

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

SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS
Second Regular Session

House Bill No. 6576



Introduced by **Representatives LINABELLE RUTH R. VILLARICA and
SALVADOR B. BELARO JR.**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Parenting is unquestionably one of the hardest things in the world. Every parent battles with parenthood in their own way. But the struggle of single parents is more intense because they carry the emotional, physical, social and financial burden alone. Solo parents or what our society branded them as "na-tay" continues to increase in number. With this increase, it becomes necessary for the government to intervene and expand the coverage of the existing law, RA 8972 or the Solo Parents Welfare Act of 2000.

The proposed bill seeks to widen the definition of a solo parent to include persons who bears sole parental responsibility over a child, provided he or she is a foster parent duly-recognized by DSWD, a legal guardian appointed by the court or a legal single adoptive parent. Our proposed definition even extends to grandparents who are senior citizens over their minor or physically or mentally incapacitated children or grandchildren.

The current law made a distinction between the indigent and whose income is above the poverty threshold such that only the indigent solo parent is entitled to the comprehensive package of programs/services. Our bill seeks to eliminate the disparity and provide for an all encompassing package of social protection services to any solo parent, regardless of income bracket or financial status.

Some private companies, in order to save on expenses, sometimes refuse to grant the solo parent leave. Our bill expressly provide for parental leave benefits of seven (7) working days in both the private or government sector, regardless of employment status and lessen the requirement from one (1) year to six (6) months of service.

To respond to the ballooning expenses of the family, this bill seeks to add a new provision specifically on the entitlement of twenty percent (20%) discount on purchases of clothing for the child, baby's milk, food, food supplements, vaccines,

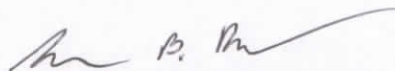
purchases of medicines, child's basic necessities, tuition fees in the college level, hospital bills, consultation and laboratory diagnostic fees among others.

The proposed bill added a new penal provision in the case of corporations or entities that fails to provide the discounts granted to solo parents. This will ensure the proper implementation of the proposed bill.

There are 14 million solo parents out of the country's total population of 94 million in 2007 according to a study by the Department of Health and the University of the Philippines – National Institutes of Health. With a 30.5% growth rate for the population of solo parents, the Federation of Solo Parents estimated that the number will reach 20 million this year. With this steady increase, we hereby urge our fellow legislators to support the immediate passage of the bill.



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Introduced by **Representatives LINABELLE RUTH R. VILLARICA and
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**AN ACT TO FURTHER EXTEND ASSISTANCE TO SOLO PARENTS BY
PROVIDING ADDITIONAL BENEFITS AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE
REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8972 OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE SOLO PARENTS
WELFARE ACT OF 2000**

*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 the “**EXPANDED** Solo Parents’
Welfare Act of 2000.

SECTION 2. Declaration of Policy – It is the policy of the State to promote the family
as the foundation of the nation, strengthen its solidarity and ensure its total
development. **IT IS ALSO THE OBLIGATION OF THE STATE TO ADHERE TO
NATIONAL LAWS AND INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENTS ON FAMILIES.**
Towards this end, it shall develop a comprehensive [program of] **PACKAGE OF
SOCIAL PROTECTION** services for solo parents and their children to be carried out
by the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD), the Department of
Health (DOH), **THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE (DOJ)**, the [Department of
Education, Culture and Sports (DECS), **DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION (DEPED)**,
the Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG), the Commission on
Higher Education (CHED), the Technical Education and Skills Development
Authority (TESDA), the National Housing Authority (NHA), the Department of Labor
and Employment (DOLE), **THE DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY (DTI),
THE BUREAU OF INTERNAL REVENUES (BIR), CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION
(CSC), THE NATIONAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (NEDA), THE
PHILIPPINE COMMISSION ON WOMEN (PCW) THE PHILIPPINE HEALTH
INSURANCE CORPORATION (PHILHEALTH), THE UNION OF LOCAL
AUTHORITIES (ULAP)** and other [related] **CONCERNED** government [and non-
government] **AGENCIES AND CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANIZATIONS WITH
RECOGNIZED CREDENTIALS IN PROVIDING SERVICES AND ADVOCACY FOR
SOLO PARENTS.**

