLOCK OR
14 FILTER ANY FORM OF CHILD TRAFFICKING, CHILD
15 SEXUAL ABUSE, OR CSAEM or CSAM.
16

17 IT SHALL LIKEWISE EXTEND IMMEDIATE ASSISTANCE
18 FOR THE PREVENTION OF THE COMMISSION OF
19 CYBERCRIME OFFENSES RELATED TO TRAFFICKING IN
20 PERSONS, PARTICULARLY ONLINE EXPLOITATION OF
21 CHILDREN; AND ASSIST LAW ENFORCEMENT AND
22 PROSECUTION AGENCIES IN THE INVESTIGATION OF
23 TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS COMMITTED THROUGH THE
24 USE OF INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATIONS
25 TECHNOLOGY.
26

27 (M) DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (DOTR) –
28 CONSISTENT WITH ITS MANDATE TO PROVIDE VIABLE,
29 EFFICIENT, FAST, SAFE, AND DEPENDABLE
30 TRANSPORTATION, IT SHALL DEVELOP A
31 COMPREHENSIVE PROGRAM AND AWARENESS
32 CAMPAIGN TO ASSIST THE TRANSPORTATION SECTORS
33 AND TRANSPORTATION PERSONNEL, SUCH AS AIRLINE
34 FLIGHT ATTENDANTS, AIRPORT AGENTS, OR TAXI, BUS,
35 TRUCK, DELIVERY DRIVERS, AND TRAIN TO IDENTIFY
36 VICTIMS AND TO REPORT INCIDENTS OF TRAFFICKING IN
37 PERSONS.
38

39 (N) DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION (DEPED) - SHALL PROVIDE
40 MEASURES TO PREVENT TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS AND
41 OTHER EXPLOITATIVE FORMS IN EDUCATIONAL
42 INSTITUTIONS, SUCH AS THE CONDUCT OF INFORMATION
43 CAMPAIGNS AND THE ESTABLISHMENT OF REPORTING
44 MECHANISMS IN THE SCHOOL SYSTEM, CONSISTENT
45 WITH THEIR CHILD PROTECTION AND GENDER AND
46 DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS.

1 THE DEPED SHALL ALSO DEVELOP A TEACHER TRAINING
2 MANUAL AND MODULES OR CURRICULUM FOR
3 STUDENTS AIMED AT RAISING THEIR AWARENESS ON
4 THE PERILS OF TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS AND THE
5 PREVENTION OF TRAFFICKING AND OTHER
6 EXPLOITATIVE FORMS OF BEHAVIOR. IN COORDINATION
7 WITH THE IACAT, THE COMMISSION ON HIGHER
8 EDUCATION (CHED), THE TECHNICAL EDUCATION AND
9 SKILLS DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (TESDA), AND CIVIL
10 SOCIETY ACTORS, THE DEPED SHALL IMPLEMENT A
11 SCHOOL-BASED TRAFFICKING PREVENTIVE EDUCATION
12 PROGRAM TO ACCOMPLISH THE FOLLOWING
13 OBJECTIVES:

- 14
- 15 (1) EDUCATE CHILDREN AND YOUTH ABOUT
16 FUNDAMENTAL RIGHTS CONCERNING LABOR AND
17 EMPLOYMENT, LIBERTY, AND HUMAN SECURITY, AS
18 WELL AS OTHER ESSENTIAL RIGHTS;
19
- 20 (2) ORIENT CHILDREN AND THE YOUTH ABOUT THE
21 DANGERS OF INTERNATIONAL AND DOMESTIC
22 TRAFFICKING IN ITS VARIOUS FORMS, AS WELL AS
23 ILLEGAL RECRUITMENT, UNFAIR LABOR PRACTICES,
24 INVOLUNTARY SERVITUDE, SEXUAL EXPLOITATION,
25 PROSTITUTION, AND CHILD LABOR;
26
- 27 (3) PROVIDE ONLINE OR OFFLINE AWARENESS-RAISING
28 ACTIVITIES TO CHILDREN AND THE YOUTH ON:
29
- 30 (A) CHILD-SAFE USE OF THE INTERNET, AND
31 EMPOWER THEM TO REPORT CASES OF CHILD
32 SEXUAL ABUSE AND EXPLOITATION
33 MATERIALS, USING THE CICC-ECPAT-INHOPE E-
34 PROTECT KIDS ONLINE REPORTING HOTLINE;
35 AND
- 36 (B) INFORMATION ON SERVICES PROVIDED BY THE
37 GOVERNMENT AGENCIES AND NGOS TO AID
38 AND PROTECT VICTIMS OF TRAFFICKING IN
39 PERSONS;
40
- 41 (4) IDENTIFY CHILDREN AND YOUTH WHO HAVE BEEN
42 OR ARE CURRENTLY VICTIMS OF HUMAN
43 TRAFFICKING AND REFER THEM TO THE PROPER
44 AGENCY OR ORGANIZATION FOR PROTECTION AND
45 REHABILITATION; AND,

