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**NINETEENTH CONGRESS OF THE  
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES**  
*First Regular Session* )  
)  
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'22 JUL 12 A11 :41

**SENATE**  
S.B. No. 371

RECEIVED BY:

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**INTRODUCED BY SENATOR RISA HONTIVEROS**

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**AN ACT  
PROVIDING FOR A COMPREHENSIVE AND RESPONSIVE CIVIL REGISTRATION  
AND VITAL STATISTICS SYSTEM, PROVIDING FUNDS THEREOF, AND FOR  
OTHER PURPOSES**

**EXPLANATORY NOTE**

A 2014 case study of the Philippines' current Civil Registration and Vital Statistics System (CRVS) revealed that there are approximately 7.5 million Filipinos whose births are still not registered. The majority of those unregistered belong to some of the most vulnerable sectors of our society, namely: indigenous and Muslim population groups.<sup>1</sup> The lack of a formal civil registration of a person endangers their safety, nationality, and citizenship.

Civil registration documents, such as a child's birth certificate, establish a person's legal identity and therefore becomes a vital source of information for the country's legislators, policy makers, and implementing agencies. Civil registration documents and vital statistics provide a picture of the country that will be used to rationalize, create, implement, and direct government efforts to improve the well-being of Filipinos. As such, the existence of a highly-developed CRVS is an important national resource and therefore invaluable in facilitating public delivery service among citizens.

The importance of CVRS cannot be understated: the lack of official documents of a child means that their existence is not recognized by the State and could be the reason to be denied access from essential public services like health, education, and social services. To protect children from these circumstances, Article 7 of the Convention on the Rights of the Child states that: "The child shall be registered immediately after birth and

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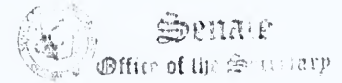
<sup>1</sup> [https://www.getinthepicture.org/sites/default/files/resources/phl\\_crvs\\_case\\_study\\_2014.pdf](https://www.getinthepicture.org/sites/default/files/resources/phl_crvs_case_study_2014.pdf)

shall have the right from birth to a name, the right to acquire a nationality, and, as far as possible, the right to know and be cared for by his or her parents.”

This proposed measure addresses the current gaps in our CRVS and seeks to establish a comprehensive and responsive CRVS. In view of the foregoing, the immediate passage of this bill is earnestly sought.

  
**RISA HONTIVEROS**  
Senator

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**AN ACT PROVIDING FOR A COMPREHENSIVE AND RESPONSIVE CIVIL REGISTRATION AND VITAL STATISTICS SYSTEM, PROVIDING FUNDS THEREOF, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

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

1           Sec. 1. *Short Title.* – This Act shall be known as the “Comprehensive and  
2 Responsive Civil Registration and Vital Statistics Act”.

3           Sec. 2. *Declaration of Policy.* – The State shall promote and maintain an efficient,  
4 responsive, inclusive, and accessible civil registration and vital statistics system. Towards  
5 this end, standardization and modernization of registration procedures is necessary to  
6 establish the identity of an individual for administrative and legal purposes. Moreover,  
7 efficient and simplified procedures in recording vital events must be applied in civil  
8 registration in order to establish the most precise identity of an individual for the benefit  
9 of the general public.

10           The State declares the registration of all births, deaths, and marriages without  
11 discrimination as a national State policy.

12           The state seeks to harmonize this policy with national frameworks on civil  
13 registration on the principle of inclusivity, accessibility and cultural-sensitivity, covering  
14 the Code of Muslim Personal Laws (PD 1083), recognizing children born to parents below  
15 the marrying age and out of wedlock (RA 9858) and allowing illegitimate children to use  
16 the surname of their father (RA 9255). The national state policy envisions to build an  
17 efficient civil registry system, comprising the rectification of errors in terms of name,  
18 birthdate, sex without the need of judicial order ( RA 1072) , ease in declaring a child  
19 legally-available for adoption (RA 9523) and registering children in cases of rectified birth  
20 simulation ( RA 11222). The State concedes through the Philippine Development Plan  
21 2017-2022 in promoting the welfare and rights of children, by reducing their vulnerability.

22           In the implementation of the policy stated above, the State, in enacting this Civil  
23 Registration and Vital Statistics Act, institutionalizes and hereby maintains a legal

1 framework related to the Civil Registration and Vital Statistics (CRVS), ensuring a system  
2 that provides equal access that is affordable, available, and that provides protection of  
3 the rights of all citizens, especially children. Such system is also ensuring the gathering  
4 of statistics and easier retrieval and recording of statistics.

5 The enactment of this policy, reaffirms the commitment of the State to the  
6 international standards and recommendations, according to the principles of the universal  
7 human right to be recognized as a person before the law (UDHR Art.VI), to children's  
8 right to nationality, registration after birth (UN CRC Art. VII), the right to identity (UN  
9 CRC Art. VIII), the right to be protected from discrimination based on race, sex, color,  
10 language, religion, national or social origins ( ICCPR Art. XXIV), the right to nationality of  
11 persons with disabilities (CRPD Art. XVIII) , the right of adolescents to birth registration  
12 ( UNCRC GC 20, Art.VIII), the right of children in street situations to be proactively  
13 supported to obtain legal identity documents and the right of all children at all ages to  
14 free, accessible, simple and expeditious birth registration (UN CRC GC 21, Art. XV), the  
15 right of all Filipino migrant workers to be recognized as a person of the law (ICMW, Art.  
16 XXIV) on CRVS, and to steadfastly adhere to the Regional Plan of Action on the Elimination  
17 of Violence Against Children ( RPA-EVAC) in the ASEAN region.

18 The State shall endeavor to facilitate the realization of the people's rights and  
19 support good governance, health and development through the universal and responsive  
20 CRVS system. In this light, the State shall work towards reaching the following goals from  
21 the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child and the Declaration of Civil Registration in  
22 Southeast Asia:

23 Goal 1: Universal civil registration of all births, deaths, marriages, and other vital  
24 events based on accurate data;

25 Goal 2. Entitlement of all individuals to legal documentation of civil registration of  
26 their births, deaths, marriages and other vital events, as necessary, to claim  
27 identity, civil status and ensuing rights;

28 Goal 3: Production and dissemination of accurate, complete and timely vital  
29 statistics (including the cause of death) are produced based on registration  
30 records.

31 Goal 4: Free, accessible, simple, and free expeditious birth registration is provided  
32 to all children at all ages.

33 Goal 5: The civil registration documents are used as main tools for child protection  
34 in relation to education, health, and other social services, justice, inheritance, and  
35 family reunification

1           Sec. 3. *Coverage.* – This law shall embrace all acts, events, and judicial and  
2 administrative issuances affecting the civil status and vital statistics of persons in the  
3 Philippines and all Filipino citizens abroad, including all children with at least one Filipino  
4 parent.

