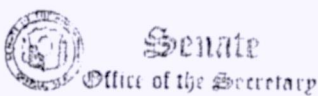


EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE }  
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES }  
First Regular Session }



SENATE  
S.B. No. 238

'19 JUL -8 A11 :58

RECEIVED BY

INTRODUCED BY SENATOR VICENTE C. SOTTO III

AN ACT  
AMENDING REPUBLIC ACT 8972 OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE ACT  
PROVIDING FOR BENEFITS AND PRIVILEGES TO SOLO PARENTS AND  
THEIR CHILDREN, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR  
OTHER PURPOSES

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Parenting is a very challenging undertaking, and more so to a single parent. Raising a child entails hard work, especially in this time and age where most parents struggle to balance their time and career to make ends meet while rearing their children. Parents' aims to be a good role model to their children, provide for their everyday needs, equip them for the future and mold them to become a responsible member of the society.

Solo parents instantaneously assume a new role both as mother and father. They strive to avoid disruptions and maintain a sense of normalcy for the family despite financial constraints, emotional turmoil and battling with the stigma of being a solo parent.

It is the policy of our State as declared in Article II Section 12 of the 1987 constitution that:

"The State recognizes the sanctity of family life and shall protect and strengthen the family as a basic autonomous social

institution. It shall equally protect the life of the mother and the life of the unborn from conception. The natural and primary right and duty of parents in the rearing of the youth for civic efficiency and the development of moral character shall receive the support of the Government.”

Thus, to alleviate the challenges faced by every solo parent in this country, it is fitting to amend the Solo Parent Act of 2000. This amendment seeks to make the law more efficient and suitable to the present needs of the parents in raising their children by themselves.

In this regard, it is for the benefit of some fourteen (14) Million solo parents whom single-handedly raised their children<sup>1</sup> that passage of this bill is earnestly sought.

  
VICENTE C. SOTTO III

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<sup>1</sup> <http://www.pressreader.com/philippines/manila-bulletin/20160828/282144995770997>


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

1 **Section 1.** *Title.* - This Act shall be known as the "**EXPANDED** Solo Parents'  
2 Welfare Act" 

3 **Section 2.** *Declaration of Policy.* - It is the policy of the State to promote the  
4 family as the foundation of the nation, strengthen its solidarity and ensure  
5 its total development. **IT IS ALSO THE OBLIGATION OF THE STATE TO**  
6 **ADHERE TO INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENTS AND NATIONAL LAWS ON**  
7 **FAMILIES.** Towards this end, it shall develop a comprehensive [program of]  
8 **PACKAGE OF SOCIAL PROTECTION** services for solo parents and their  
9 children to be carried out by the Department of Social Welfare and  
10 Development (DSWD), the Department of Health (DOH), **THE**  
11 **DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE (DOJ)**, the [Department of Education, Culture  
12 and Sports (DECS)] **DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION (DEPED)**, the  
13 Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG), the Commission  
14 on Higher Education (CHED), the Technical Education and Skills  
15 Development Authority (TESDA), the National Housing Authority (NHA), the  
16 Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE), **THE DEPARTMENT OF**  
17 **TRADE AND INDUSTRY (DTI), THE BUREAU OF INTERNAL REVENUES**  
18 **(BIR), CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION (CSC), THE NATIONAL ECONOMIC**



1 **DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (NEDA), THE PHILIPPINE COMMISSION ON**  
2 **WOMEN (PCW), THE PHILIPPINE HEALTH INSURANCE CORPORATION**  
3 **(PHILHEALTH), THE UNION OF LOCAL AUTHORITIES (ULAP), and other**  
4 [related] **CONCERNED** government [and nongovernment agencies.]

5 **AGENCIES AND CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANIZATIONS WITH RECOGNIZED**  
6 **CREDENTIALS IN PROVIDING SERVICES AND ADVOCACY FOR SOLO**  
7 **PARENTS.**

8 **Section 3. Definition of Terms.** - Whenever used in this Act, the following  
9 terms shall mean as follows:

10 (a) "Solo parent" - any individual who falls under any of the following  
11 categories:

12 (1) A [woman] **FEMALE** who gives birth as a result of rape and other crimes  
13 against [chastity] **PERSONS** even without a final conviction of the  
14 offender: *Provided*, That the mother [keeps and raises the child] **HAS THE**  
15 **CUSTODY OF THE CHILD OR CHILDREN AND BEARS THE SOLE**  
16 **PARENTAL RESPONSIBILITY;**

17 (2) Parent left solo or alone with the responsibility of parenthood due to  
18 [death of spouse] **THE FOLLOWING CIRCUMSTANCES:**

19 **A. DEATH OF THE SPOUSE;**

20 **B. [(3) Parent left solo or alone with the responsibility of**  
21 **parenthood while] Spouse is detained or is serving sentence for a**  
22 **criminal conviction [for at least one (1) year];**

23 **C. [(4) Parent left solo or alone with the responsibility of**  
24 **parenthood due to] Physical and/or mental incapacity of spouse**  
25 **as certified by a public OR PRIVATE medical practitioner;**

26 **D. [(5) Parent left solo or alone with the responsibility of**  
27 **parenthood due to] Legal separation or *de facto* separation from**



1 spouse; [for at least one (1) year, as long as he/she is entrusted  
2 with the custody of the children;]

3 E. [(6) Parent left solo or alone with the responsibility of  
4 parenthood due to] Declaration of nullity or annulment of  
5 marriage as decreed by [a] **THE court RECOGNIZED BY LAW** [or  
6 by a church as long as he/she is entrusted with the custody of  
7 the children;]

8 F. [(7) Parent left solo or alone with the responsibility of  
9 parenthood due to] Abandonment of spouse for at least [one (1)  
10 year] **SIX (6) MONTHS**;

11 **(3) [(8)]** Unmarried mother/father who has [preferred to keep and rear]  
12 **ACTUAL CUSTODY, SUPPORT, CARE AND EXERCISING SOLE**  
13 **PARENTAL AUTHORITY OVER HIS OR HER** child **OR** children instead of  
14 having others care for them or give them up to a welfare institution;

15 **(4) [(9)]** Any other person who [solely provides parental care and support to a  
16 child or children] **BEARS SOLE PARENTAL RESPONSIBILITY OVER A**  
17 **CHILD OR CHILDREN, PROVIDED HE OR SHE IS A FOSTER PARENT**  
18 **DULY-RECOGNIZED BY THE DSWD, A LEGAL GUARDIAN APPOINTED**  
19 **BY THE COURT OR A LEGAL SINGLE ADOPTIVE PARENT**;

20 **(5) (10)** Any family member who [assumes the] **BEARS SOLE PARENTAL**  
21 responsibility [of head of family] as a result of the death, abandonment,  
22 disappearance or prolonged absence of the parent/s. [or solo parent.] **IN**  
23 **CASES OF GRANDPARENTS WHO ARE SENIOR CITIZENS WHO HAS**  
24 **THE SOLE PARENTAL RESPONSIBILITY OVER THEIR MINOR OR**  
25 **PHYSICAL OR MENTALLY INCAPACITATED CHILDREN OR GRAND**  
26 **CHILDREN, THEY SHALL BE ENTITLED TO THE BENEFITS OF THIS**  
27 **ACT IN ADDITION TO THE BENEFITS GRANTED TO THEM BY THE**  
28 **EXPANDED SENIOR CITIZENS ACT OF 2003**;

1 A change in the status or circumstance of the parent **OR QUALIFIED**  
2 **FAMILY MEMBER OR GUARDIAN** claiming benefits under this Act, such  
3 that he/she is no longer left alone with the responsibility of parenthood,  
4 shall terminate his/her eligibility for these benefits.

