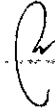


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SENATE

S. B. No. **2080**

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**Introduced by SENATOR PIA S. CAYETANO**

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**EXPLANATORY NOTE**

The United Nations, in which the Philippines is a founding member, adopted Resolution 54/134 which designated November 25 of each year as the International Day for Elimination of Violence Against Women.

As early as 1999, women organizations in the Philippines have been commemorating November 25 as the International Day Against Violence Against Women. Consciousness raising activities have been conducted to highlight the issue of violence against women.

Gender violence is one of the most pervasive problems of women worldwide. In the Philippines, the Department of Social Welfare and Development serviced 5,608 women victims of various types of abuses in 2002 as opposed to 4,698 in 2001. This accounts for a 20% increase in the number of victims of violence. From January to March 2003, about 17 women and children were raped each day compared to 14 women and children during the same quarter in 2002.

This bill, if enacted into law, will declare November 25 as a National Consciousness Day for Elimination of Violence Against Women. It aims to raise awareness on the urgency to address the problem of violence against women.

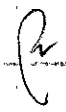
For these reasons, approval of this Bill is urgently sought.

  
SENATOR PIA S. CAYETANO

10 JUL 27 10:18

**SENATE**

S.B. No. **2080**

RECEIVED BY: 

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**Introduced by SENATOR PIA S. CAYETANO**

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

*Be it enacted by the Senate and the 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".

SEC. 2. The following activities shall be undertaken in observance of this occasion:

(a) Heads of government agencies and instrumentalities, government-owned and – controlled corporations, 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, and the elimination of all 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 television and radio networks nationwide are encouraged to allocate airtime for the said programs.

(c) Publishers of local newspapers and magazines are encouraged to highlight the problem of violence, 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 other nongovernmental organizations and people's 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, and the elimination of all forms of violence, against women.

SEC. 3. The National Statistics Office, the Philippine National Police, the Department of Social Welfare and Development, the Department of Foreign Affairs and all 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.

SEC. 4. Funds for the implementation of the aforestated activities, programs and projects shall be taken out of the five percent (5%) Gender and Development budget allocated to all government agencies and local government units.

SEC. 5. 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.

SEC. 6. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days following its publication in two national newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,