5           Sec. 4. *Definition of Terms.* – As used in this Act, the following terms are defined  
6 as follows:

- 7           a) Barangay Civil Registration System (BCRS) – refers to a scheme to facilitate  
8 extensive civil registration at the barangay level involving all barangay officials  
9 assisting the Local Civil Registrars (LCR) in civil registration work, as provided in  
10 Section 394 (d) (5) RA 7160, otherwise known as the Local Government Code of  
11 the Philippines;
- 12           b) Birth Attendant – refer exclusively to persons with midwifery skills such as licensed  
13 doctors, midwives, and nurses who have been trained to proficiency in the skills  
14 necessary to manage normal deliveries and diagnose, manage, or refer obstetric  
15 complications;
- 16           c) Child - any person below 18 years of age or older who is unable to fully take care  
17 of himself/herself from abuse, neglect, cruelty, exploitation or discrimination  
18 because of a physical or mental disability or condition;
- 19           d) Children in Need of Special Protection (CNSP) - shall refer to all persons below 18  
20 years of age, or those 18 years old and over but are unable to take care of  
21 themselves because of physical or mental disability condition; who are vulnerable  
22 to or are victims of abuse, neglect, exploitation, cruelty, discrimination and  
23 violence (armed conflict, domestic violence and other analogous conditions  
24 prejudicial to their development)
- 25           e) Circuit Registrar – refers to the Clerk of Court of a Shari’a Circuit Court performing  
26 as Circuit Registrar of Muslim marriages, divorces, revocations of divorces, and  
27 conversions with the respective court’s jurisdiction, as provided in Title VI, Book  
28 Two of Presidential Decree No. 1083 otherwise known as the Code of Muslim  
29 Personal Laws;
- 30           f) Civil Registration – refers to the continuous, permanent, universal and compulsory  
31 documentation of occurrences and characteristics of vital events in the life of a  
32 person, including any modifications thereof during his lifetime and until his death,  
33 as provided for by this Act;
- 34           g) Civil Register – refers to the various civil registry books and related certificates and  
35 documents where registrable acts, events, and judicial and administrative  
36 issuances concerning the civil status of a person are recorded and kept in the

- 1 archives of the Civil Registrar's Offices, Philippine Consulate Offices, Shari'a District  
2 and Circuit Courts, and the Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA);
- 3 h) Civil Registrar (CR) – refers to the head of the Local Civil Registry Office (Civil  
4 Registrar's Office), the Consul General (CG) in the Philippine Consulate Offices, or  
5 the Clerk of Court in Shari'a District and Circuit;
- 6 i) Civil Registrar General (CRG) – refers to the head of the PSA who is also the  
7 National Statistician of the government of the Philippines;
- 8 j) Consul General (CG) – refers to the head of a Philippine Consulate Office acting as  
9 Civil Registrar of all civil registry documents involving Filipinos in a foreign country;
- 10 k) Civil Registry Document – refers to a certificate or any document relating to the  
11 civil status of a person which is recorded and kept in the archives of the Civil  
12 Registrar's Offices, Philippine Consulate Offices, Shari'a District and Circuit courts  
13 and the PSA;
- 14 l) District Recorder (DR) – refers to the Clerk of Court of the Shari'a District Court  
15 performing civil registration-related functions as District Recorder of Muslim  
16 marriages, divorces, revocation of divorces, and conversions with the respective  
17 court's territorial jurisdiction, as provided in Title VI, Book Two of Presidential  
18 Decree No. 1083 otherwise known as the Code of Muslim Personal Laws;
- 19 m) Foundling - any person who is abandoned and whose parentage is unknown;
- 20 n) Legal Instrument – refers to any legal documents that would be officially issued  
21 pursuant to this act;
- 22 o) Live Birth – refers to a complete expulsion or extraction from its mother of a  
23 product/s of conception, irrespective of the duration of the pregnancy, which after  
24 such separation, breathes or shows any other evidence of life, such as beating of  
25 the heart, pulsation of the umbilical cord, or definite movement of voluntary  
26 muscles, whether or not the umbilical cord has been cut or the placenta is  
27 attached;
- 28 p) Local Archive Authority (LAA) – refers to the LCR or his authorized official of the  
29 LCRO of each Local Government Unit who has the duty to establish, keep and  
30 maintain the local archives, to include its mandatory digitization of all civil registry  
31 documents for the herein provided Digital Linkages and Interconnection of All  
32 Participating LRCOs.
- 33 q) Local Civil Registrar (LCR) – refers to the head of the CIVIL REGISTRAR'S OFFICE;
- 34 r) National Statistician – the head of the PSA acting as the CRG for the purpose of  
35 this Act;

- 1 s) Out-of-Town Reporting – occurs when the certificate of live birth or death is  
2 presented to the civil registrar of a city or municipality which is not the place of  
3 birth or death, not for registration but to be forwarded to the civil registrar of the  
4 city or municipality where the birth or death occurred and where it should be  
5 registered; and
- 6 t) Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA) – refers to the central statistics authority of  
7 the Republic of the Philippines headed by the National Statistician.

8 *Sec. 5. The Civil Registry System.* – The Civil Registry System is composed of the Civil  
9 Registrar General (CRG), the City/Municipal Civil Registrar and the Barangay Civil  
10 Registration System. The Civil Registry System issues registry instruments, recommends  
11 and executes policies related to the civil registration of vital events, from the national and  
12 local civil registry structures of the State.

13 *Sec. 6. Duties and Function of the Civil Registrar General (CRG).* – The Office of the  
14 Civil Registrar General shall have the following duties and functions:

15 (a) Policy-making Functions.

16 (1) The CRG has the following policy-making functions and responsibilities on the  
17 Civil Registry System.

18 (2) Prepare and promulgate the implementing rules and regulations pertaining to  
19 civil registration laws and all subsequent issuances relative thereto, in close  
20 collaboration with the DILG and the PACR; and

21 (3) Issue circulars and memoranda pertaining to civil registration enhancements  
22 as part of the functions of the OCRG;

23 (b) Provision of Technical Support to Local Civil Registry Offices.

24 (1) Provide exercise technical supervision over the City/Municipal Civil Registrar  
25 (C/MCRs) and other Local Civil Registry Officers; and

26 (2) provide ways and means to assist Civil Registrars for the reconstruction of  
27 Local Archives as the need arises.

28 (c) National Civil Registry Depository.

29 (1) Act as the national central depository of all civil registry documents  
30 submitted to the OCRG for archiving from all civil registry offices of the  
31 Philippines, for back up database and statistical analysis purposes only.

32 *Sec. 7. Duties of the City/Municipal Civil Registrar.* – The appointment of C/MCRs  
33 shall be mandatory for city and municipal governments. The C/MCR shall be have the  
34 following duties and functions:

35 (a) Primary Authority in Local Civil Registration. The C/MCR is responsible for the civil  
36 registration programs in the local government unit concerned, pursuant to this Act,

1 other existing laws, rules and regulations. This includes the following  
2 responsibilities:

3 (1) Administer oaths, free of charge, for civil registry purposes;

4 (2) Exercise quasi-judicial functions in cases of clerical or typographical errors and  
5 change of first name or nickname, the day and month in the date of birth or  
6 sex of a person where it is patently clear that there was a clerical or  
7 typographical error or mistake in the entry, or the petitioner for the change of  
8 first name or nickname finds the first name or nickname to be ridiculous,  
9 tainted with dishonor or extremely difficult to write or pronounce, has been  
10 habitually and continuously used by the petitioner and has been publicly known  
11 by that first name in the community or the change will avoid the confusion as  
12 provided for under existing laws.; and

13 (3) Submit status reports to the CRG on the condition of civil registry documents  
14 filed his/her civil registry office whenever there are substantial changes in the  
15 status of his files, in case of fire, flood, earthquake and other natural and or  
16 manmade calamities.