5 (b) "Children **OR DEPENDENTS**" - refer to those living with and dependent  
6 upon the solo parent for support who are unmarried, unemployed and not  
7 more than eighteen (18) years of age, or even over eighteen (18) years but  
8 are incapable of self-support because of mental and/or physical  
9 defect/disability.

10 (c) "Parental responsibility" - with respect to their minor children shall refer  
11 to the rights and duties of the parents as defined in Article 220 of Executive  
12 Order No. 209, as amended, otherwise known as the "Family Code of the  
13 Philippines."

14 (d) "Parental leave" - shall mean leave benefits granted to a solo parent to  
15 enable him/her to perform parental duties and responsibilities where  
16 physical presence is required. **ALL LEGITIMATE SOLO PARENTS**  
17 **WORKING IN THE GOVERNMENT OR PRIVATE SECTOR SHALL BE**  
18 **QUALIFIED TO A SEVEN-DAY PARENTAL LEAVE WITH PAY.**

19 (e) "Flexible work schedule" - is the right granted to a solo parent employee  
20 to vary his/her arrival and departure time without affecting the core work  
21 hours as defined by the employer.

22 **(F) BASIC NECESSITIES – REFER TO RICE, CORN, BREAD, FRESH,**  
23 **DRIED AND CANNED FISH AND OTHER MARINE PRODUCTS, FRESH**  
24 **PORK, BEEF AND POULTRY, MEAT, FRESH EGGS, FRESH AND**  
25 **PROCESSED MILK, FRESH VEGETABLES, ROOT CROPS, COFFEE,**  
26 **SUGAR, COOKING OIL, SALT, LAUNDRY SOAP, DETERGENTS, AND**  
27 **DRUGS CLASSIFIED AS ESSENTIAL BY THE DOH AND OTHER**  
28 **COMMODITIES AS MAYBE CLASSIFIED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF**  
29 **TRADE AND INDUSTRY (DTI) AND THE DEPARTMENT OF**



1 **AGRICULTURE (DA) ACCORDING TO REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7581 OR THE**  
2 **PRICE ACT.**

3 **Section 4. Criteria for Support.** - Any solo parent whose income in the place  
4 of [domicile] **RESIDENCE** falls below the poverty threshold as set by the  
5 [National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA) and subject to the  
6 assessment of the DSWD worker] **PHILIPPINE STATISTICS AUTHORITY**  
7 **(PSA) AND SUBJECT TO THE ASSESSMENT OF THE LOCAL SOCIAL**  
8 **WELFARE AND DEVELOPMENT OFFICER** in the area **WHERE THE SOLO**  
9 **PARENT RESIDES** shall be eligible for **ADDITIONAL FINANCIAL** assistance  
10 **RESERVED FOR THE POOR AND INDIGENT SOLO PARENTS AS**  
11 **DETERMINED BY THE PROPER GOVERNMENT AGENCIES.** *Provided,*  
12 *[however, That any solo parent whose income is above the poverty threshold*  
13 *shall enjoy the benefits mentioned in Sections 6, 7 and 8 of this Act.]* **THAT**  
14 **ANY SOLO PARENT, REGARDLESS OF THE INCOME BRACKET OR**  
15 **FINANCIAL STATUS SHALL ENJOY THE BENEFITS UNDER THE**  
16 **COMPREHENSIVE PACKAGE OF SOCIAL PROTECTION SERVICES,**  
17 **SUCH AS BUT NOT LIMITED TO LIVELIHOOD OPPORTUNITIES, LEGAL**  
18 **ADVICE AND ASSISTANCE, COUNSELLING SERVICES, PARENT**  
19 **EFFECTIVENESS SERVICES, CRITICAL INCIDENCE STRESS**  
20 **DEBRIEFING AND OTHER SPECIAL PROJECTS MENTIONED IN**  
21 **SECTION 5 OF THIS ACT.**