1 (5) ESTABLISH A SAFE AND PROACTIVE TRAFFICKING
2 REPORTING MECHANISM THAT ALLOWS MEMBERS
3 OF THE SCHOOL COMMUNITY TO REPORT SUSPECTED
4 OR CONFIRMED CASES OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING.
5 THE SCHOOL-BASED PROGRAM SHALL COVER ALL
6 STUDENTS ENROLLED IN ELEMENTARY (GRADES 3 TO
7 6), JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOLS, SENIOR HIGH SCHOOLS,
8 COLLEGES, UNIVERSITIES, AND TECHNICAL OR
9 VOCATIONAL EDUCATION PROGRAMS.

10
11 (O) DEPARTMENT OF TOURISM (DOT) – SHALL ENSURE THAT
12 ALL ANTI-TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS SAFEGUARDS ARE
13 IMPLEMENTED AND SUSTAINED IN ALL TOURISM
14 ENTERPRISES, AND DEVELOP, IN COORDINATION WITH
15 THE IACAT, A SET OF CRITERIA AS BASIS FOR
16 ACCREDITATION OF TOURISM ENTERPRISES BY ITS
17 LOCAL TOURISM OFFICES, SUCH AS THE ENACTMENT OF
18 A LOCAL TOURISM CHILD PROTECTION POLICY IN
19 PARTNERSHIP WITH AN NGO THAT IS INVOLVED IN
20 PREVENTING SEXUAL EXPLOITATION OF CHILDREN IN
21 THE TRAVEL AND TOURISM INDUSTRY.

22
23 (P) OVERSEAS WORKERS WELFARE ADMINISTRATION
24 (OWWA) – SHALL PROVIDE WELFARE PROGRAMS AND
25 SERVICES THAT RESPOND TO THE NEEDS OF ITS
26 MEMBER- OVERSEAS FILIPINO WORKERS (OFWS),
27 INCLUDING THEIR FAMILIES, WHO HAVE BECOME
28 VICTIMS OF TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS. WHEN THE
29 TRAFFICKED VICTIMS INVOLVE CHILDREN OR
30 UNDERAGED MIGRANT WORKERS, THE REPATRIATION
31 SHALL BE MANDATORY AND UNDERTAKEN WITHOUT
32 DELAY. THE SERVICES TO THE OFWS SHALL INCLUDE
33 COUNSELING AND OTHER PSYCHO-SOCIAL
34 INTERVENTION SERVICES, EDUCATION AND TRAINING,
35 CULTURAL SERVICES, FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT,
36 LIVELIHOOD AND ENTERPRENEURIAL DEVELOPMENT,
37 AND OTHER REINTEGRATION PROGRAMS. IT SHALL
38 LIKEWISE PROVIDE PROMPT AND APPROPRIATE
39 RESPONSE IN REPATRIATION OF OFWS WHO ARE VICTIMS
40 OF TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS.

41
42 [(k)] (Q) Local government units (LGUs) – SHALL DEVELOP AND
43 IMPLEMENT PROGRAMS TO PREVENT TRAFFICKING IN
44 PERSONS, MONITOR AND DOCUMENT CASES OF
45 TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS, AND PROVIDE SUPPORT TO
46 VICTIMS OF TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS INCLUDING THEIR