17 (b) Issuance and Organization of Local Civil Registry Documents. As much as  
18 practicable, assist in the preparation, accept and register all registrable events and  
19 documents occurring within his or her jurisdiction affecting the civil status of  
20 persons. This function entails the following:

21 (1) Make civil registry forms available at all times in the civil registry office;

22 (2) File registrable certificates and documents presented to him or her for entry;

23 (3) Issue certified transcripts or copies of any certificate or document registered,  
24 upon payment of the prescribed fees;

25 (4) Compile copies of every document registered and transmit to CRG within the  
26 first ten (10) calendar days of the succeeding month;

27 (5) Receive all registrable documents and transcribe in the corresponding civil  
28 register all documents accepted for registration; and

29 (6) Receive applications for the issuance of a marriage license and after  
30 determining that the requirements and supporting certificates and publication  
31 thereof for the prescribed period have been complied with, shall issue the  
32 license upon payment of the authorized fee for the local treasurer.

33 (c) Depository of Local Registry. The C/MR shall have the following duties and  
34 functions in securing the local registry:

35 (1) File, keep and preserve in a secured place the civil registry books as required  
36 by law;



1 (2) Reconstruct destroyed civil registry records upon compliance with the  
2 requirements following the procedures established by the CRG; and

3 i. (3) Classify, digitize, index and preserve all registered documents in accordance  
4 ii. with the appropriate archiving procedures.

5 (d) Executory and Planning Functions. The C/MCR shall develop plans and strategies  
6 and upon approval thereof by the mayor, implement the same, particularly those  
7 which pertains to civil registry programs and projects.

8 (e) Provide Civil Registry Education and Technical Support. Conduct community  
9 education campaigns on vital registration and assist in the preparation of  
10 demographic and other statistics for the local government unit concerned, in  
11 particular the Barangay Civil Registration System;

12 (f) Recommendatory functions aiding policies on Local Civil Registration. Recommend  
13 to the legislative bodies and collaborate with administrative agencies in the  
14 formulation of systems, procedures, policies, rules and regulations on civil  
15 registration

16 Sec. 8. Barangay Civil Registration System (BCRS). – There shall be a Barangay Civil  
17 Registration System established where elected and appointed barangay officials shall be  
18 mandated to assist in the facilitation of civil registration within their area or jurisdiction  
19 subject to the provision of this Act.

20 a. Structure and Composition. The Barangay Civil Registration System is composed  
21 of the Barangay Captain, the Barangay Secretary and the Barangay Civil  
22 Registration Assistant.

23 The Barangay Captain shall submit the names of the Barangay Secretary as Ex-  
24 Officio Barangay Civil Registration Officer (BCRO) and other deputized barangay  
25 officials as Barangay Civil Registration Assistant (BCRA). The BCRA shall assist in  
26 the registration of all vital events of every individual within the area of jurisdiction  
27 to the Local Civil Registrar's Office.

28 b. Mandatory Continuing Education and Training Program for the BCRS. Pursuant to  
29 Sec 13. of this policy, members of the Barangay Civil Registration System are  
30 required to have regular, updated, culturally sensitive education system.

31 c. Relationship to National and Local Civil Registry Systems.

32 i. The Civil Registrar General (CRG) shall adopt a method in order to establish a  
33 systematic procedure of recording in the barangay level enabling civil registration  
34 procedure a universal right of every Filipino.

1       ii. The Local Civil Registrar’s Office shall engage the barangays to support in the  
2       implementation of the law, including the provision of fiscal and budgetary  
3       support.

4       iii. Proper networking and interconnectedness between the Local Civil Registrar’s  
5       Office and the barangay shall be ensured in order to attain mandatory civil  
6       registration of all born Filipinos. The PSA, LGUs, a national professional  
7       organization of local civil registrars duly registered with the Securities and  
8       Exchange Commission, and other accredited government or private institutions  
9       shall conduct regular trainings and capacity building programs to upgrade the  
10      knowledge and skills in civil registration functions of all partners in the Barangay.

11      Sec. 9. Culturally–Sensitive Registration System – In collaboration with the  
12      National Commission for Indigenous Peoples (NCIP), National Commission on Muslim  
13      Filipinos (NCMF), Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (BARMM),  
14      Philippine Association of Civil Registrars, National Commission on Culture and Arts  
15      (NCCA), and distinguished anthropologists and selected elders and leaders of IPs shall  
16      establish an Indigenous Peoples Civil Registration System (IPCRS) that is sensitive and  
17      appropriate to the unique cultural practices and identification systems of IPs: Provided,  
18      that the IPCRS shall be harmonized with existing laws and systems on civil registry.

19      In recording the birth of IPs delivered in the traditional customs and practices of  
20      the indigenous community, the report as to the circumstances of the birth by any of the  
21      parents or by the tribal doctor or tribal midwife who attended to the delivery shall be  
22      conclusive upon the Local Civil Registrar (without need for further proof) and PSA.

23      The IPCRS shall take into account the various ethnic affiliations of the IPs in the  
24      country. For this purpose, the PSA Administrator, acting as the Civil Registrar General,  
25      instead of issuing separate forms for the IPCRS, shall cause the amendment of the  
26      existing civil registry forms, for uniformity of all civil registry documents to ensure  
27      acceptability by end-user agencies or institutions of the facts and information contained  
28      in said documents and ease of establishing filial bonds between or among parents or  
29      parents and child.

30      In the absence of any identifying document, the self-ascription or ascription by any  
31      of the parents or tribal leader or elder shall suffice to establish the identity of IPs when  
32      applying with the LCR/PSA for recording birth, marriage or death.

33      Sec. 10. *Registration of Muslim Filipinos, Indigenous Cultural Communities (ICCs)*  
34      *or Indigenous Peoples (IPs) and Children in Need of Special Protection (CNSP).* - Muslim  
35      Filipinos, ICCs or IPS and CNSP, by reason of their socio-cultural, religious, and indigenous  
36      peculiarities, and vulnerabilities, shall be registered as follows:

- 1 a) Muslim Filipinos – civil registration of Muslim Filipinos shall be governed by PD  
2 1083, EO 157, and its implementing rules and regulations.
- 3 b) Indigenous Peoples – civil registration of indigenous cultural communities or  
4 indigenous peoples shall be governed by RA No. 8371 and its implementing rules  
5 and regulations.
- 6 c) CNSP – Civil registration of Children in Need of Special Protection shall be governed  
7 by the provisions of this act, special laws, and implementing rules and regulations,  
8 in coordination with the Department of Social Welfare and Development and other  
9 concerned agencies.

