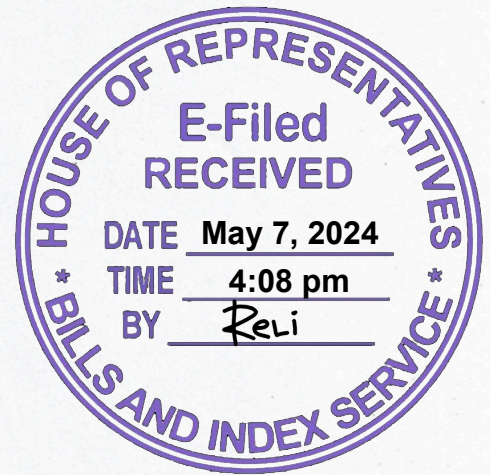


Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City, Metro Manila

NINETEENTH CONGRESS
Second Regular Session

House Bill No. **10366**



**INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVES RALPH WENDEL P. TULFO,
JOCELYN P. TULFO, AND ERWIN T. TULFO**

**AN ACT PROVIDING FOR A COMPREHENSIVE AND RESPONSIVE CIVIL
REGISTRATION AND VITAL STATISTICS SYSTEM, PROVIDING FUNDS
THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

In 1930, the Law on Registry of Civil Status or Act No. 3753 established a civil register for the purpose of recording the civil status of persons. Presently, the Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA) serves as the central statistical authority of the Philippine government on primary data collection and is mandated to carry out, enforce, and administer civil registration functions in the country, pursuant to Republic Act No. 10625, otherwise known as the "Philippine Statistical Act of 2013".

However, both Acts fell short in creating a civil registration and vital statistics system which encompasses the complete process of collecting information on the occurrence and characteristics of vital events (*e.g.*, birth, death, cause of death, marriage, adoption, etc.) and generating vital statistics through the compilation, analysis, evaluation, presentation, and dissemination of data.

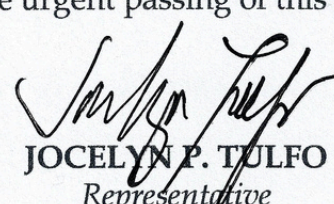
This proposed legislative measure seeks to provide for a comprehensive and responsive Civil Registration and Vital Statistics System which shall standardize and modernize registration procedures to establish the identity of an individual for

administrative and legal purposes. In order to establish the most precise identity of an individual for the benefit of the general public, efficient and simplified procedures in recording vital events shall be applied in civil registration. Aside from ensuring the efficient gathering and easier retrieval and recording of statistics, this System shall also provide equal access that is affordable, available, and able to protect the rights of all citizens, especially children.

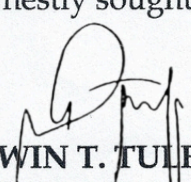
In view of the foregoing, the urgent passing of this bill is earnestly sought.



RALPH WENDEL P. TULFO
Representative
2nd District of Quezon City



JOCELYN P. TULFO
Representative
ACT-CIS Partylist



ERWIN T. TULFO
Representative
ACT-CIS Partylist

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

NINETEENTH CONGRESS
Second Regular Session

House Bill No. **10366**

**INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVES RALPH WENDEL P. TULFO,
JOCELYN P. TULFO, AND ERWIN T. TULFO**

1 **AN ACT PROVIDING FOR A COMPREHENSIVE AND RESPONSIVE CIVIL**
2 **REGISTRATION AND VITAL STATISTICS SYSTEM, PROVIDING FUNDS**
3 **THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES**
4

5 *Be it enacted by the Senate and the House of Representatives of the Philippines in Congress*
6 *assembled:*
7

8 **SECTION 1. *Short Title.*** – This Act shall be known as the “Civil Registration and
9 Vital Statistics (CRVS) Act”.
10

11 **SEC. 2. *Declaration of Policy.*** – The State shall promote and maintain an efficient,
12 responsive, inclusive, and accessible civil registration and vital statistics system.
13 Towards this end, standardization and modernization of registration procedures is
14 necessary to establish the identity of an individual for administrative and legal
15 purposes. Moreover, efficient and simplified procedures in recording vital events must
16 be applied in civil registration in order to establish the most precise identity of an
17 individual for the benefit of the general public.
18

1 The State declares the registration of all births, deaths, and marriages without
2 discrimination as a national State policy.