22 **Section 5. Comprehensive Package of Social [Development and Welfare]**  
23 **PROTECTION Services.** - A comprehensive package of social [development  
24 and welfare] **PROTECTION** services for solo parents and their families [will]  
25 **SHALL** be developed by the DSWD, DOH, [DECS] **DEPED**, CHED, TESDA,  
26 DOLE, NHA, **DOJ**, **DTI**, **BIR**, **CSC**, **NEDA**, **PCW**, **PHILHEALTH**, **ULAP**,  
27 **DILG**, [in coordination with local government units and a nongovernmental  
28 organization with proven track record in providing services for solo parents.]  
29 **AND OTHER CONCERNED GOVERNMENT AGENCIES AND CIVIL**  
30 **SOCEITY ORGANIZATION WITH RECOGNIZED CREDENTIALS IN**  
31 **PROVIDING SERVICES TO SOLO PARENTS.**



1 The DSWD shall coordinate with concerned agencies the implementation of  
2 the comprehensive package of social [development and welfare]  
3 **PROTECTION** services for solo parents and their families. The package will  
4 initially include:

5 (a) Livelihood development services which include trainings on livelihood  
6 skills, basic business management, value orientation and the provision of  
7 seed capital or job placement;

8 (b) Counseling services which include individual, peer group or family  
9 counseling. This will focus on the resolution of personal relationship and  
10 role conflicts;

11 (c) Parent effectiveness services which include the provision and expansion  
12 of knowledge and skills of the solo parent on early childhood development,  
13 behavior management, health care, rights and duties of parents and  
14 children;

15 (d) Critical incidence stress debriefing which includes preventive stress  
16 management strategy designed to assist solo parents in coping with crisis  
17 situations and cases of abuse;

18 (e) Special projects for individuals in need of protection which include  
19 temporary shelter, counseling, legal assistance, medical care, self-concept or  
20 ego-building, crisis management and spiritual enrichment;

21 **(F) LEGAL ADVICE AND ASSISTANCE**

22 **Section 6. Flexible Work Schedule.** – The employer shall provide for a  
23 flexible working schedule for solo parents: Provided, That the same shall not  
24 affect individual and company productivity: *Provided, further,* That any  
25 employer may request exemption from the above requirements from the  
26 DOLE on certain meritorious grounds.

1 **Section 7. Work Discrimination.** - No employer shall discriminate against  
2 any solo parent employee with respect to terms and conditions of  
3 employment on account of his/her status.

4 **Section 8. Parental Leave.** - In addition to leave privileges under existing  
5 laws, parental leave of not more than seven (7) working days every year shall  
6 be granted to any solo parent employee who has rendered service of at least  
7 [one (1) year] **SIX (6) MONTHS. THIS BENEFIT MAY BE AVAILED IN**  
8 **BOTH THE PRIVATE OR GOVERNMENT SECTOR, REGARDLESS OF**  
9 **EMPLOYMENT STATUS.**

10 **Section 9. Educational Benefits.** - The [DECS] **DEPED**, CHED and TESDA  
11 shall provide the following benefits and privileges:

12 (1) Scholarship **AND/ OR GRANTS** [programs] for qualified solo parents and  
13 their children in institutions of basic, [tertiary and technical/skills  
14 education] **HIGHER AND TECHNICAL/ VOCATIONAL EDUCATIONAL AND**  
15 **TRAINING;** and

16 (2) Nonformal education programs appropriate for solo parents and their  
17 children.

18 The [DECS] **DEPED**, CHED and TESDA shall promulgate rules and  
19 regulations for the proper implementation of this program.

20 **Section 10. Housing Benefits.** - Solo parents shall be given allocation in  
21 housing projects and shall be provided with liberal terms of payment on said  
22 government low-cost housing projects in accordance with housing law  
23 provisions prioritizing applicants below the poverty line as declared by the  
24 [NEDA] **PHILIPPINE STATISTICS AUTHORITY.**

25 **Section 11. Medical Assistance.** - The DOH shall develop a comprehensive  
26 health care program for solo parents and their children. The program shall  
27 be implemented by the DOH through their retained hospitals and medical  
28 centers and the local government units (LGUs) through their  
29 provincial/district/city/municipal hospitals and rural health units (RHUs).