10 Sec. 11. *Civil Registry Books.* The Civil Registrar shall keep, update as mandated  
11 by law, and preserve the following books in their offices:

- 12 a) Register of births – the records of birth in the civil registry;
- 13 b) Register of births of person without known parents- the records of abandoned in  
14 the civil register;
- 15 c) Register of Deaths – the record of death of a deceased in the civil register
- 16 d) Register of Marriages – the records of solemnized marriage in the civil register;
- 17 e) Register of Court Decrees or Orders – the records of court decree or order  
18 concerning the status of a person in the civil register;
- 19 f) Register of Legal Instruments – the records of legal instruments executed affecting  
20 the vital events of a person in the civil register;
- 21 g) Register of Applications for Marriage License – the records of application of  
22 marriage license in the civil register;
- 23 h) Register of Conversion to Islam – the records of conversion to Islam religion of a  
24 person in the civil register;
- 25 i) Register of Muslim Filipino Marriages – the records of marriage of a Muslim Filipino  
26 in the civil register;
- 27 j) Register of Muslim Filipino Divorces – the records of divorce of a Muslim Filipino in  
28 the civil register;
- 29 k) Register of Indigenous Cultural Communities/Indigenous Peoples (ICC/IPs)  
30 Marriage Dissolutions – the records of ICCs/IPs dissolution of marriage in the civil  
31 register; and Register of ICCs/IPs Revocation of Marriage Dissolutions – the  
32 records of ICCs/IPs revocation of marriage dissolutions.

33 Sec. 12. *Registrable Acts and Events.* – The following are the Registrable Acts and  
34 Events:

- 35 1. Birth;
- 36 2. Death;

- 1           3. Application for Marriage License;
- 2           4. Marriage;
- 3           5. Court Orders or Decrees; and
- 4           6. Legal Instruments;

5 The Registrable Orders or Decrees of Courts and other competent authorities are the  
6 following:

- 7           1. Adoption;
- 8           2. Rescission of Adoption;
- 9           3. Annulment of Marriage;
- 10          4. Declaration of Nullity of Marriage;
- 11          5. Declaration of Presumptive Death;
- 12          6. Compulsory Recognition of Illegitimate Child;
- 13          7. Voluntary Recognition of Minor Illegitimate Child;
- 14          8. Appointment of Guardian;
- 15          9. Termination of Guardianship;
- 16          10. Judicial Determination of Filiation;
- 17          11. Naturalization-All forms of naturalization;
- 18          12. Cancellation of Naturalization;
- 19          13. Judicial Determination of the Fact of Reappearance, if Disputed;
- 20          14. Separation of Property;
- 21          15. Revival of Former Property Regime;
- 22          16. Foreign Court Orders Decided Abroad; and
- 23          17. Other orders/decrees that pertain to the civil status and vital statistics of a  
24          person.

25          The civil registrar shall properly enter the registrable events and court orders or  
26          decrees.

27          *Sec. 13. Free Registration of Vital Civil Registry Events.* – The registration of births,  
28          deaths and marriage are hereby declared a national policy. Therefore, no fees shall be  
29          imposed and collected in the registration of these events, whether or not these are  
30          registered on time. All supporting documents as prerequisite to birth registration shall  
31          also be free.

32          The first copies of civil registration certificates shall be free. For issuance of  
33          succeeding copies of civil registry documents, a minimal fee prescribed by the CRG may  
34          be collected.

35          For registration of registrable judicial and administrative issuances or orders, and  
36          legal instruments, a standard fee shall be collected.

1           Sec. 14. *Registration and Certification of Birth.* – The declaration of the physician,  
2 midwife, nurse, birth attendant, finder or in default thereof, the declaration of either or  
3 both parents or any person who has knowledge of the facts of birth of the newborn child  
4 shall be sufficient for the registration of birth in the civil register.

5           The duly accomplished Certificate of Live Birth containing the above declaration  
6 shall be submitted for registration to the CIVIL REGISTRAR'S OFFICE where the birth  
7 occurred within thirty (30) calendar days from date of birth by the aforementioned  
8 persons, declaring the following when available:

9           a.) Full name of the child;

10          b.) Sex;

11          c.) Date of birth;

12          d.) Place of birth or where found;

13          e.) Name of mother;

14          f.) Citizenship of the mother;

15          g.) Name of father;

16          h.) Citizenship of the father;

17          i.) Date and place of marriage of parents; and

18          j.) Such other data as may be identified in the implementing rules and regulations  
19 of this Act.

20          Birth and other civil registry records of persons when any or some of the following  
21 information is absent/missing: the usual middle initial or middle name, citizenship if  
22 stateless, names of parents if unknown, date of marriage if inapplicable, or when an  
23 individual has only one birth name or any analogous circumstances, shall have equal  
24 acceptability and respect before all government, public, private, commercial, and business  
25 transactions where these documents are presented. All regulatory bodies such as, but  
26 not limited to the Securities and Exchange Commission, Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas, shall  
27 adhere to this law and adopt the necessary rules and regulations to implement this act.

28          The fetus is considered born if it is alive at the time it is completely delivered from  
29 the mother's womb shall be considered as live birth and shall be registered in the Register  
30 of Births.

31          The fetus is not deemed born if it dies within twenty-four (24) hours after its  
32 delivery from the mother's womb. But for statistical purposes, a COLB shall be prepared  
33 in duplicate, where in a copy shall be forwarded to the Office of the Civil Registrar-General  
34 and the other for Civil Registrar's file.

35          All cases of birth on board a vessel or airplane en route to the Philippines shall be  
36 recorded in the civil register of the city or municipality where the mother habitually resides

1 if either of the parent is a citizen of the Philippines or both are. When the parents are  
2 both foreigners but not residents of the Philippines, the birth may be recorded in any civil  
3 registry office in the Philippines, if they so desire.

4 Abandoned children or foundlings whose parents, guardians or relatives are  
5 unknown, or children committed to an orphanage or a child-caring institution with  
6 unknown facts of birth and parentage, shall be registered by the finder or charitable  
7 institution concerned within thirty (30) days from the date of finding or commitment of  
8 the child with the C/MCR of the place where such person was born. The CRG shall issue  
9 a COLB to these children.

10 All LCR/PSAs in partnership with LGUs shall provide mobile birth registration  
11 services especially in all Geographically Isolated and Disadvantaged Area (GIDA) under  
12 their jurisdiction.

13 *Sec. 15. Delayed Registration of Birth.* – A person who has not been registered  
14 with the CIVIL REGISTRAR'S OFFICE at the place of birth or where found shall apply for  
15 delayed registration within the prescribed period of thirty (30) calendar days upon  
16 discovering that no entry of birth has been recorded in the Register of Births.

17 For delayed registration, resort to out-of-town registration of birth may be allowed,  
18 where the place of application for registration is other than the place of birth of the person  
19 seeking to be registered. The LCR/PSA and PSA shall issue a COLB free of charge  
20 regardless of delay. A person who has not been registered before the office of the C/MCR  
21 and PSA where he or she was born within the prescribed period of thirty (30) calendar  
22 days shall apply on the basis of his or her nearest kin. The informant and affiant must  
23 show authentic proof of the identity of the person to be registered, the facts of his birth,  
24 his parentage and other relevant data.

25 In the implementation of this act, LCR/PSA should conduct regular review to assess  
26 the accessibility of registration and design and implement programmatic interventions to  
27 address gaps in CRVS, with PSA as the central office for data management and standards.

28 The record of a person's birth shall be kept strictly confidential, and any treatment  
29 thereof shall be fully compliant with the Data Privacy Act.

30 *Sec. 16. Mandatory Continuing Education and Training Program.* – To ensure that  
31 the efficient and effective delivery of civil registration services and meet the demand for  
32 quality civil registrars who shall perform civil registration functions, the Civil Register-  
33 General together with the LGU, shall conduct continuing education and training program  
34 for Civil Registrars, Consul Generals, District Recorders, and Circuit Registrars and their  
35 staff, in collaboration with relevant partners in government, academe, industry, and non-  
36 governmental organizations. Such training programs shall be initiated, conducted based

1 on Training Needs Analysis, and evaluated regularly throughout the year to ensure  
2 constant upgrading of skills of the Civil Registrars, Consul Generals, District Recorders,  
3 and Circuit Registrars, and their staff.

