

13th CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC)
OF THE PHILIPPINES)
FIRST REGULAR SESSION)

'04 JUL -6 AM 11:34

SENATE

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S. BILL NO. 1374

INTRODUCED BY HONORABLE RALPH G. RECTO

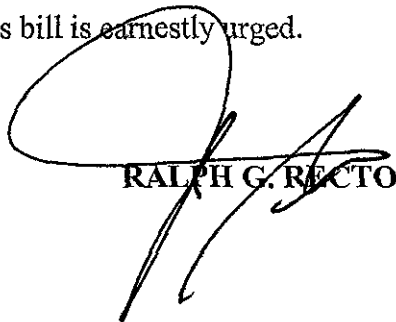
EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill seeks to amend Article 177 of Executive Order 209, otherwise known as The Family Code of the Philippines, to provide for the legitimation of children born to parents below marrying age thus, providing for a remedy by means of which those who in fact were not born in wedlock be considered legitimate.

The impediments as provided under the law, impose an encumbrance on the right of the children born to parents below marrying age to be entitled to the same rights as legitimate children. To deny them such right by reason of the minority of their parents, thereby preventing their legitimation, appears to be unreasonable in light of the difficulties that illegitimate children have to hurdle during their lives.

The proposal seeks to adhere to the policy of the State to recognize the sanctity of family life and to protect and strengthen the family as a basic autonomous social institution. It is likewise a policy of the State to equally protect the life of the mother and the life of the unborn from conception. The natural and primary right and duty of parents in the rearing of the youth for civic efficiency and the development of moral character shall receive the support of the Government.

It is in this light that approval of this bill is earnestly urged.


RALPH G. RECTO

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S. BILL NO. 1374

Introduced by SENATOR RALPH G. RECTO

**AN ACT
PROVIDING FOR THE LEGITIMATION OF CHILDREN BORN TO PARENTS
BELOW MARRYING AGE, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE THE FAMILY
CODE OF THE PHILIPPINES, AS AMENDED**

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

1 **Section 1.** Article 177 of Executive Order No. 209, otherwise known as the Family
2 Code of the Philippines, as amended, is hereby further amended to read as follows:

3

4 "Article 177. Only children conceived and born outside of wedlock of
5 parents who at the time of the conception of the former were not
6 disqualified by any impediment, OTHER THAN THE MINORITY OF
7 ANY OF THE PARENTS, to marry each other may be legitimated."

8

9 **Sec. 2. Repealing Clause** – All laws, Presidential Decrees, Executive Orders,
10 Proclamations and/or Administrative Regulations, which are inconsistent with the
11 provisions of this Act, are hereby amended, modified, superseded or repealed
12 accordingly.

13

14 **Sec. 3. Effectivity Clause** – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its
15 publication in two (2) newspapers of national circulation.

16

17 Approved,