1 **Section 12.** *Additional Powers and Functions of the DSWD.* — The DSWD  
2 shall perform the following additional powers and functions relative to the  
3 welfare of solo parents and their families:

4 (a) Conduct research necessary to: (1) develop a new body of knowledge on  
5 solo parents; (2) define executive and legislative measures needed to  
6 promote and protect the interest of solo parents and their children; and (3)  
7 assess the effectiveness of programs designed for disadvantaged solo  
8 parents and their children;

9 (b) Coordinate the activities of various governmental and nongovernmental  
10 organizations engaged in promoting and protecting the interests of solo  
11 parents and their children; and

12 (c) Monitor the implementation of the provisions of this Act and suggest  
13 mechanisms by which such provisions are effectively implemented.

14 **SECTION 13. SOLO PARENT IDENTIFICATION CARD (SPIC)- THE LOCAL**  
15 **SOCIAL WELFARE AND DEVELOPMENT OFFICE (LSWDO) SHALL ISSUE**  
16 **THE SOLO PARENT IDENTIFICATION CARD UPON THE PRESENTATION**  
17 **OF THE APPLICANT OF THE FOLLOWING DOCUMENTS:**

18 **A. BARANGAY CERTIFICATION CERTIFYING THAT THE SOLO**  
19 **PARENT IS A RESIDENT OF THE BARANGAY FOR THE LAST**  
20 **SIX (6) MONTHS PRECEEDING THE APPLICATION;**

21 **B. BARANGAY CERTIFICATION OF CIRCUMSTANCES THAT**  
22 **QUALIFIES THE APPLICANT AS A SOLO PARENT AS**  
23 **REQUIRED BY THIS ACT;**

24 **C. CERTIFICATION FROM THE PROPER GOVERNMENT**  
25 **AGENCY AS PROOF OF BIRTH OF CHILD/CHILDREN, DEATH**  
26 **OF PARENTS OR SPOUSE AND OTHER DOCUMENTARY**  
27 **SUPPORT TO ATTEST THE CIRCUMSTANCES THAT**  
28 **QUALIFIES THE APPLICANT AS A SOLO PARENT;**



1 D. INCOME TAX RETURN OR ANY EQUIVALENT DOCUMENT  
2 THAT ESTABLISHES THE INCOME OR FINANCIAL STATUS OF  
3 THE SOLO PARENT APPLICANT.

4 THE SPIC SHALL BE ISSUED WITHIN THIRTY (30) DAYS FROM  
5 APPLICATION THEREOF AND SHALL BE VALID FOR ONE (1) YEAR  
6 UPON ISSUANCE SUBJECT TO RENEWAL.

7 SECTION 14. *ADDITIONAL BENEFITS*- A SOLO PARENT SHALL BE  
8 ENTITLED TO THE FOLLOWING ADDITIONAL BENEFITS:

9 A) TWENTY (20) PERCENT DISCOUNT FROM ALL PURCHASES OF  
10 CLOTHING AND CLOTHING MATERIAL FOR THE CHILD FOR  
11 PURCHASES MADE FROM CHILD'S BIRTH UNTIL TWELVE (12)  
12 YEARS OF AGE;

13 B) TWENTY (20) PERCENT DISCOUNT FROM ALL PURCHASES OF  
14 BABY'S MILK, FOOD, FOOD SUPPLEMENTS AND SANITARY  
15 DIAPERS FOR PURCHASES MADE FROM CHILD'S BIRTH UNTIL  
16 THREE (3) YEARS OF AGE;

17 C) TWENTY (20) PERCENT DISCOUNT FROM ALL PURCHASES OF  
18 MEDICINES, VACCINES AND OTHER MEDICAL SUPPLEMENT,  
19 SUPPLIES, ACCESSORIES AND EQUIPMENTS FOR THE CHILD,  
20 FOR PURCHASES MADE FROM THE CHILD'S BIRTH UNTIL  
21 EIGHTEEN (18) YEARS OF AGE;