4       Sec. 17. *Free Delayed Registration and Certification of Birth.* - Local government  
5 units are mandated to implement a free delayed registration program for persons whose  
6 births have not been registered and certified due to such factors as poverty, distance, or  
7 lack of literacy. The Sangguniang Barangay shall assist in the implementation of the  
8 program through the Barangay Civil Registration System.

9       The OCRG, the Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG) and the  
10 National Commission on Indigenous Peoples (NCIP) shall jointly prepare a Free Delayed  
11 Registration Program for Indigenous Peoples (FDRIP) which shall be implemented by the  
12 local government units and the NCIP regional or local offices in the localities concerned.

13       Within ninety (90) days from the effectivity of this Act, the OCRG shall issue  
14 implementing rules and regulations for the free delayed registration and certification of  
15 birth covering the foregoing.

16       Sec. 18. *Strict Confidentiality of Birth Records.* – The record of a person’s birth  
17 shall be kept confidential and no information relating thereto shall be issued, in  
18 accordance to the Data Privacy Act except upon request of the following:

- 19       a) The concerned person herself/himself, or any person authorized by him;
- 20       b) Spouse;
- 21       c) Any or both the parents, direct descendants, or the guardian or institution  
22       legally in-charge in case of a minor;
- 23       d) The Court or appropriate public official whenever absolutely necessary in  
24       administrative, judicial or other official proceedings to determine the identity  
25       of the child’s parents or other circumstances surrounding the birth;
- 26       e) The nearest kin in case of a person’s death;
- 27       f) In accordance to section 12 of the Data Privacy Act of 2012, personal  
28       information shall be released meeting the following conditions ( with the  
29       consent of the concerned person) :
  - 30           (i) Necessary for compliance with a legal obligation;
  - 31           (ii) The personal information is necessary in fulfillment of a contract;
  - 32           (iii) Necessary to protect vitally important interests of the data subjects,  
33           including life and death;
  - 34           (iv) Necessary in order to respond to national emergency, to comply with  
35           public order and safety; and

- 1 (v) According to the purposes of legitimate interests by any third  
2 party/ies, unless these interests are overridden by fundamental rights  
3 and freedoms of the person involved.

4 Sec. 19. *Registration and Certification of Death.* – No human body shall be buried  
5 or cremated unless the proper death certificate has been presented and recorded in the  
6 CIVIL REGISTRAR'S OFFICE/PSA.

7 The physician who attended the deceased, or in his default, the health officer  
8 concerned, any member of the family of the deceased or any person having knowledge  
9 of the death shall immediately report the same to the local health authorities who shall  
10 issue a death certificate and shall order the same to be recorded before the CIVIL  
11 REGISTRAR'S OFFICE/PSA at the place of death.

12 The death certificate which shall be issued by the attending physician of the deceased  
13 or, in his default, by the authorized health officer, shall indicate the following data, which  
14 shall be furnished by the person reporting the death to the civil registrar:

- 15 a) Full name of the deceased;  
16 b) Sex;  
17 c) Age;  
18 d) Civil status;  
19 e) Nationality;  
20 F) Date of birth;  
21 G) Place of birth;  
22 h) Date of death;  
23 i) Place of death;  
24 j) Full names of the deceased's parents;  
25 k) Cause of death; and  
26 l) Such other relevant data that may be required.

27 The surname to be entered in the registry of death and the Death Certificate shall  
28 be the surname used prior to his/her death. In case the deceased is a legally married  
29 woman, informants shall register the death using the surname she chose as a legally  
30 married person.

31 The registration of death shall be made within thirty (30) calendar days from the  
32 time and date of death before the CIVIL REGISTRAR'S OFFICE at the place of death, or  
33 the Philippine Consulate Office in the foreign country where the death happened.

34 In the absence of the city or municipal health officer or his authorized representative  
35 in the place of registration, or when it is a non-working day and the health officer or his  
36 authorized representative is not expected to be in the office, the death shall be reported



1 by the nearest kin of the deceased or by any person having knowledge of the death within  
2 forty-eight (48) hours after its occurrence, to the mayor or to the vice mayor or any  
3 member of the Sangguniang Bayan or to the municipal secretary, who shall issue and  
4 sign the medical certification of the Certificate of Death for burial, cremation, and  
5 registration purposes.

6 When the death is subjected to a medico-legal examination, or the cause of death  
7 is under investigation by the National Bureau of Investigation (NBI) or other concerned  
8 government office and the body of the deceased is subjected to autopsy or examination  
9 of the medico-legal officers and no record of death has been registered, the head of the  
10 NBI or other investigative agency or the duly authorized representative shall cause the  
11 registration of such death through the City or Municipal Health Officer at the place of  
12 death.

13 The medico-legal officer shall accomplish and sign the medical certification portion  
14 of the certificate of death, subject to the review of the City or Municipal Health Officer.

15 *Sec. 20. Delayed Registration of Death.* – A deceased person’s facts of death that  
16 have not been registered within thirty (30) calendar days from the date of death shall be  
17 allowed delayed registration before the CIVIL REGISTRAR’S OFFICE at the place of death.

18 In any case, out-of-town registration of death may be allowed.

19 *Sec. 21. Registration of the Application for Marriage License.* – An application for  
20 marriage license shall be filed by the contracting parties before the CR where one of the  
21 parties resides. The CR shall enter all applications in the Register of Applications for  
22 Marriage License strictly in the order of receipt of applications. The CR shall record in said  
23 register the names of the applicants, the date on which the marriage license was issued,  
24 and such other data as may be necessary.

25 No application shall be received by the CR unless supporting documents are  
26 attached thereto and no application shall be posted unless it is received by the CR.  
27 Registration of the application shall only take place after the completion of the posting  
28 period.

29 All applications for marriage license shall be governed by the pertinent provisions of  
30 EO. No. 209, otherwise known as the Family Code of the Philippines.

31 *Sec. 22. Registration of Marriage.* – All marriages shall be registered by the  
32 solemnizing officer before the CIVIL REGISTRAR’S OFFICE of the place where they were  
33 solemnized.

34 a) In case of marriages solemnized while in transit:

35 i. En route to, or within the Philippines, the marriage shall be registered at the  
36 place of residence of either party; or

1       ii. Leaving the Philippines, the marriage shall be registered at the consulate of the  
2           Philippines in the place of destination of the parties, or in the absence thereof,  
3           to the nearest Philippine consulate from the place of destination.

4       b) In cases of registration of traditional marriages and dissolution of marriages among  
5           IPs.

6           The report of marriage among and between IPs solemnized in accordance with  
7           customary laws, rites, traditions and practices by the person duly authorized to  
8           perform the ritual or ceremony and by the parties to the marriage shall be  
9           conclusive upon the LCR/PSA without need for further proof. For this purpose, the  
10          NCIP shall submit to the PSA a list of IPs recognized by each indigenous community  
11          to solemnize marriage according to its customary laws or practices. The PSA shall  
12          issue a Certificate of Registration of Authority to Solemnize Marriage (CRASM) to  
13          such IPs for free.

