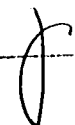


SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS)
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
First Regular Session)

Senate
Office of the Secretary

16 JUL 18 P6:02

SENATE

RECEIVED BY: 

S. B. No. 386

Introduced by SENATOR LOREN LEGARDA

**AN ACT RECOGNIZING SERIOUS PHYSICAL AND SEXUAL ABUSE AS
GROUND FOR LEGAL SEPARATION, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE
ARTICLE 55 (1) OF THE FAMILY CODE OF THE PHILIPPINES**

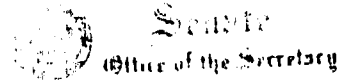
Explanatory Note

This measure seeks to recognize serious physical and sexual abuse as additional ground for legal separation under Article 55(1) of the Family Code of the Philippines. Our current law considers only "repeated physical violence or grossly abusive conduct" as ground for legal separation.

To improve the plight of battered wives and help them avoid further abuse, immediate passage of this bill is requested.


LOREN LEGARDA
Senator

SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS)
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**AN ACT RECOGNIZING SERIOUS PHYSICAL AND SEXUAL ABUSE AS
GROUND FOR LEGAL SEPARATION, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE
ARTICLE 55 (1) OF THE FAMILY CODE OF THE PHILIPPINES**

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

- 1 **SECTION 1.** Article 55 Section 1 is hereby amended to read as follows:
2
3 “(1) **SERIOUS PHYSICAL OR SEXUAL VIOLENCE**, repeated
4 physical violence or grossly abusive conduct directed against the
5 petitioner, a common child, or a child of the petitioner;”
6
7 **SEC. 2. Separability Clause.** – If any provision of this Act is declared
8 unconstitutional, the same shall not affect the validity and effectivity of
9 other provisions thereof.
10
11 **SEC. 3. Effectivity.** – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days following
12 its publication in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.
13
14 Approved,
15