22 D) TWENTY (20) PERCENT DISCOUNT FROM ALL PURCHASES OF  
23 THE CHILD'S BASIC NECESSITIES;

24 E) TWENTY (20) PERCENT DISCOUNT FROM ALL PURCHASES OF  
25 SCHOOL SUPPLIES FOR THE CHILD, FOR PURCHASES MADE  
26 FROM THE CHILD'S BIRTH UNTIL TWENTY ONE (21) YEARS OF  
27 AGE;

1 F) TWENTY (20) PERCENT DISCOUNT FROM TUITION FEES PER  
2 CHILD WHO ARE IN THE COLLEGE LEVEL IN BOTH PRIVATE AND  
3 PUBLIC COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES AND SCHOOLS, ON TOP  
4 OF ANY SCHOLARSHIP GRANTS IF ANY;

5 G) TWENTY (20) PERCENT DISCOUNT FROM HOSPITAL BILL OF THE  
6 SOLO PARENT OR HIS OR HER CHILD IF ADMITTED FOR  
7 MEDICAL CARE AND ATTENTION, BOTH IN PRIVATE AND PUBLIC  
8 HOSPITALS;

9 H) TAX AMNESTY AND/ OR REDUCTION OF REAL ESTATE OR  
10 INHERITANCE TAXES OF SOLO PARENTS;

11 I) TWENTY (20) PERCENT DISCOUNT ON CONSULTATION AND  
12 LABORATORY DIAGNOSTIC FEES AND PURCHASE OF  
13 MEDICINES FOR SOLO PARENTS AND THEIR DEPENDENTS;

14 J) BASIC PERSONAL EXEMPTION FROM INDIVIDUAL INCOME TAX  
15 IN THE AMOUNT OF FIFTY THOUSAND PESOS (P50,000.00) IN  
16 ADDITION TO THE EXISTING EXEMPTION THAT THE SOLO  
17 PARENT MAY CLAIM FOR THEIR CHILDREN;

18 K) AT LEAST TWENTY (20) PERCENT DISCOUNT FROM ALL PRIVATE  
19 AND PUBLIC RECREATIONAL FACILITIES, PROVIDED THAT THE  
20 DISCOUNT CAN ONLY BE AVAILED WHEN THE SOLO PARENT  
21 AND CHILDREN ARE TOGETHER.

22 COMPANIES AND BUSINESS ESTABLISHMENTS WHERE THE SAID  
23 DISCOUNTS WERE AVAILED, SHALL BE ENTITLED TO CLAIM SAID  
24 DISCOUNTS AS PART OF THEIR BUSINESS EXPENSE. PROVIDED THAT  
25 THEY MAINTAIN A DETAILED AND SEPARATE RECORDS OF THE  
26 DISCOUNTED PURCHASES.

27 SECTION 15. CREATION OF THE SOLO PARENTS' SPECIAL INTER-  
28 AGENCY REVIEW COMMITTEE AND TASK FORCE - AN INTER-AGENCY  
29 COMMITTEE SHALL BE CREATED TO COORDINATE AND MONITOR



1 THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THIS ACT. THE COMMITTEE SHALL BE  
2 COMPRISED OF THE FOLLOWING AGENCIES:

3 A) DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL WELFARE AND DEVELOPMENT  
4 (DSWD), AS CHAIR;

5 B) DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH (DOH);

6 C) DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE (DOJ);

7 D) DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION (DEPED);

8 E) THE DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT  
9 (DILG) AS CO-CHAIR;

10 F) THE COMMISSION ON HIGHER EDUCATION (CHED);

11 G) THE TECHNICAL EDUCATION AND SKILLS DEVELOPMENT  
12 AUTHORITY (TESDA);

13 H) THE NATIONAL HOUSING AUTHORITY (NHA);

14 I) THE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT (DOLE);

15 J) THE BUREAU OF INTERNAL REVENUES (BIR);

16 K) THE PHILIPPINE HEALTH INSURANCE CORPORATION  
17 (PHILHEALTH);

18 L) AT LEAST TWO (2) NON GOVERNMENT OR CIVIL SOCIETY  
19 ORGANIZATION WITH PROVEN CREDENTIALS IN ADVOCATING  
20 FOR THE RIGHTS AND WELFARE, AS WELL AS PROVIDING  
21 SERVICES TO SOLO PARENTS.

