FOURTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC

OF THE PHILIPPINES Second Regular Session

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SENATE

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COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 560

Submitted jointly by the Committees on Justice and Human Rights; and Constitutional Amendments, Revision of Codes and Laws on AUG 2 4 2009

Re: Senate Bill No. 3401

Recommending its approval in substitution of Senate Bill Nos. 135, 1024 and 1196.

Sponsor: Senator Escudero

MR. PRESIDENT:

The Committees on Justice and Human Rights and Constitutional Amendments, Revision of Codes and Laws to which were referred Senate Bill No. 135 introduced by Senator Francis N. Pangilinan entitled:

"AN ACT DEFINING AND PENALIZING STALKING, AMENDING FOR THAT PURPOSE THE REVISED PENAL CODE, AS AMENDED, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES"

Senate Bill No. 1024 by Senator Manny Villar, entitled:

"AN ACT DEFINING THE CRIME OF STALKING AND PROVIDING PENALTIES THEREFOR"

and Senate Bill No. 1196 introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago entitled:

"AN ACT DEFINING THE CRIME OF STALKING AND PROVIDING THE PENALTIES THEREFOR"

have considered the same and have the honor to report them back to the Senate with the recommendation that the attached Senate Bill No.3401 prepared by the Committees entitled:

"AN ACT

DEFINING THE CRIME OF STALKING AND PROVIDING PENALTIES THEREFOR"

be approved in substitution of Senate Bill Nos. 135, 1024 and 1196 with Senators VILLAR Pangilinan, Defensor-Santiago, and Escudero as authors thereof.

Respectfully Submitted:

Chairman:

FRANCIS G. ESCUDERO Committee on Justice and Human Rights Committee on Constitutional Amendments, Revision of Codes and Laws

Vice-Chainman:

BENIGNO S. AQUINO III Committee on Justice and Human Rights Member, Committee on Constitutional Amendments, Revision of Codes and Laws

GREGORIO B. HONASAN II Committee on Justice and Human Rights

MÁR ROXAS

Committees on Justice and Human Rights; and Constitutional Amendments, Revision of Codes and Laws

Members:

NG REVILLA, JR. on Justice and Human

Committee on Justice and Human Rights

RODOLFO G. BIAZON Committees on Justice and Human Rights; and Constitutional Amendments, Revision of Codes and Laws

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M.A. MADRIGAL Committees on Justice and Human Rights; and Constitutional Amendments, Revision of Codes and Laws

RICHARD J. GORDON Committee on Constitutional Amendments Revision of Codes and Laws

ALAN PETER "COMPAÑERO S. CAYETANO Committee on Justice and Human Rights LOREN B. LEGARDA Mondat Committee on Constitutional Amendments, Revision of Codes and Laws

MANUEL "LITO" M. LAPID Committee on Constitutional Amendments, Revision of Codes and Laws

FRANCIS N. PANGILINAN
Committees on Justice and Human
Rights; and Constitutional Amendments, Revision of Codes and Laws

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CAYETANO (// Committee on Constitutional Amendments, Revision of Codes and Laws

JOKER P. ARROYO Committee on Constitutional Amendments, Revision of Codes and Laws

Ex-Officio Members:

nNGGO EIERCITO ESTRADA

IUAN MIGUEL F. ZUBIRI Majority Floor Leader

President Fro-Tempore

AQVILINO Q. PIMENTEL JR. Minority Floor Leader

Hon. JUAN PONCE ENRILE Senate President Senate of the Philippines Pasay City

FOURTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES

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NECKIND BY

S.B. No. 3401

Prepared jointly by the Committees on Justice and Human Rights and Constitutional Amendments, Revision of Codes and Laws with Senators Pangilinan, Villar, Defensor Santiago and Escudero as authors thereof

AN ACT DEFINING THE CRIME OF STALKING AND PROVIDING PENALTIES THEREFOR

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

1 SECTION 1. Title. - This Act shall be known as the "The Anti-Stalking Law of the

2 Philippines."

3

4 SEC. 2. *Declaration of Policy*. - It is hereby a declared policy of the State to protect 5 and promote every individual's dignity, right to privacy and security, peace of mind, 6 and psychological and emotional welfare, and consequently penalize each and every act 7 which, in any manner, undermines the same.

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SEC. 3. *Definition of Terms.* – For the purposes of this Act:

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(a) Family - shall mean the spouse, parent, child, any person related within the third
degree of consanguinity and affinity, or any person who regularly resides in or is part
of the household of the victim.

