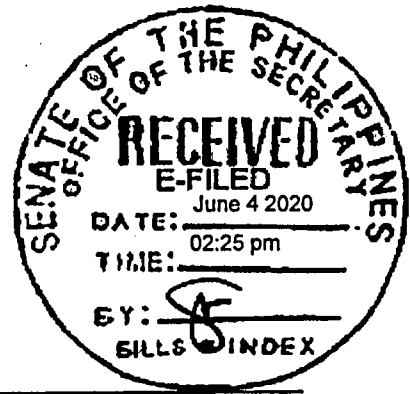


EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE )  
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES )  
*First Regular Session* )

SENATE

S.B. No. 1588



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INTRODUCED BY SENATOR RISA HONTIVEROS

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**AN ACT**  
**INSTITUTIONALIZING AND ENHANCING THE ROLE OF PARENT-TEACHER AND**  
**COMMUNITY ASSOCIATIONS IN PROMOTING THE WELFARE AND**  
**PROTECTING THE RIGHTS OF CHILDREN, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE**  
**PRESIDENTIAL DECREE NO. 603, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS "THE CHILD AND**  
**YOUTH WELFARE CODE"**

**EXPLANATORY NOTE**

Creating and fostering a community that is geared towards advocating for the rights and welfare of children creates immeasurable value with benefits that are far-reaching. A community of parents, teachers, and concerned organizations collaborating towards a common goal in promoting the welfare, well-being, and success of their children generates great benefits not only to the families of these students, but to their community as a whole.

As such, this bill aims to institutionalize Parent-Teacher and Community Associations (PCTAs) to better focus and direct their efforts in order to improve their children's success, both in school and outside of it.

The bill recognizes the importance of developing, engaging, and encouraging the participation of the children in creating policies or programs that will address their concerns. As such, one of the principal functions of the proposed PCTAs is to consult the children through their Student Councils in the process of creating projects, programs, or activities that will improve their welfare and overall well-being.

When a school has an involved Student Council and PCTA, parents are better informed and engaged, teachers are more empowered, and perhaps more importantly, students are happier.

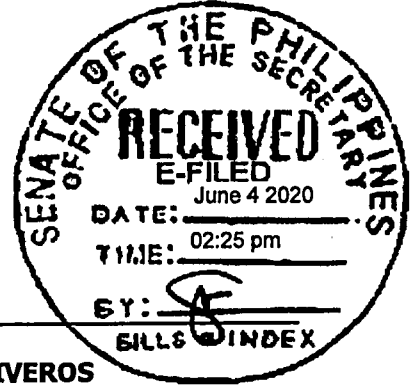
In light of these, the passage of this bill is earnestly sought.

*Risa Hontiveros*  
**RISA HONTIVEROS**  
Senator

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE )  
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**PRESIDENTIAL DECREE NO. 603, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS "THE CHILD AND**  
**YOUTH WELFARE CODE"**

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

1 Section 1. Short Title. – This Act shall be known as the "Parent-Teacher and  
2 Community Association Act".

3 Sec. 2. Declaration of Policy. – The state recognizes the crucial role of parents,  
4 teachers, and the community in the rearing, education, and development of children  
5 towards civic involvement.

6 Furthermore, the State, consistent with Article 29 of the United Nations  
7 Conventions on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC), recognizes that a child's education is  
8 directed not only to "the development of the child's personality, talents, and mental and  
9 physical abilities to their fullest potential" but shall extend to "the broad range of life  
10 experiences and learning processes which enable children, individually and collectively,  
11 and to live a full and satisfying life within society."

12 Sec. 3. Article 77, Chapter II (The Home and the School) of Presidential Decree  
13 No. 603, otherwise known as "The Child and Youth Welfare Code", is hereby amended to  
14 read as follows:

15 "Art. 77. Parent-Teacher and COMMUNITY Associations. – Every [elementary  
16 and secondary] **BASIC EDUCATION** school shall organize a [parent-teacher  
17 association] **PARENT-TEACHER AND COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION,**  
18 **HEREINAFTER REFERRED TO AS PTCA** [for the purpose of providing a forum  
19 for the discussion of problems and their solutions, relating to the total school  
20 program, and for insuring the full cooperation of parents in the efficient  
21 implementation of such program.] **THE PTCA SHALL BE COMPOSED OF**  
22 **PARENTS, TEACHERS, AND A DULY RECOGNIZED COMMUNITY GROUP.**  
23 **THEY SHALL ELECT FROM AMONG THEMSELVES THEIR RESPECTIVE**  
24 **SETS OF OFFICERS.**

1            "All parents who have children enrolled in a school [are encouraged to be  
2 active members of its PTA, and to comply with whatever obligations] **SHALL BE**  
3 **CONSIDERED MEMBERS OF ITS PTCA AND ARE OBLIGED TO COMPLY**  
4 **WITH THE DUTIES** and responsibilities such membership entails.

