

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

FIFTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

House Bill No. 2814

Introduced by Rep. Eulogio "Amang" R. Magsaysay

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The promotion of peace and order and public safety can help boost the economic and social growth in the country and enhance the effective and efficient delivery of service to the citizenry.

At present, the DILG in partnership with the private sector has an ongoing program called PATROL "117" institutionalized by virtue of administrative order No. 124 dated 2 June 2000, Administrative Order # 36 dated 3 May 2002, and Executive Order #226 dated 14 July 2003.

This PATROL "117" program provides quick emergency response service for emergency, crime and other public safety concerns involving life threatening situations.

However, the PATROL "117" call center is beset with prank calls, crank calls, and other illegitimate calls that automatically clog the system, thereby depriving legitimate calls to enter the system. For example, from January to May of 2009, Patrol 117 received 5,200 prank calls and only 260 legitimate calls. Others are trying to test if the numbers are working while several just dial and either listen or hung up.

It is the intension of this proposed measure to educate our people specifically our children, of the importance of public safety in the lives of the Filipinos especially on handing and utilizing effectively hotline number, and ensuring crime prevention in the locality. It is also the belief of the proponent of this bill that youth, especially at a tender school age, is proper and appropriate subject of such public safety education.

Reducing the number of illegitimate calls in the "117" system will enable our responders to provide faster response and save more lives.

In consideration of the foregoing, immediate passage of this bill is requested.


EULOGIO "AMANG" R. MAGSAYSAY

FIFTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE)
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
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AN ACT
TO PROMOTE PUBLIC SAFETY EDUCATION AND AWARENESS
AMONG ELEMENTARY, HIGH SCHOOL AND COLLEGE STUDENTS,
PROVIDING STRATEGIES FOR ITS IMPLEMENTATION, APPROPRIATING
FUNDS THEREOF, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

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

Section 1. Title. - This Act shall be known as "*Public Safety Education and Awareness Act of 2010*".

Section 2. Declaration of Policy. - It is hereby declared a policy of the State to involve every citizen in the promotion of safety and security, which is a pre-condition to development, in keeping with the moral duties, obligation and responsibilities of a responsible citizenship.

Section 3. Definition of Terms. -

- a. Public safety education awareness – educating the grade school, high school and college students on public safety.
- b. Crime prevention – the state of absence of crime.
- c. Accident prevention – the state of absence of accident.
- d. Responding – proper response to crime or accident.
- e. Reporting – proper reporting of crime or accident to proper authority and hotline "117".
- f. Monitoring – information gathering related to crime on public safety violations.

Section 4. Establishing the Public Safety Education and Awareness

Program. - In pursuit of the foregoing declared policy, there shall be established a "Public Safety Education and Awareness Program", to be incorporated in the Department of Education (DepEd), Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA), Commission on Higher Education (CHED) curriculum standards for all public/private school levels.

Section 5. Strategies. -

- a. Incorporate the Public Safety Education and Awareness among children of school age, up to college level.
- b. Operationalize a community – focused system nationwide.
- c. Educate children on the consciousness of crime prevention, accident prevention, and other public safety undertaking.
- d. Educate children on the consciousness to report crime, emergency and other public safety violation to proper authorities and hotline "117".
- e. Educate children on how to respond such emergency on crime, either personally or as a witness of incident.
- f. Educate children on how to effectively monitor crime cases, and violation of safety.
- g. Education children on the existence of a universal hotline number "117" and how to safeguard the emergency hotline from prank-calls and unnecessary calls.
- h. Educate the citizenry that lesser prank and/or illegitimate calls to hotline "117" assure the public of being responded when there is emergency called through "117".

Section 6. Mandating the Incorporation of Public Safety Awareness in the Curriculum. - The DepEd, TESDA, CHED shall incorporate in the curriculum standards of all private and public schools the subject on Public Safety Education and Awareness and establish an evaluation mechanism on the effects and result thereof.

The public safety education subjects to be taken by the students shall be the following:

- a. Crime Prevention
- b. Accident Prevention
- c. Reporting Crimes and Emergencies
- d. Patrol "117" Program
- e. The impact of No-Crime to Society
- f. Citizens Involvement in Crime Prevention and Public Safety

Section 7. *Intervention of NGOs/ Community.* - The progressive development of the public safety and awareness program shall include the intervention of NGOs/private sectors of various communities/sectoral groups.

Section 8. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.* - The DepEd, TESDA, and CHED in coordination with the Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG) shall issue the implementing rules and regulation of this Act, ninety (90) days after its approval.

Section 9. *Separability Clause.* - If any provision of the act shall be held unconstitutional or invalid, other provisions not otherwise affected shall remain in full force and effect.

Section 10. *Repealing Clause.* - All laws, executive orders and issuances, or any part thereof which are inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or amended accordingly.

Section 11. *Effectivity Clause.* - This Act shall take immediately upon its approval.

Approved,