SECTION 3. Definition of Terms – Whenever used in this Act, the following terms
shall mean as follows:

(a) "Solo parent" – any individual who falls under any of the following categories:

- (1) A [woman] **FEMALE** who gives birth as a result of rape and other crimes against [chastity] **PERSONS** even without a final conviction of the offender: Provided, That the mother [keeps and raises the child] **HAS THE CUSTODY OF THE CHILD OR CHILDREN AND BEARS THE SOLE PARENTAL RESPONSIBILITY;**
- (2) Parent left solo or alone with the responsibility of parenthood due to [death of spouse] **THE FOLLOWING CIRCUMSTANCES:**
 - A. DEATH OF THE SPOUSE**
 - B. [(3) Parent left solo or alone with the responsibility of parenthood while] Spouse is detained or is serving sentence for a criminal conviction [for at least one (1) year];
 - C. [(4) Parent left solo or alone with the responsibility of parenthood due to] Physical and/or mental incapacity of spouse as certified by a public **OR PRIVATE** medical practitioner;
 - D. [(5) Parent left solo or alone with the responsibility of parenthood due to] Legal separation or de facto separation from spouse; (for at least one (1) year, as long as he/she is entrusted with the custody of the children;]
 - E. [(6) Parent left solo or alone with the responsibility of parenthood due to] Declaration of nullity or annulment of marriage as decreed by (a) **THE court RECOGNIZED BY LAW** [or by a church as long as he/she is entrusted with the custody of the children]
 - F. [(7) Parent left solo or alone with the responsibility of parenthood due to] Abandonment of spouse for at least [one (1) year] SIX (6) MONTHS.**
- (3) [(8) Unmarried mother/father who has [preferred to keep and rear] **ACTUAL CUSTODY, SUPPORT, CARE AND EXERCISING SOLE PARENTAL AUTHORITY OVER HIS OR HER** child **OR** children instead of having others care for them or give them up to a welfare institution;
- (4) [(9) Any other person who [solely provides parental care and support to a child or children] **BEARS SOLE PARENTAL RESPONSIBILITY OVER A CHILD OR CHILDREN, PROVIDED HE OR SHE IS A FOSTER PARENT DULY-RECOGNIZED BY THE DSWD, A LEGAL GUARDIAN APPOINTED BY THE COURT OR A LEGAL SINGLE ADOPTIVE PARENT;**
- (5) (10) Any family member who [assumes the] **BEARS SOLE PARENTAL** responsibility [of head of family] as a result of the death, abandonment, disappearance or prolonged absence of the parent/s [or solo parent]. **IN CASES OF GRANDPARENTS WHO ARE SENIOR CITIZENS WHO HAVE THE SOLE PARENTAL RESPONSIBILITY OVER THEIR MINOR OR PHYSICALLY OR MENTALLY INCAPACITATED CHILDREN OR GRANDCHILDREN, THEY SHALL BE ENTITLED TO THE BENEFITS OF THIS ACT;**

A change in the status or circumstance of the parent **OR QUALIFIED FAMILY MEMBER OR GUARDIAN** claiming benefits under this Act, such

that he/she is no longer left alone with the responsibility of parenthood, shall terminate his/her eligibility for these benefits.

- (b) "Children OR **DEPENDENTS**" – refer to those living with and dependent upon the solo parent for support who are unmarried, unemployed and not more than eighteen (18) years of age, or even over eighteen (18) years but are incapable of self-support because of mental and/or physical defect/disability.
- (c) "Parental responsibility" – with respect to their minor children shall refer to the rights and duties of the parents as defined in Article 220 of Executive Order No. 209, as amended, otherwise known as the "Family Code of the Philippines"
- (d) "Parental leave" – shall mean leave benefits granted to a solo parent to enable him/her to perform parental duties and responsibilities where physical presence is required. **ALL LEGITIMATE SOLO PARENTS WORKING IN THE GOVERNMENT OR PRIVATE SECTOR SHALL BE QUALIFIED TO A SEVEN-DAY PARENTAL LEAVE WITH PAY.**
- (e) "Flexible work schedule" – is the right granted to a solo parent employee to vary his/her arrival and departure time without affecting the core work hours as defined by the employer
- (f) **BASIC NECESSITIES – REFER TO RICE, CORN, BREAD, FRESH DRIED AND CANNED FISH AND OTHER MARINE PRODUCTS, FRESH PORK, BEEF AND POULTRY, MEAT, FRESH EGGS, FRESH AND PROCESSED MILK, FRESH VEGETABLES, ROOT CROPS, COFFEE, SUGAR, COOKING OIL, SALT, LAUNDRY SOAP, DETERGENTS, AND DRUGS CLASSIFIED AS ESSENTIAL BY THE DOH AND OTHER COMMODITIES AS MAY BE CLASSIFIED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY (DTI) AND THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE (DA) ACCORDING TO REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7581 OR THE PRICE ACT.**

SECTION 4. Criteria for Support – Any solo parent whose income in the place of [domicile] **RESIDENCE** falls below the poverty threshold as set by the [National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA) and subject to the assessment of the DSWD worker] **PHILIPPINE STATISTICS AUTHORITY (PSA) AND SUBJECT TO THE ASSESSMENT OF THE LOCAL SOCIAL WELFARE AND DEVELOPMENT OFFICER** in the area **WHERE THE SOLO PARENT RESIDES** shall be eligible for **ADDITIONAL FINANCIAL assistance RESERVED FOR THE POOR AND INDIGENT SOLO PARENTS AS DETERMINED BY THE PROPER GOVERNMENT AGENCIES**. Provided, [however, That any solo parent whose income is above the poverty threshold shall enjoy the benefits mentioned in Section 6, 7 and 8 of this Act] **THAT ANY SOLO PARENT, REGARDLESS OF THE INCOME BRACKET OR FINANCIAL STATUS SHALL ENJOY THE BENEFITS UNDER THE COMPREHENSIVE PACKAGE OF SOCIAL PROTECTION SERVICES, SUCH AS BUT NOT LIMITED TO LIVELIHOOD OPPORTUNITIES, LEGAL ADVICE AND ASSISTANCE, COUSSELLING SERVICES, PARENT EFFECTIVENESS SERVICES, CRITICAL INCIDENCE STRESS DEBRIEFING AND OTHER SPECIAL PROJECTS MENTIONED IN SECTION 5 OF THIS ACT.**

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

The DSWD shall coordinate with concerned agencies the implementation of the comprehensive package of social [development and welfare] **PROTECTION** services for solo parents and their families. The package will initially include:

- (a) Livelihood development services which include trainings on livelihood skills, basic business management, value orientation and the provision of seed capital or job placement;
- (b) Counseling services which include individual, peer group or family counseling which shall focus on the resolution of personal relationship and role conflicts;
- (c) Parent effectiveness services which include the provision and expansion of knowledge and skills of the solo parent on early childhood development, behavior management, health care, rights and duties of parents and children;
- (d) Critical incidence stress debriefing which includes preventive stress management strategy designed to assist solo parents in coping with crisis situations and cases of abuse;
- (e) Special projects for individuals in need of protection which include temporary shelter, counseling, legal assistance, medical care, self-concept or ego-building and crisis management;

SECTION 6. Flexible Work Schedule – The employer shall provide for a flexible working schedule for solo parents: Provided, That the same shall not affect individual and company productivity: Provided, further, That any employer may request exemption from the above requirements from the DOLE on certain meritorious cases.

SECTION 7. Work Discrimination – No employer shall discriminate against any solo parent employee with respect to terms and conditions of employment on account of his/her status.

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

SECTION 9. Educational Benefits – The [DECS] **DEPED**, CHED, and TESDA shall provide the following benefits and privileges:

- (1) Scholarship **AND/OR GRANTS** [programs] for qualified solo parents and their children in institutions of basic, [tertiary and technical/skills education] **HIGHER AND TECHNICAL/VOCATIONAL EDUCATIONAL AND TRAINING**; and
- (2) Non-formal education programs appropriate for solo parents and their children.

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

SECTION 10. *Housing Benefits* – Solo parents shall be given allocation in housing projects and shall be provided with liberal terms of payment on said government low-cost housing projects in accordance with housing law provisions prioritizing applicants below the poverty line as declared by the [NEDA] **PHILIPPINE STATISTICS AUTHORITY**.

SECTION 11. *Medical Assistance* – The DOH shall develop a comprehensive health care program for solo parents and their children. The program shall be implemented by the DOH through their retained hospitals and medical centers; and the local government units (LGUs) through their provincial/district/city/municipal hospitals and rural health units (RHUs).

SECTION 12. *Additional Powers and Functions of the DSWD* – The DSWD shall perform the following additional powers and functions relative to the welfare of solo parents and their families:

- (a) Conduct research necessary to: (1) develop a new body of knowledge on solo parents; (2) define executive and legislative measures needed to promote and protect the interest of solo parents and their children; and (3) assess the effectiveness of programs designed for disadvantaged solo parents and their children;
- (b) Coordinate the activities of various governmental and nongovernmental organizations engaged in promoting and protecting the interests of solo parents and their children; and
- (c) Monitor the implementation of the provisions of this Act and suggest mechanisms by which such provisions are effectively implemented.

SECTION 13. SOLO PARENT IDENTIFICATION CARD (SPIC) – THE LOCAL SOCIAL WELFARE AND DEVELOPMENT OFFICE (LSWDO) SHALL ISSUE THE SOLO PARENT IDENTIFICATION CARD UPON THE PRESENTATION OF THE APPLICANT OF THE FOLLOWING DOCUMENTS:

- A. BARANGAY CERTIFICATION CERTIFYING THAT THE SOLO PARENT IS A RESIDENT OF THE BARANGAY FOR THE LAST SIX (6) MONTHS PRECEEDING THE APPLICATION;
- B. BARANGAY CERTIFICATION OF CIRCUMSTANCES THAT QUALIFIES THE APPLICANT AS A SOLO PARENT AS REQUIRED BY THIS ACT.
- C. CERTIFICATION FROM THE PROPER GOVERNMENT AGENCY AS PROOF OF BIRTH OF CHILD/CHILDREN, DEATH OF PARENTS OR SPOUSE AND OTHER DOCUMENTARY SUPPORT TO ATTEST THE CIRCUMSTANCES THAT QUALIFIES THE APPLICANT AS A SOLO PARENT;

- D. INCOME TAX RETURN OR ANY EQUIVALENT DOCUMENT THAT ESTABLISHES THE INCOME OR FINANCIAL STATUS OF THE SOLO PARENT**

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

SECTION 14. *Additional Benefits* – A SOLO PARENT SHALL BE ENTITLED TO TWENTY PERCENT (20%) DISCOUNT ON THE FOLLOWING ITEMS:

- A) ALL PURCHASES OF CLOTHING AND CLOTHING MATERIAL FOR THE CHILD FOR PURCHASES MADE FROM CHILD'S BIRTH UNTIL TWELVE (12) YEARS OF AGE;**
- B) ALL PURCHASES OF BABY'S MILK, FOOD, FOOD SUPPLEMENTS AND SANITARY DIAPERS FOR PURCHASES MADE FROM CHILD'S BIRTH UNTIL THREE (3) YEARS OF AGE;**
- C) ALL PURCHASES OF MEDICINES, VACCINES AND OTHER MEDICAL SUPPLEMENT, SUPPLIES, ACCESSORIES AND EQUIPMENTS FOR THE CHILD, FOR PURCHASES MADE FROM THE CHILD'S BIRTH UNTIL EIGHTEEN (18) YEARS OF AGE;**
- D) ALL PURCHASES OF THE CHILD'S BASIC NECESSITIES;**
- E) ALL PURCHASES OF SCHOOL SUPPLIES FOR THE CHILD, FOR PURCHASES MADE FROM THE CHILD'S BIRTH UNTIL TWENTY-ONE (21) YEARS OF AGE;**
- F) TUITION FEES PER CHILD WHO ARE IN THE COLLEGE LEVEL IN BOTH PRIVATE AND PUBLIC COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES AND SCHOOLS, ON TOP OF ANY SCHOLARSHIP GRANTS IF ANY;**
- G) HOSPITAL BILL OF THE SOLO PARENT OR HIS OR HER CHILD IF ADMITTED FOR MEDICAL CARE AND ATTENTION, BOTH IN PRIVATE AND PUBLIC HOSPITALS;**
- H) CONSULTATION AND LABORATORY DIAGNOSTIC FEES AND PURCHASE OF MEDICINES FOR SOLO PARENTS AND THEIR DEPENDENTS;**
- I) ALL PRIVATE AND PUBLIC RECREATIONAL FACILITIES, PROVIDED THAT THE DISCOUNT CAN ONLY BE AVAILED WHEN THE SOLO PARENT AND CHILDREN ARE TOGETHER.**

THE GRANT OF TWENTY PERCENT (20%) DISCOUNT WILL NOT APPLY TO SOLO PARENTS WHO ARE SENIOR CITIZENS, WHO HAVE AVAILED OF THE DISCOUNT FOR THE SAME ITEMS PROVIDED IN THE EXPANDED SENIOR CITIZENS ACT OF 2003

COMPANIES AND BUSINESS ESTABLISHMENTS WHERE THE SAID DISCOUNTS WERE AVAILED, SHALL BE ENTITLED TO CLAIM SAID DISCOUNTS AS PART OF THEIR BUSINESS EXPENSE. PROVIDED THAT THEY MAINTAIN A DETAILED AND SEPARATE RECORDS OF THE DISCOUNTED PURCHASES.

SECTION 15. CREATION OF THE SOLO PARENTS' SPECIAL INTER-AGENCY REVIEW COMMITTEE AND TASK FORCE – AN INTER-AGENCY COMMITTEE SHALL BE CREATED TO COORDINATE AND MONITOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THIS ACT. THE COMMITTEE SHALL BE COMPRISED OF THE FOLLOWING AGENCIES:

- A. DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL WELFARE AND DEVELOPMENT (DSWD), AS CHAIR;
- B. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH (DOH);
- C. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE (DOJ);
- D. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION (DEPED);
- E. DEPARTMENT OF INTERIOR AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT (DILG), AS CO-CHAIR;
- F. COMMISSION ON HIGHER EDUCATION (CHED)
- G. TECHNICAL EDUCATION AND SKILLS DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (TESDA)
- H. NATIONAL HOUSING AUTHORITY (NHA);
- I. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT (DOLE);
- J. BUREAU OF INTERNAL REVENUE;
- K. PHILIPPINE HEALTH INSURANCE CORPORATION (PHILHEALTH);
- L. AT LEAST TWO (2) NON GOVERNMENT OR CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANIZATION WITH PROVEN CREDENTIALS IN ADVOCATING FOR THE RIGHTS AND WELFARE, AS WELL AS PROVIDING SERVICES TO SOLO PARENTS

THIS COMMITTEE SHALL SUBMIT AN ANNUAL REPORT TO THE CONGRESS ON THE STATUS OF IMPLEMENTATION OF THIS ACT, FOLLOWING ITS EFFECTIVITY.

SECTION 16. SOLO PARENTS AFFAIRS OFFICE – A SOLO PARENT AFFAIRS OFFICE SHALL BE ESTABLISHED IN EVERY LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNIT. IN LINE WITH THIS REQUIREMENT, A SOLO PARENTS HELP DESK SHALL BE PLACED IN EVERY BARANGAY FOR THE IMMEDIATE ASSISTANCE OF SOLO PARENTS AND THEIR CHILDREN.