5            "[Parent-teacher associations] PTCAs all over the country shall [aid] ASSIST  
6 the municipal and other local authorities and school officials in [the enforcement  
7 of juvenile delinquency control measures, and in the implementation of programs  
8 and activities to promote child welfare.] **PROMOTING THE WELFARE AND**  
9 **PROTECTING THE RIGHTS OF CHILDREN INCLUDING SCHOOL**  
10 **ACHIEVEMENT AND RELATED DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVES.**

11           "PTCAs SHALL BE AFFORDED WIDE LATITUDE IN WORKING AND  
12 **COORDINATING WITH SCHOOL OFFICIALS, STUDENT COUNCILS, AND**  
13 **OTHER CONCERNED AUTHORITIES AS THEY COMPLEMENT THEIR WORK**  
14 **IN IMPLEMENTING A HOLISTIC DEVELOPMENT PLAN FOR CHILDREN.**

15           "GIVEN THEIR CRITICAL INVOLVEMENT IN SCHOOL AND  
16 **COMMUNITY AFFAIRS, PTCAs SHALL BE RECOGNIZED AS PARTNERS OF**  
17 **GOVERNMENT AND, AS APPROPRIATE, THEIR PRINCIPAL OFFICERS**  
18 **DESIGNATED AS EX OFFICIO MEMBERS OF THE LOCAL SCHOOL BOARDS**  
19 **AND THE LEGISLATIVE BODIES PROVIDED FOR IN REPUBLIC ACT NO.**  
20 **7160, AS AMENDED, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE "LOCAL GOVERNMENT**  
21 **CODE OF 1991".**

22           "ART. 77-A. PRINCIPAL FUNCTIONS OF THE PTCAs. – THE  
23 **PRINCIPAL FUNCTIONS OF THE PTCAs ARE AS FOLLOWS:**

24            "(1) **CREATE A DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM FOR CHILDREN TO**  
25            **ENSURE THAT THEY BECOME WELL-ROUNDED, STABLE,**  
26            **SOCIABLE AND CIVIC-ORIENTED CITIZENS AND TO SERVE**  
27            **AS THE FORUM FOR THE DISCUSSION OF PROBLEMS,**  
28            **SOLUTIONS, ISSUES, AND CONCERNS RELATIVE TO SUCH**  
29            **GOAL;**

30            "(2) **ENSURE THE FULL COOPERATION OF PARENTS,**  
31            **TEACHERS, AND OTHER COMMUNITY STAKEHOLDERS IN**  
32            **THE EFFICIENT AND EFFECTIVE IMPLEMENTATION OF SAID**  
33            **DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM;**

34            "(3) **CONSULT THE CHILDREN AT ALL TIMES, THROUGH**  
35            **THEIR STUDENT COUNCILS, IN THE PLANNING AND**  
36            **IMPLEMENTATION OF PROGRAMS, PROJECTS, AND**  
37            **ACTIVITIES;**

38            "(4) **SERVE AS AN AVENUE FOR LOCAL SCHOOL**  
39            **STAKEHOLDERS TO DESIGN OTHER APPROPRIATE**  
40            **PROGRAMS, DISCUSS ISSUES, IDENTIFY SOLUTIONS, AND**

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**RECOMMEND ACTION THAT WILL ADDRESS CHILDREN'S CONCERNS;**

**“(5) RAISE AWARENESS ON AND SUPPORT THE IMPLEMENTATION OF CHILD PROTECTION POLICIES AND ISSUES IN SCHOOLS AND COMMUNITIES AS MANDATED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION (DEPED);**

**“(6) ASSESS THE LOCAL IMPLEMENTATION OF BASIC EDUCATION PROGRAM THROUGH INCREASED COLLABORATION AND COOPERATION AMONG KEY LOCAL SCHOOL STAKEHOLDERS SUCH AS THE PARENTS, TEACHERS, COMMUNITIES, SCHOOLS, GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS, AND CIVIL SOCIETY;**

**“(7) PARTNER WITH THE APPROPRIATE SCHOOL OFFICIALS AND CONSULT STUDENT COUNCILS, IN THE DESIGN, IMPLEMENTATIONS, FOLLOW-UP , AND MONITORING OF SCHOOL PROGRAMS SUCH AS LITERACY, HEALTH AND NUTRITION, AND DISASTER RISK REDUCTION, THAT REQUIRE THE FOLLOW-THROUGH SUPPORT, AND PARTICIPATION OF ALL STAKEHOLDERS, AND**

**“(8) STRENGTHEN ACCOUNTABILITY AMONG SCHOOL STAKEHOLDERS BY FACILITATING INFORMATION DISSEMINATION AMONG PARENTS IN THE COMMUNITY ON DEPED AND LOCAL SCHOOL PROGRAMS AND SERVICES, INCLUDING ALTERNATIVE DELIVERY MODES AND PARTICIPATION IN MONITORING, ASSESSING AND EVALUATING THESE SERVICES.”**

**“ART. 77-B. ROLE OF THE DEPED. – THE DEPED SHALL FORMULATE THE RULES WHICH SHALL ADVANCE THE PURPOSE OF THIS ACT. IT SHALL LIKEWISE ENSURE COMPLIANCE OF BASIC EDUCATION SCHOOLS N ORGANIZING THEIR PTCAs.”**

Sec. 4. Separability Clause. – If any provision of this Act is held valid or unconstitutional, the other provisions not so declared shall remain in force and effect.

Sec. 5. Repealing Clause. – All laws, decrees, orders, and rules and regulations contrary or inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or amended accordingly.

Sec. 6. Effectivity. – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,