(b) Repeatedly - shall mean at least three (3) separate occasions closely related in
time or evidencing a continuity of purpose;

16 (c) Follows - shall mean maintaining a visible physical proximity to another person 17 or pursuing or conducting surveillance upon that person without any legitimate 18 purpose so as to cause a reasonable person to suffer substantial emotional and 19 psychological distress;

(d) Harasses - shall mean a willful and malicious course of conduct directed at a
 specific person which seriously and reasonably alarms, intimidates, torments or
 terrorizes a person;

(e) Disallowed Contact - shall mean any contact with another person that is initiated
or continued in a malicious manner and with willful disregard of that person's
expressed desire that the conduct be avoided or discontinued and which creates a
reasonable belief on the part of that person that it is meant to place him/her in a state of
reasonable fear for his or her safety, liberty or privacy, including, but not limited to:

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- 1. approaching or confronting that person in a public or private place;
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- 2. entering into or remaining on the property owned, leased, *or* occupied by that person;
- 3. contacting that person by telephone, or by any other means of
 communication equipment utilized to transmit messages, documents,
 photos, images, videos, or information through air, radio or satellite
 frequencies;
- 16
- person; or

4. sending mail or other means of oral or written communications to that

5. causing damage to that person's home or property.

(f) Substantial Emotional Distress - shall mean severe mental anguish, fright,
 anxiety, wounded feelings, moral shock, social humiliation and other similar forms of
 psychological and emotional distress.

- (g) Physical Injury shall mean those injuries defined and punished under Title
 Eight, Chapter Two, specifically Articles 262 to 266 of the Revised Penal Code;
- (h) Restraint shall mean those offenses defined and punished under Title Nine,
 Chapter One, Section One, specifically Articles 267 and 268, and Title Eleven, Chapter
 Four, specifically Article 342, of the Revised Penal Code;
- 27 (i) Sexual Assault shall mean those offenses defined and punished under Title
 28 Eleven, Chapter Two, specifically Articles 335 and 336 of the Revised Penal Code;

29 (j) Minor – shall refer to a person under eighteen (18) years of age.

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31 SEC. 4. *Stalking.* - Any person who shall repeatedly follow, harass and/or commit 32 disallowed contact against another person or his/her family after having been given 33 reasonable warning or request to desist therefrom by or on behalf of the person so 34 followed, harassed and/or contacted, with the reasonable belief on the part of such 35 person or such person's family that such act/s so perpetrated place/s him/her or his/her family under fear of death, physical injury, unlawful restraint, sexual assault or
other similar analogous circumstances shall be guilty of the crime of stalking.

3

4 **SEC. 5**. *Penal Provision.-* Any person convicted of the crime of stalking shall be 5 punished by *prision correccional* and/or a fine of not less than One Hundred Thousand 6 Pesos (Php 100,000.00) but not more than Five Hundred Thousand Pesos (Php 7 500.000.00), or both, at the discretion of the court.

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If the victim is a woman or minor the highest penalty shall be imposed.

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SEC. 6. *Injunction and Posting of Bond.* – Any victim of stalking shall have the right to ask for an injunction from the court before which the case has been filed, ordering the accused to refrain from the acts complained of as stalking. In which case, and if the evidence of guilt is strong, the accused shall likewise be required to post a bond in cash or in two (2) sufficient sureties, in an amount to be fixed by the court depending upon the gravity of the acts alleged to have been committed by the accused as stalking, conditioned upon the undertaking to be contained in the injunction order.

18 The injunction shall be issued and the bond shall be ordered posted only after the 19 filing of a written and verified motion therefor, with attached proof of service to the 20 accused, and hearing on the motion to determine whether the evidence of the 21 prosecution warrants an injunction and/or is strong.

22

SEC. 7. *Counseling.* - Any person convicted of the crime of stalking shall be required to undergo medical, psychological or psychiatric examination and treatment and enter and remain in a specific institution for that purpose when in the discretion of the court, which ordered the conviction, the same is required and the evidence so warrants.

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SEC. 8. Suppletory Applications. - The provisions of Act No. 3815, as amended, or
Revised Penal Code, in so far as they are applicable shall be *suppletory* to this act.

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32 SEC. 9. Separability Clause. - In the event that any provision of this Act is declared
33 void or unconstitutional such declaration shall not affect the validity of the unaffected
34 provisions of this Act.

- 1 SEC. 10. *Effectivity.* This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication
- 2 in two (2) newspapers of general circulation or the Official Gazette.

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4 Approved.

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FOURTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC

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FOURTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE **REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES**

Second Regular Session

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RECEIVED BY

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