1 SUBSEQUENT REHABILITATION AND REINTEGRATION.
2 TO THIS END, THEY SHALL:

- 3
- 4 (1) ENSURE THAT THE VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN
5 AND CHILDREN DESKS IN ALL BARANGAYS ARE
6 ACTIVATED AND STAFFED BY TRAINED
7 PERSONNEL WHO ARE ABLE TO PROVIDE
8 IMMEDIATE AND APPROPRIATE SUPPORT TO
9 VICTIMS OF TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS;
- 10
- 11 (2) ORGANIZE AND ENSURE THE SMOOTH
12 FUNCTIONING OF A SUB-COMMITTEE ON
13 TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS AS AN INTEGRAL PART
14 OF THE LOCAL ANTI-TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS
15 COUNCIL THAT SHALL RECOMMEND POLICIES AND
16 PROGRAMS AIMED AT ENSURING THE PROTECTION
17 OF CHILDREN AGAINST TRAFFICKING AND GRANT
18 HONORARIA TO LOCAL ANTI-TRAFFICKING IN
19 PERSONS COMMITTEES OR COUNCIL MEMBERS TO
20 ENSURE TOTAL ACTIVE PARTICIPATION;
- 21
- 22 (3) [monitor and document] DOCUMENT AND MONITOR
23 cases of trafficking in persons in their RESPECTIVE areas of
24 jurisdiction, effect the cancellation of licenses of
25 establishments which violate the provisions of this Act and
26 ensure effective prosecution of such cases;
- 27
- 28 (4) ENSURE THE PROVISION OF NECESSARY SERVICES
29 TO VICTIMS OF TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS, SUCH AS
30 TEMPORARY SHELTER, BOARD AND LODGING,
31 TRANSPORTATION, COUNSELLING AND
32 DOCUMENTATION, AMONG OTHERS;
- 33
- 34 (5) COORDINATE WITH, REFER AND ENDORSE TO THE
35 DSWD ALL CASES OF TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS;
- 36
- 37 (6) [They shall also] [u]Undertake an information campaign
38 against trafficking in persons through the establishment of the
39 Migrants Advisory and Information Network (MAIN) desks
40 in municipalities or provinces in coordination with the DILG,
41 [Philippine Information Agency (] PIA [)], [Commission on
42 Filipinos Overseas (]CFO[)], NGOs and other concerned
43 agencies. THEY SHALL DEVELOP A SYSTEM FOR
44 ACCREDITATION AMONG NGOs FOR PURPOSES OF
45 ESTABLISHING CENTERS AND PROGRAMS FOR
46 INTERVENTION IN VARIOUS LEVELS OF THE
47 COMMUNITY;

1 (7) [They shall] [e]Encourage and support community-based
2 initiatives which address the trafficking in persons;
3

4 (8) DEVELOP AND IMPLEMENT A TRAFFICKING IN
5 PERSONS PREVENTIVE EDUCATION PROGRAM
6 AIMED AT EDUCATING AND ORIENTING THE
7 PUBLIC ABOUT THE CRIME AND HOW IT IS
8 PERPETRATED IN CURRENT SOCIETY, AND THE
9 SERVICES AVAILABLE FOR VICTIMS AND
10 SURVIVORS;
11

12 (9) ENACT ORDINANCES TO LOCALIZE AND
13 STRENGTHEN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THIS LAW
14 BY PROVIDING LOCAL SERVICES AND PROGRAMS
15 TO VICTIMS-SURVIVORS OF TRAFFICKING AND
16 OTHER EXPLOITATIVE BEHAVIOR;
17

18 (10) DEVELOP A SYSTEM FOR ACCREDITATION OF
19 NGOs AND CSOs FOR PURPOSES OF ESTABLISHING
20 CENTERS AND PROGRAMS FOR INTERVENTIONS IN
21 THE COMMUNITY;
22

23 (11) SUBMIT REGULAR REPORTS TO THE IACAT ON
24 TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS CASES AND PROGRAMS
25 UNDERTAKEN TO PREVENT AND ADDRESS
26 TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS; AND
27

28 (12) PROVIDE LIVELIHOOD GRANTS TO SUPPORT THE
29 ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT OF POOR
30 HOUSEHOLDS, IN ORDER TO INCREASE THEIR
31 FINANCIAL CAPACITIES AND ADDRESS
32 HOUSEHOLD CRISES WHICH FORCE THEM TO
33 ENGAGE IN TRAFFICKING.
34

35 In implementing this Act, the [agencies concerned] LGUS
36 may seek and enlist the assistance of NGOs, people's organizations
37 (POs), civic organizations and other volunteer groups.
38

39 THE DILG SHALL INVESTIGATE VIOLATIONS OF THIS
40 PROVISION AND RECOMMEND THE APPROPRIATE FILING OF
41 AN ADMINISTRATIVE CASE AGAINST ERRING PUBLIC
42 OFFICIALS TO THE OMBUDSMAN
43

44 ANY ACT OR OMISSION THAT IS VIOLATIVE OF THIS
45 PROVISION, AND WHICH IS DEFINED AND PENALIZED UNDER
46 THE REVISED PENAL CODE OR ANY STATUTE, SHALL BE
47 PROSECUTED AND PUNISHED UNDER THE APPLICABLE LAW.”

