

FIFTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
First Regular Session

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SENATE
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

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SENATE
S.B. No. **1099**

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INTRODUCED BY SEN. MANNY VILLAR

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Violence against women can occur within the family or household, in the workplace, in educational institutions, even in churches. This bill if enacted will declare November 25 as a National Consciousness Day for Elimination of Violence Against Women. It aims to raise awareness on the urgency to address the problem of violence against women.

The enactment of this Bill into law will be one concrete fulfillment of the Philippine government's obligation under international human rights conventions. It will also be an affirmation of the State policy found in Article II, Section 11 of the 1987 Constitution which mandates the State to value the dignity of every human person and guarantee full respect for human rights. In view of the foregoing, the immediate passage of this Bill is earnestly sought.


MANNY VILLAR

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**AN ACT DECLARING NOVEMBER TWENTY-FIVE OF EVERY YEAR AS
"NATIONAL CONSCIOUSNESS DAY FOR THE ELIMINATION OF VIOLENCE
AGAINST WOMEN"**

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

SECTION 1. In recognition of the need to establish a comprehensive and structured campaign for national consciousness on anti-violence against women, November 25 of every year is hereby declared as "National Consciousness Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women".

SECTION 2. The following activities shall be undertaken in observance of this occasion:

- a) Heads of government agencies and instrumentalities, government owned and controlled corporations, local government units and employers in the private sector shall, together with their employees, organize, engage or participate in activities designed to raise public awareness on the problem of violence against women and the elimination of all forms of violence against women.
- b) The Philippine Information Agency shall be mandated to allocate a minimum of one (1) hour airtime for programs exclusively raising public awareness on the problem of violence against women and the elimination of all forms of violence against women. Relative thereto, all Kapisanan ng mga Broadkaster ng Pilipinas-affiliated television and radio networks nationwide are encouraged to allocate airtime for said programs.
- c) Publishers of local newspapers and magazines are encouraged to highlight the problem of violence against women and the elimination of all forms of violence against women.
- d) The Department of Education, the Commission on Higher Education and the Technical Education and Skills Development Authority, in coordination with the National Commission on the Role of Filipino Women (NCRFW), women nongovernmental organizations (NGOs) and other nongovernmental organizations advocating for women's human rights, shall lead public and private school communities at all levels in organizing consciousness-raising activities on the problem of violence against women and the elimination of all forms of violence against women.

SECTION 3. The National Statistics Office, the Philippine National Police, the Department of Social Welfare and Development, the Department of Labor and Employment, the Department of Foreign Affairs, the Commission on Filipinos Overseas (CFO) and all Philippine embassies and consulates shall, in coordination with the NCRFW, undertake data gathering and systematization database on all forms of violence against women, including Filipino women working and/or residing abroad. These agencies shall consolidate their findings and make a report to the public on the statistics and status of violence against women every November 25 of each year.

SECTION 4. A compliance and monitoring team headed by a duly designated representative of the NCRFW shall be created to coordinate and monitor the implementation of this Act. Said team shall be composed of one (1) representative from each of the following agencies:

- a) The National Commission on the Role of Filipino Women;
- b) The Department of Social Welfare and Development;
- c) The Department of Education;
- d) The Commission on Higher Education;
- e) The Department of the Interior and Local Government;
- f) The Department of Foreign Affairs;
- g) The Department of Justice;
- h) The Overseas Workers Welfare Administration;
- i) The Philippine Overseas Employment Administration;
- j) The Movie and Television Review and Classification Board;
- k) The Commission on Filipinos Overseas (CFO); and
- l) Three (3) NGO representatives coming from the sectors of women, children and overseas Filipino workers.

The team shall be headed by the duly designated representative of the NCRFW. Members of the team shall receive emoluments as may be determined by the team in accordance with existing budget and accounting rules and regulations.

SECTION 5. Funds for the implementation of the aforesaid activities, programs and projects shall be taken out of the five percent (5%) Gender and Development budget allotted to all government agencies and local government units.

SECTION 6. If, for any reason, any section or provision of this Act is held to be unconstitutional or invalid, the validity of the other sections herein shall not be affected thereby.

SECTION 7. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days following its publication in two (2) national newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,