SECTION 17. NATIONAL SOLO PARENTS DAY AND WEEK – TO COMMEMORATE THE ROLE AND SIGNIFICANCE OF EVERY SOLO PARENT IN THE PHILIPPINES, SOLO PARENTS WEEK SHALL BE EVERY THIRD (3RD) WEEK OF APRIL AND THE NATIONAL SOLO PARENTS DAY SHALL BE EVERY THIRD (3RD) SATURDAY OF APRIL OF EVERY YEAR.

SECTION 18. PENALTIES – ANY PERSON, CORPORATION, ENTITY OR AGENCY WHICH REFUSES OR FAILS TO PROVIDE THE BENEFITS GRANTED TO SOLO PARENTS IN VIOLATION OF THIS ACT SHALL SUFFER THE FOLLOWING PENALTIES:

1. FOR THE FIRST VIOLATION – A FINE OF NOT LESS THAT TEN THOUSAND PESOS (P10,000.00) BUT NOT MORE THAN FIFTY THOUSAND PESOS (P50,000.00) OR IMPRISONMENT OF NOT LESS

THAT SIX (6) MONTHS BUT NOT MORE THAN ONE (1) YEAR, OR BOTH, AT THE DISCRETION OF THE COURT.

2. FOR ANY SUBSEQUENT VIOLATION – A FINE OF NOT LESS THAN ONE HUNDRED THOUSAND PESOS (P 100,000.00) BUT NOT MORE THAN TWO HUNDRED THOUSAND PESOS (P200,000.00) OR IMPRISONMENT OF NOT LESS THAN ONE (1) YEAR BUT NOT MORE THAN TWO (2) YEARS, OR BOTH, AT THE DISCRETION OF THE COURT.

ANY PERSON WHO MISINTERPRETS THE STATUS OR FALSIFIES ANY DOCUMENT TO AVAIL OF THE BENEFITS PROVIDED UNDER THIS ACT OR ANY PERSON WHO ABUSES THE PRIVILEGES GRANTED HEREIN SHALL BE PUNISHED WITH A FINE NOT LESS THAN TEN THOUSAND PESOS (P 10,000.00) BUT NOT MORE THAN FIFTY THOUSAND PESOS (P50,000.00) AND IMPRISONMENT OF NOT LESS THAN SIX (6) MONTHS.

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

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

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

UPON FINDING BY THE SOLO PARENTS' SPECIAL REVIEW COMMITTEE THAT A DEPARTMENT, AGENCY OR INSTRUMENTALITY OF THE GOVERNMENT, A GOVERNMENT OWNED AND CONTROLLED CORPORATION (GOCC) OR A LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNIT HAD VIOLATED ANY PROVISION OF THIS ACT, SANCTIONS UNDER THE ADMINISTRATIVE LAW, CIVIL SERVICE OR OTHER LAWS MAY BE RECOMMENDED TO THE CSC OR THE DILG AGAINST THE HEAD OF THE AGENCY OR THE LOCAL CHIEF EXECUTIVE AND THE PERSON DIRECTLY RESPONSIBLE FOR THE VIOLATION.

SECTION [13] 19. *Implementing Rules and Regulations* – [An interagency committee headed by the DSWD, in coordination with the DOH, DECS, CHED, TESDA, DOLE, NHA and DILG is hereby established which shall formulate,] Within ninety (90) days upon the effectivity of this Act, [the implementing rules and regulations in consultation with the local government units, nongovernment organizations and people's organization.] **THE DSWD, IN CONSULTATION AND COORDINATION WITH THE MEMBERS OF THE SOLO PARENTS' SPECIAL REVIEW COMMITTEE, SHALL ISSUE THE NECESSARY RULES AND REGULATIONS FOR THE EFFECTIVE IMPLEMENTATION OF THIS ACT.**

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

SECTION [15] 21. Repealing Clause – All laws, decrees, executive orders, administrative orders or parts thereof inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed, amended or modified accordingly.

SECTION [16] 22. Separability Clause – If any provision of this Act is held invalid or unconstitutional, other provisions not affected thereby shall continue to be in full force and effect.

SECTION [17] 23. Effectivity Clause – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days following its complete publication in the Official Gazette or in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,