1 **SEC. 9.** Section 20 of Republic Act No. 9208 is hereby further amended to read as
2 follows:

3
4 **“SEC. 20. *Inter-Agency Council Against Trafficking.*** – There is hereby
5 established an Inter-Agency Council Against Trafficking (IACAT), to be
6 composed of the Secretary of the [Department of Justice] DOJ as Chairperson
7 and the Secretary of the Department of Social Welfare and Development as
8 Co-Chairperson and shall have the following as members:
9

10 x x x

- 11
12 (D) SECRETARY, DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH (DOH);
13 (E) SECRETARY, DEPARTMENT OF INFORMATION AND
14 COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY (DICT);
15 (F) SECRETARY, DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
16 (DOTr);
17 (G) SECRETARY, DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION (DEPED);
18 (H) SECRETARY, DEPARTMENT OF TOURISM (DOT);
19 [(d)] (I) Administrator, Philippine Overseas Employment Administration
20 (POEA);
21 (J) ADMINISTRATOR, OVERSEAS WORKERS WELFARE
22 ADMINISTRATION (OWWA);
23 [(e)] (K) Commissioner, Bureau of Immigration (BI);
24 [(f)] (L) Chief, Philippine National Police (PNP);
25 [(g)] (M) Chairperson, Philippine Commission on Women (PCW);
26 [(h)] (N) Chairperson, Commission on Filipinos Overseas (CFO);
27 [(i)] (O) Executive Director, Philippine Center [for] ON Transnational
28 Crime[s];
29 (P) DIRECTOR, NATIONAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
30 (NBI);
31 (Q) EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, COUNCIL FOR THE WELFARE OF
32 CHILDREN (CWC);
33 (R) CHAIRPERSON, NATIONAL COMMISSION ON
34 INDIGENOUS PEOPLES;
35 (S) EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, ANTI-MONEY LAUNDERING
36 COUNCIL;
37 (T) PRESIDENTS OF THE LEAGUES OF PROVINCES,
38 MUNICIPALITIES, AND CITIES OF THE PHILIPPINES; and,
39 [(j)] (U) Three (3) representatives from NGOs, who shall include one (1)
40 representative each from among the sectors representing women,
41 overseas Filipinos, and children, with a proven record of
42 involvement in the prevention and suppression of trafficking in
43 persons. These representatives shall be nominated by the
44 government agency representatives of the Council, for appointment
45 by the President for a term of three (3) years.
46

47 The members of the Council may designate their permanent representatives
48 who shall have a rank not lower than an assistant secretary or its equivalent to

1 meetings, and shall receive emoluments as may be determined by the Council in
2 accordance with existing budget and accounting rules and regulations.

3
4 THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE SHALL PREPARE AND FORMULATE
5 THE ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE AND STAFFING PATTERN OF THE
6 IACAT FOR SUBMISSION TO THE DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND
7 MANAGEMENT FOR ITS EVALUATION AND APPROVAL.”

8
9 **SEC. 10.** Section 21 of Republic Act No. 9208 is hereby amended to read as follows:

10
11 “**SEC. 21. *Functions of the Council.*** – The Council shall have the
12 following powers and functions:

- 13
14 (a) Formulate a comprehensive and integrated program to prevent and
15 suppress the trafficking in persons, UTILIZING A MULTI-
16 DISCIPLINARY AND COLLABORATIVE APPROACH IN THE
17 SERVICE DELIVERY AND CASE MANAGEMENT OF
18 TRAFFICKING VICTIMS AND SURVIVORS AND THEIR
19 FAMILIES, INCLUDING LIVELIHOOD OPPORTUNITIES,
20 THE DEVELOPMENT OF SCHOOL-BASED AND
21 COMMUNITY-BASED HUMAN TRAFFICKING PREVENTIVE
22 EDUCATION PROGRAMS, AND PSYCHOSOCIAL
23 INTERVENTIONS BY A MULTI-DISCIPLINARY TEAM FOR
24 VICTIMS AND THEIR FAMILIES;

25
26 x x x

- 27
28 (m) Coordinate with the INTER-AGENCY COUNCIL AGAINST
29 CHILD PORNOGRAPHY (IACACP) [Department of
30 Transportation and Communications (DOTC)], Department of
31 Trade and Industry (DTI), and other NGOs in monitoring the
32 promotion [of] OR advertisement of ANY FORM OF trafficking IN
33 PERSONS in the internet;

- 34
35 (n) XXX

- 36
37 (o) Initiate training programs in identifying and providing the necessary
38 intervention or assistance to trafficked persons; [and]

- 39
40 (P) REGULARLY ASSESS CURRENT DATA COLLECTION ON,
41 AND THE REPORTING AND MONITORING SYSTEM FOR
42 TRAFFICKING, AND IDENTIFY GAPS IN
43 IMPELEMENTATION;