3
4 In the implementation of the policy stated above, the State, in enacting this Civil
5 Registration and Vital Statistics Act, institutionalizes and hereby maintains a legal
6 framework related to the Civil Registration and Vital Statistics (CRVS), ensuring a
7 system that provides equal access that is affordable, available, and protects the rights of
8 all citizens, especially children. Such system will also ensure the gathering of statistics
9 and easier retrieval and recording of statistics.

10
11 The enactment of this policy reaffirms the commitment of the State to the
12 international standards and recommendations, according to the principles of the
13 universal human right to be recognized as a person before the law (UDHR Art. VI), to
14 children's right to nationality, registration after birth (UN CRC Art. VII), the right to
15 identity (UN CRC Art. VIII), the right to be protected from discrimination based on race,
16 sex, colour, language, religion, national or social origin (ICCPR Art. XXIV), the right to
17 nationality of persons with disabilities (CRPD Art. XVIII), the right of adolescents to
18 birth registration (UNCRC GC 20, Art. VIII), the right of children in street situations to
19 be proactively supported to obtain legal identity documents, and the right of all
20 children at all ages to free, accessible, simple, and expeditious birth registration (UN
21 CRC GC 21, Art. XV), and the right of all Filipino migrant workers to be recognized as
22 a person of the law (ICMW, Art. XXIV) on CRVS.

23
24 The State shall endeavor to facilitate the realization of the people's rights and support
25 good governance, health, and development through the universal and responsive
26 CRVS system. In this light, the State shall work towards reaching the following goals
27 from the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child and the Declaration of Civil
28 Registration in Southeast Asia:

1 Goal 1: Universal civil registration of all births, deaths, marriages, and other vital
2 events based on accurate data;

3
4 Goal 2: Entitlement to all individuals to legal documentation of civil registration
5 of their births, deaths, marriages, and other vital events, as necessary, to claim
6 identity, civil status, and ensuing rights;

7
8 Goal 3: Production and dissemination of accurate, complete, and timely vital
9 statistics (including the cause of death) are processed based on registration records;

10
11 Goal 4: Free, accessible, simple, and expeditious birth registration is provided to
12 all at all ages; and

13
14 Goal 5: The civil registration documents are used as main tools for child protection
15 in relation to education, health, and other social services, justice, inheritance, and
16 family reunification.

17
18 **SEC. 3. Coverage.** – This law shall embrace all acts, events, and judicial and
19 administrative issuances affecting the civil status and vital statistics of persons in the
20 Philippines and all Filipino citizens abroad, including all children with at least one
21 Filipino parent.

22
23 **SEC. 4. Definition of Terms.** – As used in this Act, the following terms are defined as
24 follows:

25
26 (a) *Abandoned child* refers to a child who has no proper parental care or
27 guardianship, a foundling, or one who has been deserted by one's parents for a
28 period of at least three (3) continuous months, and has been declared as such by
29 the National Authority for Child Care (NACC);

- 1
- 2 (b) *Abandoned Filipino child in foreign country* refers to an unregistered or
- 3 undocumented child found outside the Philippine territory, with known or
- 4 unknown facts of birth, separated from or deserted by the biological Filipino
- 5 parent/guardian, or custodian for a period of at least three (3) continuous
- 6 months and committed to a foreign orphanage or charitable institution or in a
- 7 temporary informal care, and has been declared as such by the NACC, upon
- 8 recommendation of the Office of the Social Welfare Attaché (OSWA) of the
- 9 Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD), or the Department of
- 10 Foreign Affairs (DFA);
- 11
- 12 (c) *Barangay Civil Registration System (BCRS)* refers to a scheme to facilitate extensive
- 13 civil registration at the barangay level involving all barangay officials assisting
- 14 the Local Civil Registrars in civil registration work, as provided in Section
- 15 394(d)(5) of Republic Act No. 7160, otherwise known as the “Local Government
- 16 Code of 1991”;
- 17
- 18 (d) *Birth attendant* refers exclusively to persons with midwifery skills such as
- 19 licensed doctors, midwives, and nurses who have been trained to proficiency in
- 20 the skills necessary to manage normal deliveries and diagnose, manage, or refer
- 21 obstetric complications;
- 22
- 23 (e) *Child* refers to any person below 18 years of age or 18 years or older who is unable
- 24 to fully take care of himself/herself from abuse, neglect, cruelty, exploitation, or
- 25 discrimination because of a physical or mental disability or condition;
- 26
- 27 (f) *Children in Need of Special Protection (CNSP)* refers to all children who are
- 28 vulnerable to or are victims of abuse, neglect, exploitation, cruelty,