22 THIS COMMITTEE SHALL SUBMIT AN ANNUAL REPORT TO THE  
23 CONGRESS ON THE STATUS OF IMPLEMENTATION OF THIS ACT,  
24 FOLLOWING ITS EFFECTIVITY.

25 SECTION 16. ~~SOLO PARENTS AFFAIRS OFFICE~~- A SOLO PARENT  
26 AFFAIRS OFFICE SHALL BE ESTABLISHED IN EVERY LOCAL



1 GOVERNMENT UNIT. IN LINE WITH THIS REQUIREMENT, A SOLO  
2 PARENTS HELP DESK SHALL BE PLACED IN EVERY BARANGAY FOR  
3 THE IMMEDIATE ASSISTANCE OF SOLO PARENTS AND THEIR  
4 CHILDREN.

5 SECTION 17. NATIONAL SOLO PARENTS DAY AND WEEK- TO  
6 COMMEMORATE THE ROLE AND SIGNIFICANCE OF EVERY SOLO  
7 PARENT IN THE PHILIPPINES, SOLO PARENTS WEEK SHALL BE EVERY  
8 THIRD (3<sup>RD</sup>) WEEK OF APRIL AND THE NATIONAL SOLO PARENTS DAY  
9 SHALL BE EVERY THIRD (3<sup>RD</sup>) SATURDAY OF APRIL OF EVERY YEAR.

10 SECTION 18. *PENALTIES*- ANY PERSON, CORPORATION, ENTITY OR  
11 AGENCY WHICH REFUSES OR FAILS TO PROVIDE THE BENEFITS  
12 GRANTED TO SOLO PARENTS IN VIOLATION OF THIS ACT SHALL  
13 SUFFER THE FOLLOWING PENALTIES:

14 1) FOR THE FIRST VIOLATION - A FINE OF NOT LESS THAN TEN  
15 THOUSAND PESOS (P10,000.00) BUT NOT MORE THAN FIFTY  
16 THOUSAND PESOS (P50,000.00) OR IMPRISONMENT OF NOT LESS  
17 THAN SIX (6) MONTHS BUT NOT MORE THAN ONE (1) YEAR, OR BOTH,  
18 AT THE DISCRETION OF THE COURT.

19 2) FOR ANY SUBSEQUENT VIOLATION - A FINE OF NOT LESS THAN  
20 ONE HUNDRED THOUSAND PESOS (P100,000.00) BUT NOT MORE  
21 THAN TWO HUNDRED THOUSAND PESOS (P200,000.00) OR  
22 IMPRISONMENT OF NOT LESS THAN ONE (1) YEAR BUT NOT MORE  
23 THAN TWO (2) YEARS, OR BOTH, AT THE DISCRETION OF THE  
24 COURT.

25 ANY PERSON WHO MISINTERPRETS THE STATUS OR FALSIFIES ANY  
26 DOCUMENT TO AVAIL OF THE BENEFITS PROVIDED UNDER THIS ACT  
27 OR ANY PERSON WHO ABUSES THE PRIVILEGES GRANTED HEREIN  
28 SHALL BE PUNISHED WITH A FINE NOT LESS THAN TEN THOUSAND  
29 PESOS (P10,000.00) BUT NOT MORE THAN FIFTY THOUSAND PESOS

1 (P50,000.00) AND IMPRISONMENT OF NOT LESS THAN SIX (6)  
2 MONTHS.

