### **EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES** Second Regular Session



### SENATE

## COMMITTEE REPORT No. 231

Submitted by the Committees on Trade, Commerce and Entrepreneurship and Social Justice, Welfare and Rural Development on \_\_\_\_\_ April 28 2021

Re: Senate Bill No. 1376

Recommending its approval with amendments.

Sponsor: Senator Aquilino "Koko" Pimentel III

### **MR. PRESIDENT:**

The Committees on Trade, Commerce and Entrepreneurship and Social Justice, Welfare and Rural Development to which was referred Senate Bill No. 1376, introduced by Senator Maria Lourdes Nancy S. Binay, entitled:

### **"AN ACT**

## EDUCATING THE PUBLIC, SENIOR CITIZENS, THEIR FAMILIES AND THEIR CAREGIVERS ON IDENTIFYING AND PREVENTING FRAUDULENT ACTIVITIES TARGETING SENIOR CITIZENS"

have considered the same and have the honor to report back to the Senate with the recommendation that it be approved with the following amendments:

- 1. On page 1, lines 7 to 8, delete the phrase "the Secretary of Health, and the Postmaster General" and replace it with, "PHILIPPINE NATIONAL POLICE (PNP), THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, THE NATIONAL COMMISSION OF SENIOR CITIZENS, AND THE PHILIPPINE POSTAL CORPORATION";
- 2. On page 1, line 11, replace the word "mail" with "POSTAL SERVICES";
- On page 1, line 11, in the word "Internet", replace capital letter "I" with small letter "i";
- 4. On page 1, line 15, delete the word "seniors", and replace it with the words "SENIOR CITIZENS";
- 5. On page 2, line 6, replace the word "mail" with "POSTAL SERVICES";
- 6. On page 2, line 13, delete the word "and", and replace it with the word "OR";
- On page 2, line 16, replace the capital letter "W" with small letter "w" in the word website;
- 8. On page 2, line 16, replace the phrase "a resource for", with the phrase "SOURCE OF";
- On page 2, line 17, before the word "families", insert the word "THE";
- 10.On page 2, line 18, replace the word "mail" with "POSTAL SERVICES";
- 11.On page 2, line 19, in the word "Internet", replace capital letter "I" with small letter "i";
- 12.On page 2, line 22, delete the word "of", and replace it with the word "UNDER";
- 13.On page 2, line 25, delete the words "dissemination of information", and replace them with "**INFORMATION DISSEMINATION**";
- 14.On page 2, line 26, delete the phrase "that provide";
- 15.On page 2, line 27, after the word "paragraph", insert a comma ","; and after the word "one", insert the numerical "(1)";
- 16.On page 3, delete lines 1 to 3 on the Separability Clause.
- 17. On page 3, line 5, after the word "orders,", insert the word "ISSUANCES,";
- 18.On page 3, line 6, after the word "thereof", insert the words "WHICH ARE"; and

19.On page 3, line 10, after the word "publication", insert the phrase, "THE OFFICIAL GAZETTE OR IN".

**Respectfully submitted:** 

Chairpersons:

SEN. LEILA M. DE LIMA Committee on Social Justice, Welfare and Rural Development

SEN. AQUILINO KOKO"、PIM . III

*Committee on Trade, Commerce and Entrepreneurship* 

Vice-Chairpersons:

*Committee on Trade, Commerce and Entrepreneurship* 

**SEN. MARIA LOURDES MANCY S. BINAY** Committee on Social Justice, Welfare and Rural Development Member, Committee on Trade, Commerce and Entrepreneurship

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**SPN. GRACE POE** Committee on Trade, Commerce and Entrepreneurship

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SEN. IMEE R. MARCOS Committee on Social Justice, Welfare and Rural Development

Members:

SEN. RICHARD J. GORDON Member, Committee on Trade, Commerce and Entrepreneurship

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SEN. SONNY ANGARA Member, Committee on Trade, Commerce and Entrepreneurship

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SEN. CYNTHIA A. VILLAR Member, Committee on Trade Commerce and Entrepreneurship

SEN. JOEL VILLANUEVA Member, Committee on Social Justice Welfare and Rural Development

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SEN. PIA S. CAYETANO Member, Committee on Social Justice, Welfare and Rural Development

SEN. RONALD "BATO" M. DELA ROSA Member, Committee on Social Justice, Welfare and Rural Development

SEN. RAMON BONG REVILLA, JR. Member, Committee on Social Justice, Welfare and Rural Development

**SEN. FRANCIS "KIKO" N. PANGILINAN** *Member, Committee on Trade, Commerce and Entrepreneurship* 

Ex-Officio Members:

SEN. RALPH G. RECTO President/Pro-Tempore

SEN JUAN MIGUEL F. ZUBIRI Majority Floor Leader

SEN. FRANKLIN M. DRILON Minority floor Leader

### " HON. VICENTE C. SOTTO III Senate President

Senate of the Philippines Pasay City

#### EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES Eirct Pagular Session

First Regular Session

# Senate Senate

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### SENATE S.B. NO. <u>1376</u>

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Introduced by Senator Maria Lourdes Nancy S. Binay

### AN ACT

### EDUCATING THE PUBLIC, SENIOR CITIZENS, THEIR FAMILIES AND THEIR CAREGIVERS ON IDENTIFYING AND PREVENTING FRAUDULENT ACTIVITIES TARGETING SENIOR CITIZENS

### EXPLANATORY NOTE

Article XV, Section 4 of the 1987 Philippine Constitution provides:

"The family has the duty to care for its elderly members but the State may also do so through just programs of social security."

Bad people make a living by defrauding others. Unfortunately, senior citizens become primary targets of scams and fraud for their age. In addition, the evolving technology today makes it easier to target senior citizens that might find it difficult to adapt. It is the vital role of government to create awareness in detecting scams before they happen.

The proposed bill seeks to protect and promote the welfare of our senior citizens by educating them, their families, their caregivers and the public on how to identify and combat fraudulent activities in order to prevent mail, telemarketing, and internet fraud targeting senior citizens.

In view of the foregoing, the passage of this measure is earnestly sought.

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(s', \*

Bna BINAY

MARIA LOURDES NANCY SUBINA Senator

### EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES

First Regular Session

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## senate s.b. no. <u>1376</u>

Introduced by Senator Maria Lourdes Nancy S. Binay

### AN ACT

EDUCATING THE PUBLIC, SENIOR CITIZENS, THEIR FAMILIES AND THEIR CAREGIVERS ON IDENTIFYING AND PREVENTING FRAUDULENT ACTIVITIES TARGETING SENIOR CITIZENS

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

Section 1. *Short Title.* – This Act shall be known as the "Senior Citizens'
 Fraud Education Act."

Sec. 2. Centralized Service for Consumer Education on Mail,
Telemarketing, and Internet Fraud Targeting Senior Citizens. –

6 (A) *Requirement*. - The Department of Trade and Industry (DTI),
7 after consultation with the Department of Justice (DOJ), the
8 Secretary of Health, and the Postmaster General, shall:

 periodically disseminate to senior citizens, and families and caregivers of senior citizens, general information on mail, telemarketing, and Internet fraud targeting seniors, including descriptions of the most common fraud schemes;

> (2) periodically disseminate to senior citizens, and families and caregivers of seniors, information on methods available to report fraud targeting seniors, such as:

- (a) referring complaints to law enforcement agencies, including the Philippine National Police (PNP) and the National Bureau of Investigation (NBI); and
- (b) calling a telephone number established by the DTI for reporting mail, telemarketing, and Internet fraud;
- (3) in response to a specific request by a party to the DTI inquiring about any history of fraud committed by a particular entity or individual, provide to such party any publically available information on any record of law enforcement action for fraud against such entity or individual by the DTI, and by any other agency that reports such actions to the DTI; and
- (4) maintain a Website to serve as a resource for information for senior citizens, and families and caregivers of senior citizens, regarding mail, telemarketing, and Internet fraud targeting senior citizens.
- (B) Procedures and Commencement. The DTI shall establish and implement procedures to carry out the requirements of paragraph (A), including procedures:
  - (1) with respect to the frequency and mode of dissemination of information; and
  - (2) that provide for the implementation of the requirements of such paragraph not later than one year after the date of the effectivity of this Act.

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Sec. 3. Separability Clause. - If any provision of this Act shall be declared
 unconstitutional, any other provision not affected thereby shall remain in full
 force and effect.

5 Sec. 4. *Repealing Clause.* – All laws, decrees, orders, rules and 6 regulations, or parts thereof inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed or 7 amended accordingly.

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9 Sec. 5. *Effectivity Clause.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days 10 after its publication in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,