14          In the case of indigenous communities whose traditional marriage ceremony does  
15          not require the presence of a solemnizing officer, as determined by the NCIP, the  
16          report by the contracting parties shall be conclusive upon the LCR/PSA without the  
17          need for further proof except personal confirmation, orally or in writing, by any of  
18          the parents or by a tribal leader or elder of the indigenous community to which  
19          any of the spouses belong. For this purpose, the NCIP shall furnish the PSA and  
20          the LCR/PSAs with a list of indigenous communities falling under this paragraph:  
21          Provided, That pending the submission of such list, the oral or written confirmation  
22          of the tribal leader or elder shall be conclusive upon the LCR/PSA.

23          The dissolution of marriage of IPs following customary indigenous laws and  
24          practices shall be directly recorded with the LCR/PSA without need of court  
25          intervention: Provided, That such facts and information shall be confirmed orally  
26          or in writing by a tribal leader or elder of the indigenous community to which any  
27          of the spouses belongs.

28          All marriages shall be registered within thirty (30) days from the date of the  
29          marriage. Marriages registered after the stipulated period shall be considered late  
30          registration and an administrative fee shall be imposed on the solemnizing officer.

31          In no case shall double or multiple registration of marriages be allowed, except for  
32          cases provided by law.

33          *Sec. 23. Multiple Registration.* – In cases of multiple registrations of birth, marriage  
34          and death, the first duly registered document shall prevail, unless the Court orders  
35          otherwise.

1 For multiple marriages by and between the same parties, the first marriage shall  
2 prevail, and not the first registered marriage of such parties.

3 *Sec. 24. Registration of Solemnizing Officers.* – All solemnizing officers shall be  
4 registered with the Office of the CRG, except those who are not required to be so  
5 registered as provided for by law or existing rules.

6 The Mayor, with the assistance of the CIVIL REGISTRAR'S OFFICE, shall determine  
7 documents pertaining to the existence of religious sects.

8 *Sec. 25. Registration of Court Orders.* – In case of court issuance or order  
9 concerning the status of a person, the Clerk of Court shall advise the successful petitioner  
10 to register such document before the CIVIL REGISTRAR'S OFFICE which has jurisdiction  
11 on the issuing court. In cases of legal separation, absolute nullity of void marriages and  
12 annulment of voidable marriages, the prevailing party shall cause the registration of the  
13 decree in the CIVIL REGISTRAR'S OFFICE where the marriage was registered, the CIVIL  
14 REGISTRAR'S OFFICE where the family court is situated, and in the PSA. Such party shall  
15 report to the Court compliance with this requirement within thirty (30) days from receipt  
16 of the copy of the decree.

17 In case a person other than the petitioner shall apply to register a court order before  
18 the CIVIL REGISTRAR'S OFFICE, the LCR has the responsibility to verify the veracity of  
19 the court issuance or order, otherwise, registration thereof shall be refused.

20 The CIVIL REGISTRAR'S OFFICE where the event was registered shall forward a  
21 certified true copy of the order to the CIVIL REGISTRAR'S OFFICE where the vital event  
22 affected was originally registered. The CIVIL REGISTRAR'S OFFICE where the vital event  
23 was originally registered shall make proper annotations in the document and in the  
24 applicable registry book. The CIVIL REGISTRAR'S OFFICE which has jurisdiction over the  
25 original registry shall send a certified true copy of the annotated document and the  
26 registered court order to the CRG.

27 Each corrected document shall be reported to the Office of the CRG during the usual  
28 reporting month.

29 All court order shall be registered within thirty (30) days after its finality, otherwise  
30 it shall be considered as delayed registration.

31 All court orders shall be effected through annotations in the civil registry document  
32 except in an adoption case when the child shall be entitled to the issuance of an amended  
33 COLB

34 *Sec. 26. Registration of a Child Born Abroad to at Least One Filipino Parent.* – The  
35 parents shall cause the registration of the birth of their child to the Philippine Consulate

1 which in turn shall issue a Report of Birth within thirty (30) calendar days from date of  
2 birth of a Filipino child. Declaring the following when available:

- 3 a) Full name of the child;
- 4 b) Sex;
- 5 c) Date of birth;
- 6 d) Place of birth or where found;
- 7 e) Name of mother;
- 8 f) Citizenship of the mother;
- 9 g) Name of father;
- 10 k.) Citizenship of the father;
- 11 l.) Date and place of marriage of parents; and
- 12 m.) Such other data as may be required in the implementing rules and regulations  
13 of this Act.

14 *Sec. 27. Registration of Persons without Known Parents.* – All without known  
15 parents, guardians or relatives, or a person committed in an orphanage or charitable  
16 institution with unknown facts of birth and parentage, shall be reported by the finder to  
17 the Barangay Chairperson or any member of the Barangay Council for the Protection of  
18 Children (BCPC) of the place where the person was found, or to the Philippine National  
19 Police (PNP) Women and Children’s Protection Desk (WCPD), whichever is nearer or  
20 convenient to the finder, stating the facts and circumstances surrounding the finding of  
21 the person. When the report is duly noted, the finder shall bring the child to the nearest  
22 Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) office in the region, for proper  
23 screening, assessment and evaluation by an authorized social worker within fifteen (15)  
24 calendar days from the date of finding or commitment of the child. The finder shall  
25 execute a sworn statement before the Barangay Captain stating the facts and  
26 circumstances surrounding the finding of the person.

27 In case of foundlings found in Philippine Consulates, embassies and territories, the  
28 relevant Philippine Consulate shall abide by the eventual State policy (by virtue of this  
29 Act) on foundling.

30 The finder or charitable institution concerned shall cause the registration before the  
31 CIVIL REGISTRAR’S OFFICE where such person was found within thirty (30) calendar  
32 days from the date of entrustment to the institution.

33 Any report made after the thirty-day period shall be considered late registration,  
34 and the concerned party shall be required to state in a sworn statement the circumstances  
35 that caused the late reporting to the civil registrar.

1           Should the foundling become adopted, the Local Civil Registrar shall stamp the  
2 simulated birth record "cancelled" with an annotation of the issuance of a new rectified  
3 certificate of birth in its place. The rectified birth certificate bearing the names of the  
4 biological parents of the child or the foundling certificate shall then likewise be stamped  
5 "cancelled" with the annotation of the issuance of a new birth record in its place, and  
6 shall be sealed in the civil registry records. Thereafter, the Local Civil Registrar shall  
7 record, register, and issue a new certificate of birth which shall not bear any notation that  
8 it is a new or amended issue, as stated in RA 11222, Sec. 12.

9           Sec. 28. *Registration of Adoption.* – The decree of adoption shall be recorded in  
10 the civil register within thirty (30) days after the date of issue of the final judgment of  
11 the court.

12           After registration of the decree of adoption, the CIVIL REGISTRAR'S OFFICE where  
13 the birth of the adopted was registered shall immediately issue an amended COLB.

14           Such COLB of an adopted child shall not bear any mark or annotation or any  
15 indication of the facts of adoption. It shall have the same entries as those appearing in  
16 the original records of birth, except for the following items of information:

17           a) Name of the adopted – The first name of the adopted child shall be the same  
18 as in the original COLB unless the order of adoption carried an order changing it  
19 to another name. The middle name of the adopted child shall be the same as the  
20 middle name of the adopter, except when the husband and the wife jointly adopted  
21 the child, in which case, the middle name of the adopted shall be the surname of  
22 the adopting mother.

23           The surname of the adopted child shall be that of the adopter. If the husband and  
24 wife jointly adopt the child, the adopted child shall use the surname of the adopting  
25 father.

26           b) Names of parents – The names of the natural parents of the adopted child shall  
27 be substituted by the names of the adopting parents, to be indicated in the  
28 appropriate spaces in the COLB as the father or mother, as the case maybe; and

29           c) Other information – Other information about the adopting parents such as  
30 citizenship and religion shall be indicated in the appropriate spaces of the amended  
31 certificate of live birth.

32           The birth order of the adopted and other information about the adopted shall  
33 follow the information given by the adopting parents, unless the court order states  
34 otherwise. In cases where legally married husband and wife jointly adopt the child,  
35 the date and place of marriage of the adopting parents shall be entered in the  
36 appropriate spaces of the amended certificate of live birth of the adopted child.

1 In all cases of adoption, no amendment or changes shall be effected in the civil  
2 registry books where the original birth records were duly registered, except for the  
3 marginal annotation by virtue of the adoption decree.

4 In case the adopted child has no known parents, the basis for the issuance of the  
5 amended COLB shall be the court order.

6 In cases of the adopted child via administrative adoption on cases of the  
7 rectification of simulated birth, pursuant to Article V of the Simulated Birth  
8 Rectification Act:

9 a) *On Civil Registry Records for Rectified Simulated Birth, Article V, Sec 21, RA*  
10 *11222.* Upon receipt, the Local Civil Registrar shall stamp the simulated  
11 birth record, "cancelled", with annotations of the issuance of the rectified  
12 birth record. These applies to birth certificates bearing the name of the  
13 biological parents of the child , foundling certificate and any COLB of the  
14 child prior the simulated birth.

15 b) *On Issuance of New Birth Certificate for Rectified Simulated Birth, Article V,*  
16 *Sec 22, RA 11222.* New Certificate of Live Birth shall be issued through the  
17 Local Civil Registrar for purposes of record, and registration, without  
18 bearing any notation that it is new or amended. The new COLB, shall  
19 indicate the following information: Place of Registration, Birth Order, Name  
20 of Adoptive Parent/s, age, Date and Place of marriage (when applicable),  
21 Informant and Person who prepared the new COLB.

22 The LCR shall immediately transmit said COLB to the PSA to be included in  
23 the registry of adoptions, including the number of cancelled simulated birth  
24 registrations.

25 *Sec. 29. Registration of Presumptive Death.* – A judicial order or decree declaring  
26 a person presumably dead for purposes of remarriage shall be registered in the office of  
27 the local civil registrar of the place where the marriage was solemnized. It shall be  
28 annotated and recorded. The registration shall be annotated in the marriage register as  
29 well as in the marriage certificate.

30 *Sec. 30. Registration of Foreign Court Orders Decided Abroad.* – All foreign court  
31 orders involving status of persons residing in the Philippines shall be registered before  
32 the CIVIL REGISTRAR'S OFFICE where the affected document is registered. These foreign  
33 court orders, to be legal and binding in Philippine jurisdiction, must first be recognized by  
34 the appropriate embassy of such country in here in the Philippines or Regional Trial Court  
35 or which has the lawful jurisdiction over such case.

1           The Supreme Court Order ( Republic vs. Manalo (G. R. 221029, April 24, 2018) on  
2 recognizing Foreign Divorce Obtained by a Filipino, consistent to Article 26(2) of the  
3 Family Code, granting the Filipino spouse the right to remarry shall be upheld by this  
4 policy.

5           Sec. 31. *Registration of Legal Instruments.* – As a general rule, all legal  
6 instruments shall be registered in the civil registry of the place where they were executed  
7 except for the following:

- 8           a) Affidavit of Reappearance – where the parties to the subsequent marriage are  
9           residing;  
10           b) Marriage Settlement – where the marriage is recorded;  
11           c) Admission of Paternity, Acknowledgment, Legitimation, Voluntary Emancipation of  
12           Minor, Artificial Insemination – where the birth of child was recorded.

13           Sec. 32. *Registration of Affidavit of Reappearance.* – A sworn statement of the  
14 facts and circumstances of reappearance of the absentee spouse shall be recorded in the  
15 civil registry office where subsequent marriage of the present spouse was recorded, at  
16 the instance of any interested person, with due notice to the spouses of the subsequent  
17 marriage and without prejudice to the fact of reappearance being judicially determined  
18 in cases where such a fact is disputed.

19           Sec. 33. *Registration of Affidavit of Acknowledgment or Affidavit of Admission of*  
20 *Paternity.* – It shall be the duty of parents or parent who executed the affidavit of  
21 acknowledgment to send the original copy to the CIVIL REGISTRAR'S OFFICE where the  
22 entries on the birth of the child were recorded for registration in the Register of Legal  
23 Instruments and for proper annotation in the Register of Births.

24           Sec. 34. *Registration of Repatriation.* – The instrument of repatriation and the oath  
25 of allegiance to the Constitution and the Government of the Philippines, shall be filed in  
26 the CIVIL REGISTRAR'S OFFICE of the place where the instrument was executed:  
27 Provided, That if the Philippine citizenship is reacquired by naturalization, the order of the  
28 court or any mandated (omnibus) authority granting citizenship shall be recorded in the  
29 Register of Court Order.

30           Sec. 35. *Civil Registry Documents as Public Documents.* – The registry books  
31 making up the civil register, the office files in hard copies and its corresponding digital  
32 files of the CIVIL REGISTRAR'S OFFICES, certifications or certified copies from these files  
33 and all other documents relating thereto shall be considered public documents and shall  
34 be prima facie evidence of the truth of the facts therein contained. These public  
35 documents, except those documents which are to be kept strictly confidential as provided  
36 for under this act and other applicable laws shall be opened to the public during office

1 hours and shall be kept in a secured place which shall be furnished to civil registrar at  
2 the expenses of the funds of the civil registrar's office, Philippine consulate office, or  
3 Shari'a court concerned.

4 The civil registrar shall not, under any circumstances, permit any document  
5 entrusted to his care to be removed from his office, except upon lawful order of the court,  
6 in which case the proper receipt shall be secured.

7 *Sec. 36. Digital/Electronic Reporting of Births, Death and Marriages.* – There shall  
8 be a compulsory reporting of all occurrences of Births, Deaths, and Marriages from all  
9 Barangays of the Philippines. As Barangay Registration Agents, all Barangay Secretaries  
10 or their authorized representatives are hereby mandated to report these events using  
11 appropriate and duly-inspected secure electronic devices to the LCR/PSA and other  
12 government agencies mandated by law to monitor the status of registration of vital civil  
13 registry events and shall assist the subsequent registration thereof. Continuing skills  
14 training relevant to Digital/Electronic Reporting of Births, Death and Marriages of  
15 Barangay Registration Agents shall be provided by the PSA, LGU, PACR and other  
16 accredited government and private institutions and organizations. This training shall equip  
17 Barangay Registration Agents with the knowledge and skills needed to properly  
18 implement digital/electronic civil registration.

