

**EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE)
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
First Regular Session)**

20 MAR 11 A11 :59

SENATE

RECEIVED

S. No. 1411

(In Substitution of Senate Bill Nos. 86, 164, 206, 238, 307, 951 and 1014)

Prepared by the Committee on Women, Children, Family Relations and Gender Equality; Social Justice, Welfare and Rural Development; Ways and Means; and Finance with Senators Gordon, Hontiveros, Go, Sotto, Zubiri, Revilla Jr. and Marcos, as authors thereof

AN ACT

AMENDING REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8972 OTHERWISE KNOWN AS "AN ACT PROVIDING FOR BENEFITS AND PRIVILEGES TO SOLO PARENTS AND THEIR CHILDREN, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES"

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

1 Section 1. Section 1 of Republic Act No. 8972 otherwise known as "An Act
2 Providing for Benefits and Privileges to Solo Parents and Their Children, Appropriating
3 Funds Therefor and for Other Purposes" is amended to read as follows:

4 "Section 1. *Title.* – This Act shall be known as the "**EXPANDED**
5 Solo Parents Welfare Act of [2000] **2020.**"

6
7 Sec. 2. Section 2 of Republic Act No. 8972 is amended to read as follows:

8 "Sec. 2. *Declaration of Policy.* – It is the policy of the State to
9 promote the family as the foundation of the nation, strengthen its
10 solidarity and ensure its total development. **IT IS ALSO THE**
11 **OBLIGATION OF THE STATE TO ADHERE TO INTERNATIONAL**
12 **AGREEMENTS AND NATIONAL LAWS ON FAMILIES.** Towards this

1 end, it shall develop a comprehensive [program of] **PACKAGE OF**
2 **SOcial PROTECTION** services for solo parents and their children to be
3 carried out by the Department of Social Welfare and Development
4 (DSWD), the Department of Health (DOH), **THE DEPARTMENT OF**
5 **JUSTICE (DOJ)**, the Department of Education~~[-, Culture and Sports~~
6 ~~(DECS)] (DEPED)~~, the Department of the Interior and Local Government
7 (DILG), the Commission on Higher Education (CHED), the Technical
8 Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA), the National
9 Housing Authority (NHA), the Department of Labor and Employment
10 (DOLE), **THE DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY (DTI), THE**
11 **BUREAU OF INTERNAL REVENUE (BIR), THE CIVIL SERVICE**
12 **COMMISSION (CSC), THE NATIONAL ECONOMIC AND**
13 **DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (NEDA), THE PHILIPPINE**
14 **COMMISSION ON WOMEN (PCW), THE PHILIPPINE HEALTH**
15 **INSURANCE CORPORATION (PHILHEALTH), THE UNION OF**
16 **LOCAL AUTHORITIES OF THE PHILIPPINES (ULAP),** and other
17 ~~[related]~~ **CONCERNED** government ~~[and nongovernment]~~ agencies ~~[.]~~
18 **AND CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANIZATIONS WITH RECOGNIZED**
19 **CREDENTIALS IN PROVIDING SERVICES AND ADVOCACY FOR**
20 **SOLO PARENTS."**

21
22 Sec. 3. Section 3 of Republic Act No. 8972 is amended to read as follows:

23 "Sec. 3. *Definition of Terms.* – Whenever used in this Act, the
24 following terms shall mean as follows:

25 (a) "*Solo parent*" - any individual who falls under any of the following
26 categories:

27 (1) A ~~[woman]~~ **FEMALE** who gives birth as a result of rape and other
28 crimes against ~~[chastity]~~ **PERSONS** even without **A** final conviction of the
29 offender: *Provided,* That the mother ~~[keeps and raises the child]~~ **HAS**
30 **THE CUSTODY OF THE CHILD OR CHILDREN AND BEARS THE**

1 **SOLE PARENTAL RESPONSIBILITY;**

2 (2) Parent left solo [øf] **OR** alone with the responsibility of parenthood
3 due to [death-of-spouse] **THE FOLLOWING CIRCUMSTANCES:**

4 **i. DEATH OF THE SPOUSE;**

5 ~~ii. [(3) Parent left solo or alone with the responsibility of~~
6 ~~parenthood while the] [s]Spouse is detained or is serving sentence for a~~
7 ~~criminal conviction [for at least one (1) year];~~

8 ~~iii. [(4) Parent left solo or alone with the responsibility of~~
9 ~~parenthood due to] [p]Physical and/or mental incapacity of spouse as~~
10 ~~certified by a public **OR PRIVATE** medical practitioner;~~

11 ~~iv. [(5) Parent left solo or alone with the responsibility of~~
12 ~~parenthood due to] [f]Legal separation or *de facto* separation from~~
13 ~~spouse [for at least one (1) year, as long as he/she is entrusted with the~~
14 ~~custody of the children];~~

15 ~~v. [(6) Parent left solo or alone with the responsibility of~~
16 ~~parenthood due to] [d]Declaration of nullity or annulment of marriage as~~
17 ~~decreed by [a] **THE** court **RECOGNIZED BY LAW** [or by a church as~~
18 ~~long as he/she is entrusted with the custody of the children]; **OR**~~

19 ~~vi. [(7) Parent left solo or alone with the responsibility of~~
20 ~~parenthood due to] [a]Abandonment of spouse for at least [one (1) year]~~
21 **SIX (6) MONTHS.**

22 **(3) [(8)] Unmarried mother/father who has [preferred to keep and rear]**
23 **ACTUAL CUSTODY, SUPPORT, CARE AND EXERCISING SOLE**
24 **PARENTAL AUTHORITY OVER [her/his] HIS OR HER child[/children]**
25 **OR CHILDREN** instead of having others care for them or give them up to
26 a welfare institution;

27 **(4) SPOUSE OF AN OVERSEAS FILIPINO WORKER (OFW);**
28 **PROVIDED, THAT THE SAID OFW BELONGS TO THE LOW/SEMI-**
29 **SKILLED WORKER CATEGORY AND IS AWAY FROM THE**
30 **PHILIPPINES FOR AN UNBROKEN PERIOD OF TWELVE (12)**

1 MONTHS;

2 (5) [~~(9)~~] Any other person who [~~solely provides parental care and~~
3 ~~support to a child or children~~] **BEARS SOLE PARENTAL**
4 **RESPONSIBILITY OVER A CHILD OR CHILDREN, INCLUDING A**
5 **FOSTER PARENT DULY-RECOGNIZED BY THE DSWD, A LEGAL**
6 **GUARDIAN APPOINTED BY THE COURT OR A LEGAL SINGLE**
7 **ADOPTIVE PARENT; OR**

8 (6) [~~(10)~~] Any family member who [~~assumes the~~] **BEARS SOLE**
9 **PARENTAL** responsibility [~~of head of family~~] as a result of the death,
10 abandonment, disappearance or prolonged absence of the parent[s]/S.
11 [~~or solo parent.~~] **IN CASES OF GRANDPARENTS WHO ARE SENIOR**
12 **CITIZENS WHO HAVE THE SOLE PARENTAL RESPONSIBILITY**
13 **OVER THEIR MINOR OR PHYSICALLY OR MENTALLY**
14 **INCAPACITATED CHILDREN OR GRANDCHILDREN, THEY SHALL**
15 **BE ENTITLED TO THE BENEFITS OF THIS ACT IN ADDITION TO**
16 **THE BENEFITS GRANTED TO THEM BY REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9257**
17 **OR THE "EXPANDED SENIOR CITIZENS ACT OF 2003";**

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

22 **THE ABSENCE OF A VALID AND LEGAL MARRIAGE BETWEEN THE**
23 **MOTHER AND FATHER OF A CHILD OR DEPENDENT DOES NOT**
24 **AUTOMATICALLY ENTITLE EITHER INDIVIDUAL TO BENEFITS**
25 **UNDER THIS ACT IF THE FACTUAL CIRCUMSTANCES**
26 **DEMONSTRATE THAT PARENTAL RESPONSIBILITIES ARE**
27 **SHARED.**

28 (b) "*Children OR DEPENDENTS*" – **FOR PURPOSES OF THIS ACT,**
29 refer to those living with and dependent upon the solo parent for support
30 who are unmarried, unemployed and not more than [~~eighteen (18)~~]

1 **TWENTY-TWO (22)** years of age, or even over [~~eighteen—(18)~~]
2 **TWENTY-TWO (22)** years but are incapable of self-support because of
3 mental and/or physical defect/disability.

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

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

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

16 **(F) *BASIC NECESSITIES* - REFER TO RICE, CORN, BREAD, FRESH,
17 DRIED AND CANNED FISH AND OTHER MARINE PRODUCTS,
18 FRESH PORK, BEEF AND POULTRY, MEAT, FRESH EGGS, FRESH
19 AND PROCESSED MILK, FRESH VEGETABLES, ROOT CROPS,
20 COFFEE, SUGAR, COOKING OIL, SALT, LAUNDRY SOAP,
21 DETERGENTS, SANITARY NAPKINS, DIAPERS, DRUGS
22 CLASSIFIED AS ESSENTIAL BY THE DOH, AND OTHER
23 COMMODITIES AS MAYBE CLASSIFIED BY THE DTI AND THE
24 DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE (DA) ACCORDING TO REPUBLIC
25 ACT NO. 7581 OR THE "PRICE ACT."**

26
27 Sec. 4. Section 4 of Republic Act No. 8972 is amended to read as follows:

28 "Sec. 4. *Criteria for [Support]* **ADDITIONAL FINANCIAL**
29 **ASSISTANCE.** – Any solo parent whose income in the place of [~~domicile~~]
30 **RESIDENCE** falls below the poverty threshold as set by the [~~National~~

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

18
19 Sec. 5. Section 5 of Republic Act No. 8972 is amended to read as follows:

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

1 The DSWD shall coordinate with concerned agencies the implementation
2 of the comprehensive package of social [~~development and welfare~~]
3 **PROTECTION** services for solo parents and their families. The package
4 will 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
12 expansion of knowledge and skills for the solo parent on early childhood
13 development, behavior management, health care, rights and duties of
14 parents and children[-];

15 (d) Critical incidence stress debriefing which include 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
20 or ego-building, crisis management and spiritual enrichment[-]; **AND**

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

22
23 Sec. 6. Section 7 of Republic Act No. 8972 is amended to read as follows:

24 "Sec. 7. *Work Discrimination.* – No employer shall discriminate
25 against any solo parent employee with respect to terms and conditions of
26 employment on account of his/her status. **EMPLOYERS MAY ENTER**
27 **INTO AGREEMENTS WITH THEIR EMPLOYEES FOR A**
28 **TELECOMMUTING PROGRAM, AS PROVIDED IN REPUBLIC ACT**
29 **NO. 11165, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE 'TELECOMMUTING ACT',**

1 **PROVIDED THAT SOLO PARENTS SHALL BE GIVEN PRIORITY BY**
2 **THEIR EMPLOYER."**

3
4 Sec. 7. A new section 8 is hereby inserted to read as follows:

5 **"SEC. 8. ACCESS TO CHILD CARE. – NATIONAL**
6 **GOVERNMENT AGENCIES WITH MORE THAN THREE HUNDRED**
7 **(300) EMPLOYEES, INCLUDING GOVERNMENT-OWNED AND**
8 **CONTROLLED CORPORATIONS (GOCCS), AND PRIVATE**
9 **EMPLOYERS WITH TWO HUNDRED (200) OR MORE EMPLOYEES,**
10 **SHALL ESTABLISH DAY CARE CENTERS TO ACCOMMODATE THE**
11 **CHILDREN OF THEIR EMPLOYEES AGED FIVE (5) YEARS AND**
12 **BELOW, WHICH SHALL BE AVAILABLE FOR FREE TO ITS**
13 **EMPLOYEES, WITH PRIORITY FOR THOSE WHO ARE SOLO**
14 **PARENTS AS DEFINED UNDER THIS ACT. THESE SERVICES SHALL**
15 **BE PROVIDED WITHIN THE WORKPLACE, AS MUCH AS**
16 **POSSIBLE, OR IN A NEARBY ACCESSIBLE LOCATION."**

17
18 Sec. 8. Section 8 of Republic Act No. 8972 is hereby amended to read as follows:

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

25
26 Sec. 9. Section 9 of Republic Act No. 8972 is hereby amended to read as follows:

27 "Sec. [9] 10. *Educational Benefits.* – The [DECS] **DEPED**, CHED
28 and TESDA shall provide the following benefits and privileges:
29 (1) Scholarship **AND/ OR GRANTS** [~~programs~~] for qualified solo parents
30 and their children in institutions of basic, [~~tertiary and technical/skills~~

1 education] **HIGHER AND TECHNICAL/ VOCATIONAL EDUCATION**
2 **AND TRAINING**; and

3 (2) Nonformal education programs appropriate for solo parents and their
4 children.

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

7
8 Sec. 10. Section 10 of Republic Act No. 8972 is hereby amended to read as
9 follows:

10 “Sec. [10] **11. Housing Benefits.** – Solo parents shall be given
11 **PREFERENCE AND** allocation in housing projects and shall be provided
12 with liberal terms of payment on said government low-cost housing
13 projects in accordance with housing law provisions prioritizing applicants
14 below the poverty line as declared by the [NEDA] **PSA.**”

15
16 Sec. 11. Sections 11 and 12 of Republic Act No. 8972 are hereby renumbered as
17 Sections 12 and 13, respectively.

18
19 Sec. 12. A new section 14 is hereby inserted to read as follows:

20 “**SEC. 14. SOLO PARENT IDENTIFICATION CARD (SPIC).** –
21 **THE LOCAL SOCIAL WELFARE AND DEVELOPMENT OFFICE**
22 **(LSWDO) SHALL ISSUE THE SOLO PARENT IDENTIFICATION**
23 **CARD UPON THE PRESENTATION OF THE APPLICANT OF THE**
24 **FOLLOWING DOCUMENTS:**

25 **A. BARANGAY CERTIFICATION THAT THE SOLO PARENT IS A**
26 **RESIDENT OF THE BARANGAY FOR THE LAST SIX (6) MONTHS**
27 **PRECEEDING THE APPLICATION;**

28 **B. CERTIFICATION FROM THE RELEVANT GOVERNMENT AGENCY**
29 **OR COURT AS PROOF OF BIRTH OF CHILD/CHILDREN, DEATH OF**
30 **PARENTS OR SPOUSE, DECREE OF ANNULMENT, DECLARATION**

1 OF NULLITY, OR LEGAL SEPARATION, OR ANY FORM OF
2 DISSOLUTION OF MARRIAGE, STATUS AS OVERSEAS FILIPINO
3 WORKER, AND OTHER DOCUMENTARY SUPPORT TO ATTEST THE
4 CIRCUMSTANCES THAT QUALIFIES THE APPLICANT AS A SOLO
5 PARENT;

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

9
10 Sec. 13. A new Section 15 is hereby inserted to read as follows:

11 **“SEC. 15. *ADDITIONAL BENEFITS.* – A SOLO PARENT SHALL**
12 **BE ENTITLED TO THE FOLLOWING ADDITIONAL BENEFITS:**

13 **A) TWENTY PERCENT (20%) DISCOUNT FROM ALL PURCHASES**
14 **OF INFANT FORMULA, FOOD, FOOD SUPPLEMENTS AND**
15 **SANITARY DIAPERS FOR PURCHASES MADE FROM CHILD’S**
16 **BIRTH UNTIL THREE (3) YEARS OF AGE: *PROVIDED*, THAT THE**
17 **DISCOUNT ON INFANT FORMULA CAN ONLY BE AVAILED OF**
18 **WHEN THE SOLO PARENT IS NOT THE MOTHER;**

19 **C) TWENTY PERCENT (20%) DISCOUNT FROM ALL PURCHASES**
20 **OF MEDICINES, VACCINES AND OTHER MEDICAL SUPPLEMENTS,**
21 **SUPPLIES, ACCESSORIES AND EQUIPMENT FOR THE CHILD, AS**
22 **PRESCRIBED BY A LICENSED MEDICAL PRACTITIONER, FOR**
23 **PURCHASES MADE FROM THE CHILD’S BIRTH UNTIL TWENTY**
24 **TWO (22) YEARS OF AGE;**

25 **D) TWENTY PERCENT (20%) DISCOUNT FROM ALL PURCHASES**
26 **OF THE CHILD’S BASIC NECESSITIES;**

27 **E) TWENTY PERCENT (20%) DISCOUNT FROM TUITION FEES**
28 **PER CHILD FROM KINDERGARTEN TO COLLEGE LEVEL IN BOTH**
29 **PRIVATE AND PUBLIC COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES AND**
30 **SCHOOLS, ON TOP OF ANY SCHOLARSHIP GRANTS IF ANY;**

1 F) TWENTY PERCENT (20%) DISCOUNT FROM HOSPITAL BILL OF
2 THE SOLO PARENT'S CHILD IF ADMITTED FOR MEDICAL CARE
3 AND ATTENTION, BOTH IN PRIVATE AND PUBLIC HOSPITALS;

4 G) TAX AMNESTY AND/OR REDUCTION OF REAL ESTATE OR
5 INHERITANCE TAXES OF SOLO PARENTS;

6 H) TWENTY PERCENT (20%) DISCOUNT ON CONSULTATION AND
7 LABORATORY DIAGNOSTIC FEES AND PURCHASE OF MEDICINES
8 FOR SOLO PARENTS AND THEIR CHILDREN;

9 I) BASIC PERSONAL EXEMPTION FROM INDIVIDUAL INCOME
10 TAX IN THE AMOUNT OF FIFTY THOUSAND PESOS (P50,000.00)
11 IN ADDITION TO THE EXISTING EXEMPTION THAT THE SOLO
12 PARENT MAY CLAIM FOR THEIR CHILDREN;

13 J) TWENTY PERCENT (20%) DISCOUNT FROM ALL PRIVATE AND
14 PUBLIC RECREATIONAL FACILITIES: *PROVIDED*, THAT THE
15 DISCOUNT CAN ONLY BE AVAILED WHEN THE SOLO PARENT AND
16 CHILDREN ARE TOGETHER. COMPANIES AND BUSINESS
17 ESTABLISHMENTS, WHERE THE SAID DISCOUNTS WERE
18 AVAILED, SHALL BE ENTITLED TO CLAIM SAID DISCOUNTS AS
19 PART OF THEIR BUSINESS EXPENSE: *PROVIDED*, THAT THEY
20 MAINTAIN A DETAILED AND SEPARATE RECORDS OF THE
21 DISCOUNTED PURCHASES."

22
23 Sec. 14. A new Section 16 is hereby inserted to read as follows:

24 "SEC. 16. *CREATION OF THE SOLO PARENTS INTER-*
25 *AGENCY REVIEW COMMITTEE.* – THE SOLO PARENTS INTER-
26 AGENCY REVIEW COMMITTEE IS HEREBY CREATED TO
27 COORDINATE AND MONITOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THIS
28 ACT. THE COMMITTEE SHALL BE COMPRISED OF THE
29 FOLLOWING AGENCIES:

30 A) DSWD, AS CHAIR;

1 **B) DILG, AS CO-CHAIR;**
2 **C) DOH;**
3 **D) DOJ;**
4 **E) DEPED;**
5 **F) CHED;**
6 **G) TESDA;**
7 **H) NHA;**
8 **I) DOLE;**
9 **J) BIR;**
10 **K) PHILHEALTH;**
11 **L) AT LEAST TWO (2) NON GOVERNMENT OR CIVIL SOCIETY**
12 **ORGANIZATION WITH PROVEN CREDENTIALS IN ADVOCATING**
13 **FOR THE RIGHTS AND WELFARE, AS WELL AS PROVIDING**
14 **SERVICES TO SOLO PARENTS.**
15 **THE COMMITTEE SHALL SUBMIT AN ANNUAL REPORT TO THE**
16 **CONGRESS ON THE STATUS OF IMPLEMENTATION OF THIS ACT,**
17 **FOLLOWING ITS EFFECTIVITY.”**

18
19 Sec. 15. A new Section 17 is hereby inserted to read as follows:

20 **“SEC. 17. *SOLO PARENTS AFFAIRS OFFICE.* – A SOLO**
21 **PARENT AFFAIRS OFFICE SHALL BE ESTABLISHED IN EVERY**
22 **LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNIT. IN LINE WITH THIS REQUIREMENT,**
23 **A SOLO PARENTS HELP DESK SHALL BE PLACED IN EVERY**
24 **BARANGAY FOR THE IMMEDIATE ASSISTANCE TO SOLO**
25 **PARENTS AND THEIR CHILDREN.”**

26
27 Sec. 16. A new Section 18 is hereby inserted to read as follows:

28 **“SEC. 18. *NATIONAL SOLO PARENTS DAY AND WEEK.* – TO**
29 **COMMEMORATE THE ROLE AND SIGNIFICANCE OF EVERY SOLO**
30 **PARENT IN THE PHILIPPINES, THE THIRD WEEK AND THIRD**

1 **SATURDAY OF APRIL OF EVERY YEAR ARE HEREBY DECLARED AS**
2 **SOLO PARENTS WEEK AND NATIONAL SOLO PARENTS DAY,**
3 **RESPECTIVELY.”**

4
5 Sec. 17. A new Section 19 is hereby inserted to read as follows:

6 **“SEC. 19. *PENALTIES.* – ANY PERSON, CORPORATION,**
7 **ENTITY OR AGENCY WHICH REFUSES OR FAILS TO PROVIDE THE**
8 **BENEFITS GRANTED TO SOLO PARENTS IN VIOLATION OF THIS**
9 **ACT, OR DISCRIMINATES AGAINST SOLO PARENTS IN**
10 **EMPLOYMENT HIRING, SHALL SUFFER THE FOLLOWING**
11 **PENALTIES:**

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

17 **2) FOR ANY SUBSEQUENT VIOLATION - A FINE OF NOT LESS**
18 **THAN ONE HUNDRED THOUSAND PESOS (P100,000.00) BUT NOT**
19 **MORE THAN TWO HUNDRED THOUSAND PESOS (P200,000.00)**
20 **OR IMPRISONMENT OF NOT LESS THAN ONE (1) YEAR BUT NOT**
21 **MORE THAN TWO (2) YEARS, OR BOTH, AT THE DISCRETION OF**
22 **THE COURT. ANY PERSON WHO MISINTERPRETS THE STATUS OR**
23 **FALSIFIES ANY DOCUMENT TO AVAIL OF THE BENEFITS**
24 **PROVIDED UNDER THIS ACT OR ANY PERSON WHO ABUSES THE**
25 **PRIVILEGES GRANTED HEREIN SHALL BE PUNISHED WITH A**
26 **FINE NOT LESS THAN TEN THOUSAND PESOS (P10,000.00) BUT**
27 **NOT MORE THAN FIFTY THOUSAND PESOS (P50,000.00) AND**
28 **IMPRISONMENT OF NOT LESS THAN SIX (6) MONTHS BUT NOT**
29 **MORE THAN ONE (1) YEAR, OR BOTH, AT THE DISCRETION OF**
30 **THE COURT.**

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

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

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

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

23 ANY PERSON WHO CLAIMS TO BE A SOLO PARENT FOR THE
24 PURPOSE OF AVAILMENT OF THE BENEFITS UNDER THIS ACT,
25 WITH INTENT TO DEFRAUD SHALL BE PENALIZED WITH A FINE
26 OF NOT LESS THAN TEN THOUSAND PESOS (P10,000.00) BUT
27 NOT MORE THAN FIFTY THOUSAND PESOS (P50,000.00) OR
28 IMPRISONMENT OF NOT LESS THAN SIX (6) MONTHS BUT NOT
29 MORE THAN ONE (1) YEAR, OR BOTH, AT THE DISCRETION OF
30 THE COURT."

1
2 Sec. 18. A new Section 20 is hereby inserted to read as follows:

