


THIRTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC)
OF THE PHILIPPINES)
First Regular Session)

5 MAY 24 P3:07

SENATE
P. S. No. 2021

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Introduced by Senator Francis N. Pangilinan

EXPLANATORY NOTE

No less than the 1987 Constitution recognizes the role of women in nation building and declares as State policy the fundamental equality before the law of women and men.

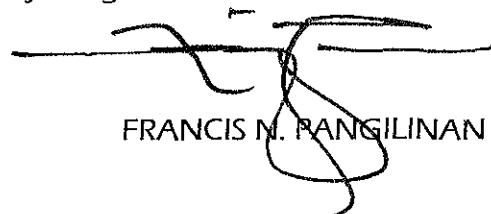
More so, the Legislature has never failed to include in their priority agenda measures that would address the plight of women in an environment still disfigured by women discrimination and violence. Thus, during the 12th Congress, Republic Act No. 9208, entitled "An Act to Institute Policies to Eliminate Trafficking in Persons Especially Women and Children, Establishing the Necessary Institutional Mechanisms for the Protection and Support of Trafficked Persons, Providing Penalties its Violations, and for Other Purposes", and Republic Act No. 9262, entitled "An Act Defining Violence Against Women and Their Children, Providing for Protective Measures for Victims, Prescribing Penalties Therefor, and For Other Purposes were passed into law.

The abovementioned measures notwithstanding, the situation of violence against women remains a frustrating issue that continues to demand the active attention of society. Therefore, the need for a heightened awareness through the participation of the different sectors that will join in efforts to raise the gravity of women discrimination and violence into the consciousness of the people cannot be overemphasized.

This Bill attempts to consolidate efforts for national consciousness on anti-violence by designating November 25 of every year as the "National Consciousness Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women." November 25 is a significant date as it was the day the three Mirabal sisters from the Dominican Republic were brutally assassinated by the Trujillo movement, which event helped propel the anti-trujillo movement. The sisters, referred to as the "Inolvidables Mariposas" or the "Unforgettable Butterflies" have become a symbol against victimization of women. Designation of November 25 of every year also coincides with the UN adoption of Resolution 54/134 designating 25 November as the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women.

This Bill seeks to establish a comprehensive and structured campaign for national consciousness on anti-violence against women that will eventually result in an informed and active society that can deal with the problem of discrimination and violence against women.

Hence, the approval of this Bill is earnestly sought.


FRANCIS N. PANGILINAN

THIRTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC)
OF THE PHILIPPINES)
First Regular Session)

5 MAY 24 P3:07

SENATE
P. S. No. 2024

RECEIVED BY: _____

Introduced by Senator Francis N. Pangilinan

AN ACT DECLARING
NOVEMBER TWENTY-FIVE OF EVERY YEAR AS
"NATIONAL CONSCIOUSNESS DAY FOR THE ELIMINATION OF VIOLENCE
AGAINST WOMEN"
AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

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

Section 1. In recognition of the need to establish a comprehensive and structured campaign for national consciousness on anti-violence against women, November 25 of every year is hereby declared as the "national Consciousness Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women".

Section 2. The following activities shall be undertaken in observance of the occasion:

- (a) Heads of government agencies, local government units and employers in the private sector shall, together with their employees, organize, engage or participate in activities designed to raise public awareness on the problem of violence against women and the elimination of all the forms of violence against women.
- (b) The Philippine Information Agency shall be mandated to allocate a minimum of one-hour airtime for programs exclusively raising public awareness on the problem of violence against women and the elimination of all forms of violence against women. Relative thereto, all Kapisanan ng mga Broadkaster ng Pilipinas-affiliated television and radio networks nationwide are encouraged to allocate airtime for the said programs.
- (c) Publishers of local newspaper and magazines are encouraged to highlight the problem of violence against women and the elimination of all forms of violence against women.
- (d) The Department of Education, the Commission on Higher Education and the Technical Education and Skills Development Authority, in coordination with the National Commission on the Role of Filipino Women (NCRFW), women nongovernmental organizations (NGOs) and the other nongovernmental organizations advocating for women's human rights, shall lead public and private school communities at all levels in organizing consciousness raising activities on the problem of violence against women and the elimination of all forms of violence against women.

Section 3. The National Statistics Office, Philippine National Police, Department of Social Welfare and Development, Department of Labor and Employment, Department of Foreign Affairs and all the Philippine embassies and consulates shall, in coordination with the NCRFW, undertake the data gathering and systematization of a database on all forms of violence against women, including Filipino women working and/or residing abroad. These agencies shall consolidate their findings and make a report to the public on the statistics and status of violence against women every November 25 of each year.

Section 4. A compliance and monitoring team headed by a duly designated representative of the NCRFW shall be created to coordinate and monitor the implementation of the Act. Said team shall be composed of one representative from each of the following agencies:

- (a) The National Commission on the Role of Filipino Women;
- (b) The Department of Social welfare and Development;
- (c) The Department of Education;
- (d) The Commission on Higher Education;
- (e) The Department of the Interior and Local Government;
- (f) The Department of Foreign Affairs;
- (g) The Department of Justice;
- (h) The Overseas Workers Welfare Administration;
- (i) The Philippine Overseas Employment Agency;
- (j) The Movie and Regulatory and Television Review and Classification Board; and
- (k) Three NGO representatives coming from the sectors of women, children and overseas Filipino workers.

Section 5. Funds for the implementation of the aforesated activities, programs and projects shall be taken out of five percent (5%) Gender and Development budget allocated to all government agencies and local government units.

Section 6. If, for any reason, any section or provision of this Act is held to be unconstitutional or invalid, the validity of other sections herein shall not be affected thereby.

Section 7. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days following its publication in two national newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,