3 IF THE OFFENDER IS A CORPORATION, PARTNERSHIP OR  
4 ORGANIZATION OR ANY SIMILAR ENTITY, THE EMPLOYEES AND  
5 OFFICIALS THEREFORE DIRECTLY INVOLVED SHALL INDIVIDUALLY  
6 BE HELD LIABLE THEREFORE.

7 IF THE VIOLATOR IS AN ALIEN OR A FOREIGNER, HE SHALL BE  
8 DEPORTED IMMEDIATELY AFTER SERVICE OF SENTENCE WITHOUT  
9 FURTHER DEPORTATION PROCEEDINGS.

10 UPON FILING OF AN APPROPRIATE COMPLAINT AND AFTER DUE  
11 NOTICE AND HEARING, THE PROPER AUTHORITIES MAY ALSO CAUSE  
12 THE CANCELLATION OR REVOCATION OF THE BUSINESS PERMIT,  
13 PERMIT TO OPERATE, FRANCHISE AND OTHER SIMILAR PRIVILEGES  
14 GRANTED TO ANY BUSINESS THAT FAILS TO ABIDE BY THE  
15 PROVISION OF THIS ACT.

16 UPON FINDING BY THE SOLO PARENTS' SPECIAL REVIEW COMMITTEE  
17 THAT A DEPARTMENT, AGENCY OR INSTRUMENTALITY OF THE  
18 GOVERNMENT, A GOVERNMENT-OWNED OR CONTROLLED  
19 CORPORATION (GOCC) OR A LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNIT HAD  
20 VIOLATED ANY PROVISION OF THIS ACT, SANCTIONS UNDER THE  
21 ADMINISTRATIVE LAW, CIVIL SERVICE OR OTHER LAWS MAY BE  
22 RECOMMENDED TO THE CSC OR THE DILG AGAINST THE HEAD OF  
23 THE AGENCY OR THE LOCAL CHIEF EXECUTIVE AND THE PERSON  
24 DIRECTLY RESPONSIBLE FOR THE VIOLATION.

25 **Section [13] 19.** *Implementing Rules and Regulations.* – [An interagency  
26 committee headed by the DSWD, in coordination with the DOH, DECS,  
27 CHED, TESDA, DOLE, NHA, and DILG is hereby established which shall  
28 formulate,] Within ninety (90) days upon the effectivity of this Act, [the  
29 implementing rules and regulations in consultation with the local  
30 government units, nongovernment organizations and people's



1 organizations.] **THE DSWD, IN CONSULTATION AND COORDINATION**  
2 **WITH THE MEMBERS OF THE SOLO PARENTS' SPECIAL REVIEW**  
3 **COMMITTEE, SHALL ISSUE THE NECESSARY RULES AND**  
4 **REGULATIONS FOR THE EFFECTIVE IMPLEMENTATION OF THIS ACT.**

5 **Section [14] 20.** *Appropriations.* - The amount necessary to carry out the  
6 provisions of this Act shall be included in the budget of **THE** concerned  
7 government agencies in the General Appropriations Act (**GAA**). [of the year  
8 following its enactment into law and thereafter.]

9 **GOVERNMENT AGENCIES MAY ALSO UTILIZE A PORTION OF THEIR**  
10 **RESPECTIVE GENDER AND DEVELOPMENT (GAD) BUDGET TO**  
11 **IMPLEMENT THIS ACT ANCHORED ON THE GUIDELINES ISSUED BY**  
12 **THE DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND MANAGEMENT (DBM), NEDA AND**  
13 **PCW.**

14 **Section [15] 21.** *Repealing Clause.* - All laws, decrees, executive orders,  
15 administrative orders or parts thereof inconsistent with the provisions of  
16 this Act are hereby repealed, amended or modified accordingly.

17 **Section [16] 22.** *Separability Clause.* - If any provision of this Act is held  
18 invalid or unconstitutional, other provisions not affected thereby shall  
19 continue to be in full force and effect.

20 **Section [17] 23.** *Effectivity Clause.* - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15)  
21 days following its complete publication in the *Official Gazette* or in at least  
22 two (2) newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,