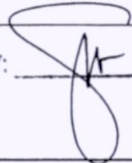


**SENATE S.B. No. 983**

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Introduced by **Senator Richard J. Gordon**

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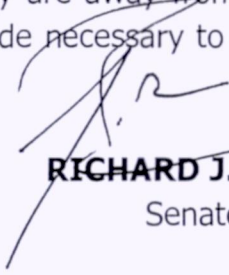
**AN ACT  
ESTABLISHING A SEPARATE FACILITY FOR PRISONERS CONVICTED OF  
HEINOUS CRIMES**

**EXPLANATORY NOTE**

There is a type of crime that is above all other crimes in terms of viciousness and the extent of moral depravity attached to it, we call it Heinous Crimes. Under Republic Act No. 7659, Heinous Crimes are described as heinous for being grievous, odious and hateful offenses and which, by reason of their inherent or manifest wickedness, viciousness, atrocity and perversity are repugnant and outrageous to the common standards and norms of decency and morality in a just, civilized and ordered society.

Heinous Crimes tickled the imagination of the general public, inciting public opinion and discussion on the motivations and psychology of the perpetrator that enabled him to perform an act so contumacious to law and society's moral code that it never failed to trigger public's rage against the act and its perpetrator.

The purpose of this bill is to protect the public. Prisoners who are convicted of heinous crimes should be serving their sentence separately from the general population of prisoners. These prisoners should be reformed separately to ensure that those convicted of heinous crimes will not influence the general population of prisoners. This Heinous Crimes Penitentiary will house the most dangerous, vicious, and violent criminals. Separating them from the public will ensure their personal safety, the safety of other prisoners, and safety of the guards, and the safety of the public. This facility will ensure the control of these criminals and give the general public a sense of security and a peace of mind that they are away from those who have proven themselves deprived of basic moral aptitude necessary to live in a peaceful community.

  
**RICHARD J. GORDON**

Senator



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SENATE *S.B. No.* 983

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Introduced by **Senator Richard J. Gordon**

**AN ACT**  
**ESTABLISHING A SEPARATE FACILITY FOR PRISONERS CONVICTED OF**  
**HEINOUS CRIMES**

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

1 **SECTION 1. Short Title.** – This act shall be known as "Heinous Crimes Penitentiary  
2 Act of 2019"

3 **SEC. 2. Declaration of Policy.** – Section 5 of Article II states that "[t]he maintenance  
4 of peace and order, the protection of life, liberty, and property, and the promotion of  
5 the general welfare are essential for the enjoyment by all the people of the blessings  
6 of democracy." Section 11 of Article II states that "[t]he State values the dignity of  
7 every human person and guarantees full respect for human rights."

8 **SEC. 3. Definition of Terms.** –

9 **a.) Heinous Crimes-** are crimes described as heinous for being grievous, odious and  
10 hateful offenses and which, by reason of their inherent or manifest wickedness,  
11 viciousness, atrocity and perversity are repugnant and outrageous to the common  
12 standards and norms of decency and morality in a just, civilized and ordered society.

13 **b.) High-level Offenders** – Offenders convicted of Heinous Crimes shall be  
14 considered as High-level Offenders.

15 **c.) Inmates** – Offenders convicted by the courts to serve sentences of three years  
16 or more and kept at the prison facilities of the Bureau of Corrections.

17 **d.) Uninhabited place** – One where there are no houses at all, a place at a  
18 considerable distance from town, or where houses are scattered at a great distance  
19 from each other.



1 **SEC. 4. *Transfer of Heinous Crimes Offenders to the Heinous Crimes Penitentiary.*** –  
2 There shall be established and maintained a secured, clean and sanitary penitentiary  
3 for the custody and safekeeping of offenders serving their sentence for Heinous  
4 Crimes kept at the prison facilities of the Bureau of Corrections, which shall be kept  
5 and maintained in an uninhabited place, away from the general population and other  
6 prisoners not convicted of a Heinous Crime.

7 The transfer of High-Level Offenders shall be made within a period of 30 days from  
8 the completion of the construction of the Heinous Crimes Penitentiary.

9 **SEC. 5. *Location of the Maximum Penal Institution.*** – The Maximum Penal Institution  
10 shall be built in a suitable and uninhabited land to be determined by the Secretary of  
11 Justice. The Maximum Penal Institution shall be located in a separate and uninhabited  
12 place ensuring that there is no unwarranted contact or communication with those  
13 outside of the penal institution, preferably in Fort Ramon Magsaysay.

14 **SEC. 6. *Coverage.*** – This Act shall apply to all high level heinous crimes offenders  
15 kept at the prison facilities of the Bureau of Corrections and the Bureau of Jail  
16 Management and Penology.

17 **SEC. 8. *Conduct of Inspection.*** – An internal inspection, which is conducted by the  
18 prison administration, and an external inspection, which is conducted by the  
19 Department of Justice, shall be conducted on a regular basis to ensure that the  
20 institution is administered in accordance with existing laws and regulations and to  
21 bring about the attainment of the objectives of the penal system.

22 **SEC. 9. *Conduct of Random Drug Testing.*** – There shall be conducted a regular  
23 random drug testing among intimates in the Heinous Crimes Penitentiary. The random  
24 drug testing shall be done by laboratories accredited and monitored by the  
25 Department of Health and the Dangerous Drugs Board.

26 **SEC. 10. *Funding Source.*** – The funds required for the implementation of this Act  
27 shall be taken from the budget of the Department of Justice for the current fiscal year.  
28 Thereafter, such amounts as may be necessary to implement this Act shall be included  
29 in the annual General Appropriations Act.

30 **SEC. 11. *Separability Clause.*** – If any portion or provision of this Act is declared  
31 unconstitutional, the remainder of this Act or any provision not affected thereby shall  
32 remain in force and effect.

33 **SEC. 12. *Repealing Clause.*** – All laws, decrees, orders, and issuances, or portions  
34 thereof, which are inconsistent with the provisions of this Act, are hereby repealed,  
35 amended or modified accordingly.

36 **SEC. 13. *Effectivity.*** – This Act shall take effect after fifteen (15) days following the  
37 completion of its publication either in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general  
38 circulation in the Philippines.

39 *Approved,*