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**SENATE**

Senate Bill No. 1281

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**INTRODUCED BY SEN. MANNY VILLAR**

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**EXPLANATORY NOTE**

The children are the State's most precious and valuable resource, and various public and private initiatives seek to decrease the number of preventable injuries and fatalities incurred by children.

Unintentional injury is the number one killer of children age 14 and under, and each year nearly 6,040 children are killed and at least 120,000 are permanently disabled by preventable injuries.

Motor vehicle crashes are the leading cause of death for children between the ages of four and 14, with more than 1,700 children under the age of 15 having died in motor vehicle crashes in 2000.

Annually, thousands of children under the age of 15 drown and more are treated in the hospital for water-related injuries.

The Internet has opened a world of information and educational resources, yet may be a dangerous place where pedophiles and con artists have access to our children, necessitating that parents monitor their children's use of the computer. Reports of child abductions and missing children seem to be on the rise. Research indicates that children are abused mostly by people they know and trust.

It is only proper and fitting for the State to recognize all resources and avenues to protect our children from preventable harm.

  
**MANNY VILLAR**

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**AN ACT  
DESIGNATING DECEMBER OF EACH YEAR AS "CHILD PROTECTION  
MONTH"**

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

**SECTION 1.** Title- This Act shall be known and cited as the "Child Protection Month".

**SECTION 2.** The month of December is permanently designated as Child Protection Month" in the Philippines.

**SECTION 3.** The Department of Social Welfare and Development shall urge all citizens to recognize "Child Protection Month" and shall hold programs and activities in observance of the event.

**SECTION 4.** Implementing Rules and Regulations.- The DSWD shall promulgate the appropriate rules and regulations necessary for the effective implementation of this Act within sixty (60) days from its approval.

**SECTION 5.** Repealing Clause.- Any law, presidential decree or issuance, executive order, letter of instruction, administrative order, rule or regulation contrary to or inconsistent with the provision of this Act is hereby repealed, modified or amended accordingly.

**SECTION 6.** Effectivity Clause.- This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved.