

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City, Metro Manila

SIXTEENTH CONGRESS

___ Regular Session

House Bill No. 6519



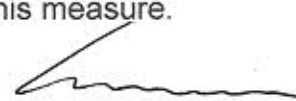
Introduced by: Rep. EVELIO R. LEONARDIA

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Street children refer to children spending a large percentage of their time living, working or playing on the street. For these children, the street is their playground, workplace and sometimes their home. Many street children are the sons or daughters of parents who have migrated from rural areas to urban areas in the search of work. These children are often forced to help their parents earn a living on the street. Other children go to the street to escape the pressures of life at home and to seek solace and support from their peers.

This bill seeks to establish a committee on rescue operations of street children. This is to provide consistent and clear policy guiding the rescue operations to implement the existing laws in accordance to the policy of the State to protect and rehabilitate children gravely threatened or endangered by circumstances which affect or will affect their survival and normal development and over which they have no control.

The foregoing reasons warrant the approval of this measure.


REP. EVELIO R. LEONARDIA
Lone District, Bacolod City

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**AN ACT ESTABLISHING A COMMITTEE ON RESCUE OPERATIONS OF
STREET CHILDREN**

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

Section 1. *Title.* This Act shall be known as the "Street Children Act of 2016".

Section 2. *Declaration of Policy.* It is the declared policy of the State to protect and rehabilitate children gravely threatened or endangered by circumstances which affect or will affect their survival and normal development and over which they have no control.

Section 3. *Budget.* The Secretary of the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) shall immediately include in the Department's programs the operationalization of the Committee on Rescue Operations of Street Children, the funding of which shall be included in the Annual General Appropriations Act.

Section 4. *Separability Clause.* Any portion or provision of this Act which may be declared unconstitutional or invalid shall not have the effect of nullifying other portions and provisions hereof.

Section 5. *Repealing Clause.* All other laws, ordinances, rules, regulations, and other issuances or parts thereof, which are inconsistent, with this Act, are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

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

Approved,