FOURTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES Second Regular Session

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SENATE

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Senate Bill No. 3145

INTRODUCED BY SEN. MANNY VILLAR

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Theft, robbery and destruction of public school property are more than just crimes against public property. They certainly constitute brazen assault on our educational institutions and a grievous attack to our country's educational system.

Given that the materials involved are vital components of the educational process, such crimes undermine the education of our children, jeopardize their future and threaten to derail the government's avowed mission to provide quality education to all Filipinos.

This bill will increase the jail time and monetary penalties for felons convicted of theft, robbery and destruction of public school property. In view of the security vulnerabilities of our schools, there is undoubtedly an urgent need for a stronger deterrent against such crimes.

This proposed legislative measure, if enacted into law, will certainly provide that much-needed deterrent.

Hence, the passage of this bill is hereby earnestly sought.

FOURTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE **REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES** Second Regular Session

9 MAR 31 P3 1/2

SENATE

RECEIVEE

3145Senate Bill No.

INTRODUCED BY SEN. MANNY VILLAR

AN ACT

PROVIDING STIFFER PENALTIES FOR THEFT, ROBBERY AND DESTRUCTION OF PUBLIC SCHOOL PROPERTY

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 "Public School 1 2 Security Act of 2008".

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SEC. 2. Definition of Terms. -

a. "School property" refers to all buildings, grounds and other property, real 4 and personal, which belong to apublic school, whether the property is acquired 5 through public funds, loans, donations or lease. 6

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b. "Public School" refers to all state-owned schools, colleges and universities.

SEC. 3. Penalty for Theft and Robbery of School Property. - Any person 8 convicted of the crime of theft or robbery as defined under Chapters One and Three 9 of Title Ten of the Revised Penal Code of any school property shall be punished by 10 the penalty next higher in degree than those respectively specified in the 11 12 aforementioned articles of the Revised Penal Code: Provided, That the additional penalty specified herein shall no longer be made applicable if the imposable penalty 13 is in its maximum period. 14

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SEC. 4. Penalty for Destruction of School Property. - A public school building shall be considered a building of public ownership devoted to the use of public in 16 general under Article 320 of the Revised Penal Code. Any person sho shall burn a 17 public school building shall be convicted of the crime of destructive arson as defined 18 in Article 320 of the Revised Penal Code. 19

SEC. 5. Penalty for Special Case of Malicious Mischief. - Destruction to 20 21 school property not covered by the immediately preceding Sections shall be

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considered a special case of malicious mischief under Chapter Nine of Title Ten of
the Revised Penal Code. Any person who shall cause damage to school property
shall be punished with the penalty next higher in degree than those specified in
Articles 328 and 329 of the Revised Penal Code.

SEC. 6. Penalty for Public Officials. - If the person convicted of the crimes 5 referred in this Act is a public official as defined in Republic Act No. 6713 or the 6 Code of Conduct and Ethical Standards for Public Officials and Employees, the 7 additional penalty of perpetual disgualification from public office shall be imposed. 8 Conviction of a public officer under this Act is without prejudice to criminal 9 prosecution and/or administrative proceedings under applicable Civil Service laws 10 and regulations, Republic Act No. 6713, and Republic Act No. 3019 or the Anti-Graft 11 and Corrupt Practices Act. 12

SEC. 7. *Repealing Clause.* – All laws, decrees, orders, rules and regulations,
and other issuances or parts thereof which are inconsistent with this Act are hereby
repealed or modified accordingly.

16 SEC. 8. Separability Clause. – If any portion of this Act is declared 17 unconstitutional, the remainder of this Act or any provision not affected thereby shall 18 remain in force and effect.

19 SEC. 9. *Effectivity Clause*. – This Act shall take effect 15 days after its 20 complete publication in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

21 Approved,