1 discrimination, and nature- or human-induced violence, which includes the
2 following:

- 3
- 4 • Those who are abused sexually or physically;
- 5 • Those who are in commercial sexual exploitation;
- 6 • Those who are at risk and in conflict with the law;
- 7 • Those who are in situations of armed conflict;
- 8 • Those who are engaged in the worst forms of labor;
- 9 • Those who suffer mental, physical, learning, and other disabilities;
- 10 • Those with HIV, AIDS, or other sexually-transmitted infections;
- 11 • Those who may be found in the streets;
- 12 • Those who are engaged in the use of illegal substance;
- 13 • Those who are affected by the war on drugs;
- 14 • Those who are abandoned or without a primary caregiver;
- 15 • Those who are displaced, refugees, and stateless; and
- 16 • Those who are abandoned Filipino children in a foreign country.
- 17

18 (g) *Circuit Registrar* refers to the Clerk of Court of a Shari'a Circuit Court performing
19 as Circuit Registrar of Muslim marriages, divorces, revocations of divorces, and
20 conversions with the respective court's jurisdiction, as provided in Title VI, Book
21 Two of Presidential Decree No. 1083, otherwise known as the "Code of Muslim
22 Personal Laws of the Philippines";

23

24 (h) *Civil Registration* refers to the continuous, permanent, universal, and compulsory
25 documentation of occurrences and characteristics of vital events in the life of a
26 person, including any modifications thereof during his lifetime and until his
27 death, as provided for by this Act;

28

- 1 (i) *Civil Register* refers to the various civil registry books and related certificates and
2 documents where registrable acts, events, and judicial and administrative
3 issuances concerning the civil status of a person are recorded and kept in the
4 archives of the Civil Registrar's Offices, Philippine Consulate Offices, Shari'a
5 District and Circuit Courts, and the Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA);
6
- 7 (j) *Civil Registrar (CR)* refers to the head of the Local Civil Registry Office (Civil
8 Registrar's Office), the Consul General (CG) in the Philippine Consulate Offices,
9 or the Clerk of Court in Shari'a District and Circuit court;
10
- 11 (k) *Civil Registrar General (CRG)* refers to the head of the PSA who is also the
12 National Statistician of the government of the Philippines;
13
- 14 (l) *Consul General (CG)* refers to the head of a Philippine Consulate Office acting as
15 Civil Registrar of all civil registry documents involving Filipinos in a foreign
16 country;
17
- 18 (m) *Civil Registry Document* refers to a certificate or any document relating to the civil
19 status of a person who is recorded and kept in the archives of the Civil
20 Registrar's Offices, Philippine Consulate Offices, Shari'a District and Circuit
21 courts, and the PSA;
22
- 23 (n) *District Recorder (DR)* refers to the Clerk of Court of the Shari'a District Court
24 performing civil registration-related functions as District Recorder of Muslim
25 marriages, divorces, revocation of divorces, and conversions with the respective
26 court's territorial jurisdiction, as provided in Title VI, Book Two of P.D. No. 1083;
27
- 28 (o) *Foundling* refers to a deserted or abandoned child or infant with unknown facts
29 of birth and parentage and this shall also include those who have been duly

1 registered as a foundling during her or his infant childhood, but have reached
2 the age of majority without benefitting from adoption procedures upon the
3 passage of this law, pursuant to Republic Act No. 11767, otherwise known as the
4 “Foundling Recognition and Protection Act”;

5
6 (p) *Legal Instrument* refers to any legal documents that would be officially issued
7 pursuant to this Act;

8
9 (q) *Live Birth* refers to a complete expulsion or extraction from its mother of a
10 product/s of conception, irrespective of the duration of the pregnancy, which
11 after such separation, breathes or shows any other evidence of life, such as
12 beating of the heart, pulsation of the umbilical cord, or definitive movement of
13 voluntary muscles, whether or not the umbilical cord has been cut or the
14 placenta is attached;

15
16 (r) *Local Archive Authority (LAA)* refers to the Local Civil Registrar or the authorized
17 representative of the Local Civil Registrar’s Office of each city and municipality
18 who has the duty to establish, keep, and maintain the local archives to include
19 its mandatory digitalization of all civil registry documents for the herein
20 provided Digital Linkages and Interconnection of All Participating LRCOs;

21
22 (s) *Local Civil Registrar (LCR)* refers to the head of the Civil Registrar’s Office;

23
24 (t) *National Statistician* refers to the head of the PSA acting as the CRG for the
25 purpose of this Act; and

26
27 (u) *Out-of-Town Reporting* refers to the occurrence wherein the certificate of live birth
28 or death is presented to the civil registrar of a city or municipality which is not
29 the place of birth or death, not for registration but to be forwarded to the civil

1 registrar of the city or municipality where the birth or death occurred and where
2 it should be registered.