3 **"SEC. 20. ABUSED, ABANDONED, OR NEGLECTED SOLO**
4 **PARENTS OR SOLO PARENTS WHO ARE VICTIMS OF DOMESTIC**
5 **VIOLENCE. – IN CASES WHERE A SOLO PARENT HAD BEEN**
6 **ABUSED, ABANDONED OR NEGLECTED BY HIS OR HER CO-**
7 **PARENT, HE OR SHE MAY SEEK THE HELP OF THE DSWD, WHICH,**
8 **IN TURN, SHALL COORDINATE WITH THE RESPECTIVE**
9 **BARANGAY OFFICIALS AND/OR POLICE OFFICERS ASSIGNED IN**
10 **THE NEAREST PNP STATION WHERE THE ABUSED, ABANDONED,**
11 **OR NEGLECTED PARENT RESIDES, IN ORDER TO PROVIDE**
12 **IMMEDIATE ASSISTANCE. IF THE CO-PARENT IS GAINFULLY**
13 **EMPLOYED, THE ABUSED, ABANDONED, OR NEGLECTED PARENT**
14 **SHALL HAVE THE RIGHT TO RETAIN A PORTION OF THE**
15 **FORMER'S INCOME, TO BE AGREED UPON BY BOTH PARENTS OR**
16 **BY A VALID ORDER ISSUED BY A COURT OF COMPETENT**
17 **JURISDICTION, FOR THE SUPPORT OF THE CHILD."**

18
19 Sec. 19. A new Section 21 is hereby inserted to read as follows:

20 **"SEC. 21. SPECIAL PROTECTIONS FOR ADOLESCENT**
21 **PARENTS. – IN ADDITION TO THE PROVISIONS OF THIS ACT,**
22 **ADOLESCENT PARENTS SHALL ALSO BE PROVIDED WITH**
23 **ASSISTANCE FROM THE DSWD WHICH MAY INCLUDE**
24 **COUNSELLING AND PSYCHO-SOCIAL SERVICES, AND FROM THE**
25 **DEPED AND TESDA IN THE FORM OF HOME-BASED, IN-SCHOOL,**
26 **OR TECH-VOCATIONAL EDUCATION, AS WARRANTED."**

27
28 Sec. 20. Section 13 of Republic Act No. 8972 is hereby amended to read as
29 follows:

30 **"Sec. [13] 22. Implementing Rules and Regulations. – [An**

1 ~~interagency committee headed by the DSWD, in coordination with the~~
2 ~~DOH, DECS, CHED, TESDA, DOLE, NHA, and DILG is hereby established~~
3 ~~which shall formulate,] [w]Within ninety (90) days upon the effectivity of~~
4 ~~this Act, [the implementing rules and regulations in consultation with the~~
5 ~~local government units, nongovernment organizations and people's~~
6 ~~organizations.] **THE DSWD, IN CONSULTATION AND**~~
7 ~~**COORDINATION WITH THE MEMBERS OF THE SOLO PARENTS**~~
8 ~~**SPECIAL REVIEW COMMITTEE, SHALL ISSUE THE NECESSARY**~~
9 ~~**RULES AND REGULATIONS FOR THE EFFECTIVE**~~
10 ~~**IMPLEMENTATION OF THIS ACT."**~~

11
12 Sec. 21. Section 14 of Republic Act No. 8972 is hereby amended to read as
13 follows:

14 **"Sec. [14] 23. Appropriations.** – The amount necessary to carry
15 out the provisions of this Act shall be included in the budget of **THE**
16 concerned government agencies in the General Appropriations Act (**GAA**).
17 ~~[of the year following its enactment into law and thereafter.]~~
18 **GOVERNMENT AGENCIES MAY ALSO UTILIZE A PORTION OF**
19 **THEIR RESPECTIVE GENDER AND DEVELOPMENT (GAD) BUDGET**
20 **TO IMPLEMENT THIS ACT ANCHORED ON THE GUIDELINES**
21 **ISSUED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND MANAGEMENT**
22 **(DBM), NEDA AND PCW."**

23
24 Sec. 22. Sections 15, 16 and 17 of Republic Act No. 8972 are hereby renumbered
25 as Sections 24, 25 and 26, respectively:

26
27 Sec. 23. *Repealing Clause.* – All laws, decrees, executive orders, administrative
28 orders or parts thereof inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed,
29 amended or modified accordingly.

1 Sec. 24. *Separability Clause.* – If any provision of this Act is held invalid or
2 unconstitutional, other provisions not affected thereby shall continue to be in full force
3 and effect.

4
5 Sec. 25. *Effectivity Clause.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days following
6 its complete publication in the Official Gazette or in at least two (2) newspapers of
7 general circulation.

8
9 Approved,