

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Batasan Hills, Quezon City

NINETEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

House Bill No. 5735



Introduced by

HON. YEDDA MARIE K. ROMUALDEZ
and
HON. JUDE A. ACIDRE

AN ACT
TO INSTITUTE THE NATIONAL COMMISSION ON THE FAMILY AND FOR OTHER
PURPOSES

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Under the 1987 Constitution, the Filipino family is considered as the foundation of the nation, and thus, the State is mandated to strengthen its solidarity and promote its total development.

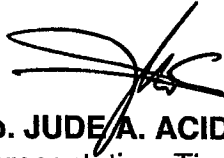
While there are already existing programs and policies offered both by government and non-government organizations and associations that assist Filipino families, these are mainly for indigent and marginalized families. The State must ensure that all families, regardless of economic and social standing, are protected and secured. There needs to be a more inclusive and holistic approach that shall advance the interests and address the needs of every Filipino family.

In line with the constitutional mandate, this bill seeks to create a Commission on the Family that will cater to the needs and demands of every Filipino family.

In view of the foregoing, approval of this bill is earnestly sought.



Rep. YEDDA MARIE K. ROMUALDEZ
Representative, Tingog Sinirangan



Rep. JUDE A. ACIDRE
Representative, Tingog Sinirangan

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

Section 1. *Short Title.* This Act shall be known as the “National Family Commission of the Philippines Act.”

Section 2. *Declaration of Policy.* The family is the basic social unit of Philippine society, as such, it is hereby declared the policy of the State to institute all programs geared towards the preservation and strengthening of the family as an institution.

Section 3. *Creation of the National Family Commission.* There is hereby created a National Family Commission, hereinafter referred to as the Commission, that shall serve as the primary policy formulation and data collation agency of the country geared towards the fulfillment of the constitutional mandate to strengthen and protect the family as a basic unit of the Philippine society and attached to the Office of the President.

Section 4. *National Family Commission Officers.* The Commission shall be

headed by a Chairperson and assisted by two (2) Associate Commissioners who shall all be members of the Integrated Bar of the Philippines (IBP) for at least ten (10) years in active practice. They shall be appointed by the President of the Philippines for a one-time term of six (6) years with no re-appointment.

Section 5. *Executive Council.* There is hereby created an Executive Council, hereinafter referred to as the Council, composed of the following:

1. The Chairperson of the Commission as Chairman;
2. The Secretary of the Department of Justice;
3. The Secretary of the Department of Education;
4. The Secretary of the Department of Social Welfare and Development;
5. The Secretary of the Department of Labor and Employment;
6. The Secretary of the Department of Health;
7. The Secretary of the Department of Interior and Local Government;
8. The Director General of the National Economic and Development Administration (NEDA); and,
9. A representative from the Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA).

The Executive Council shall be the policy-making body of the Commission.

Section 6. *Powers of the Commission.* The Commission shall have the following powers:

- a) Establish a national database on information on family matters, problems, and implemented solutions particularly those from other jurisdictions;
- b) Formulate policies on the development of family ties and the resolution of common family problems;
- c) Formulation of programs that would develop the interrelationship of family members with each other and with other members of the community;
- d) Institute a nationwide family program with emphasis on how to face the challenges of the modern millennium; and,
- e) Institute other programs that may be determined by the Council.

Section 7. *Secretariat.* There is hereby created a Secretariat to assist the Commissioners in the discharge of their functions. The Secretariat shall be headed by an Executive Director who shall also be a member of the IBP and assisted by other personnel to be determined by the Council.

Section 8. *Appropriations.* The amount needed for the initial implementation of this Act shall be taken from the current year's appropriation. Thereafter, such fund as may be necessary for the continuous implementation of this Act shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

Section 8. *Separability Clause.* If any provision of this Act is declared unconstitutional or invalid, the remainder of this Act or any provisions not affected thereby shall remain in force and effect.

Section 9. *Repealing Clause.* Any law, presidential decree or issuance, executive order, letter of instruction, rule, or regulation contrary to or inconsistent with the provisions of this Act is hereby repealed, modified, amended accordingly.

Section 10. *Effectivity Clause.* This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its complete publication in the Official Gazette or a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,