19 *Sec. 37. Development of National Civil Registry Database (NCRD) Software.* – The  
20 National Government thru the National Computer Center in close coordination with the  
21 PSA, the PACR, and the DILG shall develop official software responsive to the NCRD  
22 implementation. Participation and assistance of international and local private  
23 organizations having parallel objectives on the full development of digital civil registration  
24 may be sought in the development of this software. Among other features, this software  
25 shall include the highest degree of data security to ensure the integrity of its database.

26 *Sec. 38. Digitization of all Civil Registry Files.* – All registered documents in the  
27 LCR/PSA shall be digitized. In addition to the usual reports and forwarding of the printed  
28 hard copy files, digitized files shall also be submitted to the PSA as back up files of the  
29 National Civil Registry Database (NCRD), for digital archiving purposes.

30 *Sec. 39. False Statements.* – Any person who shall knowingly make false  
31 statements in the furnished forms and present the same for entry in the civil registers  
32 shall be penalized in accordance with law unless it was done for the best interest of the  
33 child.

34 False statements on the rectification of simulated birth of the child, granted that  
35 simulation was made at the best interest of the child, shall be granted amnesty pursuant  
36 to the *Simulated Birth Rectification Act, RA 11222.*



1           Sec. 40. *Digitization of Linkages and Interconnection of All Participating LCR/PSA.*

2   – All capable LCR/PSA shall be interconnected to facilitate retrieval, online certifications,  
3   and for local government revenue generation using LGU-linked NCRD digital files.  
4   Participating LCR/PSA are hereby authorized to issue certifications from NCRD for and in  
5   behalf of other LCR/PSA subject to pertinent laws, rules or regulations on the  
6   confidentiality of birth records.

7           Sec. 41. *Penal Provisions.* – Persons in authority who knowingly fail to perform  
8   their duties in relation to this Act shall be held administratively liable in accordance to  
9   law.

10          Any solemnizing officer without being authorized by the Civil Registrar General or  
11   who, upon solemnizing marriage, refuses to exhibit his authority to solemnize marriage  
12   when called upon to do so by the parties or parents, grandparents, guardians or persons  
13   having charge of the parties; or any bishop or officer, priest, minister, or imam, of any  
14   church, religion or sect, the regulations and practices whereof require bans or publication  
15   previous to the solemnization of marriage that is subsequently declared illegal, or any  
16   solemnizing officer in violation of this Act, shall be punished with imprisonment of not  
17   less than six (6) months but not to exceed three (3) years, a fine of not less than Fifty  
18   Thousand Pesos (Php 50,000.00) but not more than One Hundred Thousand Pesos (Php  
19   100,000.00), or both, and the revocation of the authority to solemnize marriage, upon  
20   the discretion of the Court.

21          The attending physician, midwife, nurse, birth attendant, hospital administrator in-  
22   charged to cause the registration of live births but knowingly fails or withholds the delivery  
23   of copies of the certificate/s of live birth to the city or municipal civil registrar for  
24   registration, or any person who caused the failure of delivery, shall be penalized by  
25   imprisonment of not more than six (6) months and a fine of not less than Fifty Thousand  
26   Pesos (Php 50,000.00), or both, upon the discretion of the Court.

27          Sec. 42. *Withholding of documents due to Non-payment of hospital fees.* – In  
28   no case shall failure to settle hospital bills, in full or in part, be a ground for non-delivery  
29   or withholding of the certificate of live birth or certificate of death or documents required  
30   in the issuance of the said certificates.

31          Sec. 43. *Use of Fees and Income Collected.* – All fees that are remitted to the  
32   PSA by the National Treasury and all income that the PSA is allowed to retain under law  
33   shall, any provision of law to the contrary notwithstanding, be used primarily for operating  
34   expenses including capital outlay, upgrading of its current facilities, acquisition of office  
35   and space, and establishment of satellite offices in the provinces, and other activities or  
36   services the PSA in the performance of its mandate needs.

1           Sec. 44. *Transitory Provisions.* – The PSA shall carry out the reorganization of  
2 the civil registrars in such a manner that personnel of such office absorbed by the PSA  
3 shall continue to perform their respective duties and responsibilities in a holdover capacity  
4 so as not to unduly delay the production of statistics from ongoing censuses, surveys and  
5 processing of administrative record.

6           Sec. 45. *Appropriations.* – There shall be an initial appropriation of One Hundred  
7 Fifty Million Pesos (Php 150,000,000.00) in the General Appropriations Act, which will be  
8 included in the PSA’s budget for the initial development of software and the digitization  
9 of the CIVIL REGISTRAR’S OFFICE files.

10          The Local Government Units shall allocate a portion of its Internal Revenue  
11 Allocation (IRA) in order to assist the City/Municipal Civil Registry and the staffing of the  
12 Barangay Civil Registration System, in particular the Barangay Civil Registration Assistant  
13 (BRCA).

14          Sec. 46. *Mandatory Review.* – This Act shall undergo a mandatory review on its  
15 provisions every five (5) years to make the law more responsive to the needs of the  
16 times. The review shall be made by Congress, which shall conduct public hearings and  
17 record relevant testimonies of functionaries in the civil registration system, which shall be  
18 the basis of any amendment or modification of this Act.

19          Sec. 47. *Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR).* – Within sixty (60) days  
20 from the effectivity of this Act, the PSA, shall promulgate the IRR for the effective  
21 implementation of this Act. The PSA may consult with the Department of Foreign Affairs,  
22 Department of Interior and Local Government, Department of Justice(DOJ), Department  
23 of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD), National Commission of Muslim  
24 Filipinos(NCMF), the Office of the Supreme Court Administrator, the University of the  
25 Philippines Law Center, a national professional organization of local civil registrars duly  
26 registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission, the National Privacy  
27 Commission, the Department of Health, the Office of Solicitor General, the National  
28 Commission on Indigenous Peoples ( NCIP), the Child Rights Network ( CRN), the  
29 Commission on Human Rights (CHR), the Bureau of Immigration ( BIR), the Council for  
30 the Welfare of Children (CWC), the National Council of Disability Affairs (NCDA), the  
31 Commission on Filipinos Overseas(CFO), the Department of Education ( DepEd),the  
32 Overseas Workers Welfare Administration ( OWWA), related child caring agencies,  
33 international agencies, civil society organizations, related ministries of the Bangsamoro  
34 Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao ( BARMM) and such other agencies in the  
35 formulation of the IRR. Other relevant stakeholders may also be consulted in the crafting  
36 of the IRR.

1           Sec. 48. *Separability Clause.* – If any part or provision of this Act which shall be  
2 held to be invalid or unconstitutional, other parts or provisions hereof which are not  
3 affected thereby shall continue to be in full force and effect.

4           Sec. 49. *Repealing Clause.* – Act No. 3753 or the Law on Registry of Civil Status  
5 is repealed. Sec. 453, 454, and 479 of the RA 7160 or the Local Government Code of  
6 1991 are also hereby repealed. All other laws, rules, regulations, orders, memoranda or  
7 circulars inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed and modified accordingly.

8           Sec. 50. *Retroactivity.* – This Act shall have retroactive effect insofar as it does  
9 not prejudice or impair vested or acquired rights.

10          Sec. 51. *Effectivity.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its  
11 publication in the Official Gazette or in any newspapers of general circulation.

12          Sec. 52. *Construction.* – In the interpretation of this law, the best interest of the  
13 child shall prevail.

Approved,