- 44
45 (Q) DEVELOP EFFECTIVE REFERRAL SYSTEM WHICH
46 CONCERNED GOVERNMENT AGENCIES AND NGOs CAN
47 USE TO COORDINATE THE NECESSARY INTERVENTION
48 OR ASSISTANCE THAT CAN BE PROVIDED TO
49 TRAFFICKED PERSONS;

1 (R) CONDUCT STUDIES WITH OTHER STAKEHOLDERS SUCH
2 AS LGUs, CIVIL SOCIETY, AND THE ACADEME TO BUILD
3 MORE EMPIRICAL EVIDENCE ON TRAFFICKING CASES;
4

5 (S) DEVELOP AN INTEGRATED CASE MANAGEMENT SYSTEM
6 OR TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS DATA SETS TO EASE THE
7 COORDINATION AND MONITORING AMONG THE
8 MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL AND ENSURE THE PROPER
9 RECOVERY AND REINTEGRATION OF THE VICTIM-
10 SURVIVORS OF TRAFFICKING;
11

12 (T) IMPOSE ADMINISTRATIVE SANCTIONS ON THE
13 VIOLATIONS OF THIS LAW AND ITS IMPLEMENTING
14 RULES AND REGULATIONS AS WELL AS ITS ORDERS AND
15 RESOLUTIONS; AND,
16

17 [(p)] (U) Exercise all the powers and perform such other functions necessary
18 to attain the purposes and objectives of this Act.”
19

20 **SEC. 11.** Section 24 of Republic Act No. 9208 is hereby amended to read as follows:
21

22 “**SEC. 24. *Other Services for Trafficked Persons.*** –
23

24 XXX
25

26 (D) HEALING, RECOVERY, AND REINTEGRATION PROGRAM
27 FOR TRAFFICKED PERSONS – THE DSWD AND THE LGUs
28 SHALL DEVELOP AND IMPLEMENT A HEALING,
29 RECOVERY, AND REINTEGRATION PROGRAM FOR
30 TRAFFICKED PERSONS WHICH SHALL INCLUDE A
31 COMPREHENSIVE PACKAGE OF SERVICES FOR THE
32 INDIVIDUAL VICTIM-SURVIVOR OF TRAFFICKING IN
33 PERSONS, THE VICTIM’S IMMEDIATE FAMILY, AND THE
34 COMMUNITY AT LARGE INCLUDING MENTAL HEALTH
35 SERVICES SUCH AS PSYCHOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT,
36 COUNSELING AND THERAPY, REHABILITATION, AND
37 ASSISTANCE IN ACCESSING JUDICIAL SERVICES,
38 LIVELIHOOD TRAINING AND OPPORTUNITIES,
39 PSYCHOEDUCATION SERVICES, EDUCATIONAL
40 SCHOLARSHIPS, OR SKILLS ENHANCEMENT TRAINING
41 SERVICES, AND ECONOMIC REINTEGRATION SERVICES.
42

43 THE LGUs SHALL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE PROPER
44 IMPLEMENTATION OF THE RECOVERY AND
45 REINTEGRATION PROGRAM FOR TRAFFICKED PERSONS:
46 *PROVIDED*, THAT THE DSWD SHALL MONITOR AND
47 EVALUATE THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROGRAM,
48 AND CONDUCT AN AUDIT OF LSWDOS.”

1 **SEC. 12. Appropriations.** – The amount necessary for the implementation of this
2 Act shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

3 **SEC. 13. Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR).** – The IACAT shall, in
4 consultation with representatives from other relevant government agencies such as CWC,
5 DICT, CICC, IACACP, PNP, NBI, NTC and NPC, the internet intermediaries, and
6 concerned NGOs, promulgate the necessary rules and regulations to implement this Act,
7 within ninety (90) days after its effectivity.

8
9 The IRR shall include specific duties appropriate to each type of internet
10 intermediary as mentioned in Section 3 (s) of this Act.

11 **SEC. 14. Suppletory Application of the Revised Penal Code.** – The *Revised Penal*
12 *Code* shall be suppletorily applicable to this Act.

13 **SEC. 15. Separability Clause.** – If any part of this Act is declared unconstitutional
14 or invalid, the other provisions not affected thereby shall continue to be in full force and
15 effect.

16 **SEC. 16. Repealing Clause.** – Republic Act No. 9208, as amended by Republic Act
17 No. 10364, is hereby further amended. All other laws, presidential decrees, executive orders,
18 administrative orders, rules, and regulations inconsistent with or contrary to the provisions
19 of this Act are deemed amended, modified or repealed accordingly.

20 **SEC. 17. Effectivity.** – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its
21 publication in the *Official Gazette* or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,