



Senate
Office of the Secretary

SIXTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC)
OF THE PHILIPPINES)
First Regular Session)

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SENATE
S. No. 1871

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Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

EXPLANATORY NOTE

In 2011, lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) activists submitted to the United Nations two reports on the human rights violations against LGBT people in the Philippines. In the first report named "The Status of LGBT Rights in the Philippines, Submission to the Human Rights Council for the Universal Periodic Review 13th Session," the groups Rainbow Rights Project (R-Rights) and the Philippine LGBT Hate Crime Watch (PLHCW) co-authored a documentation of different abuses based on sexual orientation and gender identity in the country since 2007. The second report entitled "A Report on Violations of Human Rights Based on Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity in the Philippines" was authored by the Progressive Organization of Gays in the Philippines (ProGay).

These reports highlight the very real and pressing problem confronting the LGBT community in the Philippines. There can be no true and meaningful democracy if we continue to systematically oppress the LGBT community and turn a blind eye to the abuses committed against them. This bill seeks to address these problems and correct the impression that the Government is powerless to help the LGBT sector. It seeks to create an LGBT desk in every police station to ensure that victims of hate crimes or sexually oriented crimes will have a place they can seek out for assistance.

Miriam Defensor Santiago
MIRIAM DEFENSOR SANTIAGO



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1 AN ACT
2 AMENDING REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8551, ALSO KNOWN AS THE "PHILIPPINE
3 NATIONAL POLICE REFORM AND REORGANIZATION ACT OF 1998,"
4 TO CREATE LGBT PROTECTION DESKS IN ALL POLICE STATIONS

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

5 SECTION 1. Title 7 of Republic Act No. 8551, also known as the "Philippine National
6 Police Reform and Reorganization Act of 1998," is hereby amended to read as follows:

7 "Title VII

8 Creation of Women's **AND LGBT** Desks in All Police Stations and
9 the Formulation of a Gender Sensitivity Program"

10 SECTION 2. Section 57 of the same Act is also amended to read as follows:

11 "Section 57. *Creation and Functions.* – The PNP shall establish women's
12 **AND LESBIAN, GAY, BISEXUAL, AND TRANSGENDERS' (LGBT)** desks
13 in all police stations throughout the country to administer and attend to cases
14 involving crimes against chastity, sexual harassment, **HATE CRIMES**, abuses
15 committed against women, [and] children, **AND MEMBERS OF THE LGBT**
16 **COMMUNITY**, and other similar offenses: Provided, That municipalities and
17 cities presently without policewomen will have two (2) years upon the effectivity
18 of this Act within which to comply with the requirement of this provision."

19 SECTION 3. *Repealing Clause.* – Any law, presidential decree or issuance, executive
20 order, letter of instruction, administrative order, rule or regulation contrary to or inconsistent
21 with this Act is hereby repealed, modified, or amended accordingly.

1 SECTION 4. *Effectivity Clause.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its
2 publication in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Adopted,