

NINETEENTH CONGRESS OF THE )  
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES )  
Second Regular Session )



23 JUL 20 P2 :40

**SENATE**  
**S. No. 2338**

RECEIVED BY:

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Introduced by Senator MARK A. VILLAR

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**AN ACT**  
**INCORPORATING SCAM PREVENTION EDUCATION IN THE SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL CURRICULA, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

It is without doubt that cybercrime is one of the greatest threats against the Filipino people. The higher exposure of individuals to online platforms has prompted fraudsters to recalibrate their approach to target more people.

According to the Philippine National Police<sup>1</sup>, incidents of cybercrime in Metro Manila in the first half of 2023 increased by 152% compared to the same period last year. Data shows that out of 6,250 reported cybercrimes, 4,446 were instances of online scam, 1,063 were incidents of illegal access, while 625 were cases of ATM or credit card fraud.

As such, it is imperative for the Government to develop an intelligible, encompassing, and strategic response to the present and potential cyber security risks that may arise from these ever progressing dangers.

Although fraudsters usually target adults, the youth are highly vulnerable to fraudulent schemes.

This bill seeks the protection of youth against fraud through integration of scam prevention education in the school curriculum of senior high schools. It is the hope of this measure to educate the young generation with information on existing and

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<sup>1</sup> News, G. I. (2023, July 9). *Cybercrime incidents in NCR up by 152% in 2023 —PNP*. GMA News Online. <https://www.gmanetwork.com/news/topstories/metro/875252/cybercrime-incidents-in-ncr-up-by-152-in-2023-pnp/story/>

possible fraudulent schemes and develop their critical thinking skills to spot the same and to protect themselves from exploitative scammers.


In view of the foregoing, the approval of this bill is earnestly sought.



**MARK A. VILLAR**

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*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 "Scam Prevention  
2 Education Act of 2023."

3           *Sec. 2. Declaration of Policy.* – It is declared a policy of the State to serve and  
4 protect the people, and to recognize the vital role of communication and information  
5 in nation building.

6           Towards this end, this measure aims to protect the youth and/or students  
7 against fraud by educating them of existing and possible fraudulent schemes and  
8 develop their critical thinking skills..

9           *Sec. 3. Coverage.* – This Act shall apply to all senior high school graduating  
10 students for both public and private school.

11           *Sec. 4. Scam Prevention Education.* – The Department of Education(DepEd), in  
12 consultation with the Department of Information and Communications Technology  
13 (DICT), Philippine National Police (PNP), National Bureau of Investigation (NBI), and  
14 other concerned government agencies, shall develop and implement a comprehensive  
15 Scam Prevention Education Program, which shall be made part of the Senior High  
16 School curriculum in both public and private schools.

1            *Sec. 5. Appropriation.* – The amount necessary for the effective implementation  
2 of this Act shall be charged against the appropriation of DepEd, under the current  
3 General Appropriations Act. Such amount as may be necessary for its continued  
4 implementation shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

5            *Sec. 6. Implementing Rules and Regulations.* – The DepEd, in coordination with  
6 the other pertinent government agencies, shall promulgate rules and regulations  
7 necessary for the implementation of this Act within ninety (90) days from its effectivity.

8            *Sec. 7. Separability Clause.* – Any portion or provisions of this Act that may be  
9 declared unconstitutional or invalid and shall not have the effect of nullifying other  
10 portions or provisions hereof as long as such

11           *Sec. 8. Repealing Clause.* – All laws, presidential decrees, executive orders,  
12 memoranda, circulars, and other issuances, or parts thereof, which are inconsistent  
13 with the Act, are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

14           *Sec. 9. Effectivity.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its  
15 publication in the Official Gazette or in two (2) newspaper of general circulation.

*Approved,*