3
4 **SEC. 5. *Duties and Functions of the Civil Registrar General.*** – The Office of the Civil
5 Registrar General (OCRG) shall have the following duties and functions:

6
7 (a) *Policy-making Functions.*

- 8
9 1. Prepare and promulgate the implementing rules and regulations pertaining
10 to civil registration laws and all subsequent issuances relative thereto, in
11 close collaboration with the Department of the Interior and Local
12 Government (DILG) and Philippine Association of Civil Registrars (PACR);
13 2. Issue circulars and memoranda pertaining to civil registration enhancements
14 as part of the functions of the OCRG;

15
16 (b) *Provision of Technical Support to Local Civil Registry Offices.*

- 17
18 1. Provide technical supervision to the City/Municipal Civil Registrar
19 (C/MCRs) and other Local Civil Registry Officers; and
20 2. Provide ways and means to assist Civil Registrars for the reconstruction of
21 Local Archives as the need arises; and

22
23 (c) *National Civil Registry Depository.* Act as the national central depository of all civil
24 registry documents submitted to the OCRG for archiving from all civil registry
25 offices of the Philippines, for backup database and statistical analysis purposes
26 only.

27
28 **SEC. 6. *Duties of the City/Municipal Civil Registrar.*** – The appointment of C/MCRs
29 shall be mandatory for city and municipal governments.

1
2 The C/MCR shall be responsible for the civil registration programs in the local
3 government unit (LGU) concerned, pursuant to this Act, other existing laws, rules, and
4 regulations.

5
6 The C/MCR shall develop plans and strategies and, upon approval thereof by the
7 mayor, implement the same, particularly those which pertains to civil registry
8 programs and projects.

9
10 The C/MCR shall:

- 11
- 12 (a) As much as practicable, assist in the preparation, and accept and register all
13 registrable events and documents occurring within his or her jurisdiction
14 affecting the civil status of persons;
 - 15 (b) File registrable certificates and documents presented to him or her for entry;
 - 16 (c) Compile copies of every document registered and transmit to CRG within the
17 first ten (10) calendar days of the succeeding month;
 - 18 (d) Issue certified transcripts or copies of any certificate or document registered,
19 upon payment of the prescribed fees;
 - 20 (e) Classify, digitize, index, and preserve all registered documents in accordance
21 with the appropriate archiving procedures;
 - 22 (f) Administer oaths free of charge for civil registry purposes;
 - 23 (g) File, keep, and preserve in a secure place the civil registry book as required by
24 law;
 - 25 (h) Receive all registrable documents and transcribe in the corresponding civil
26 register all documents accepted for registration;
 - 27 (i) Receive applications for the issuance of a marriage license and, after determining
28 that the requirements and supporting certificates and publication thereof for the

1 prescribed period have been complied with, issue the license upon payment of
2 the authorized fee for the local treasurer;

3 (j) Conduct community education campaigns on vital registration and assist in the
4 preparation of demographic and other statistics for the LGU concerned;

5 (k) Recommend to the legislative bodies and collaborate with administrative
6 agencies in the formulation of systems, procedures, policies, rules, and
7 regulations on civil registration;

8 (l) Submit status reports to the CRG on the condition of civil registry documents
9 filed in his civil registry office whenever there are substantial changes in the state
10 of his/her files, in case of fire, flood, earthquake, and other natural and/or man-
11 made calamities;

12 (m) Reconstruct destroyed civil registry records upon compliance with the
13 requirements following the procedures established by the CRG;

14 (n) Make civil registry forms available at all times in the civil registry office;

15 (o) Exercise quasi-judicial functions in the following cases:

16 1. Clerical or typographical errors and change of first name or nickname, the
17 day and month in the date of birth, or sex of a person where it is patently
18 clear that there was a clerical or typographical error or mistake in the entry;
19 or

20 2. Petitioner for the change of first name or nickname finds the first name or
21 nickname to be ridiculous, tainted with dishonor or extremely difficult to
22 write or pronounce, has been habitually and continuously used by the
23 petitioner and has been publicly known by that first name in the community
24 or the change will avoid the confusion as provided for under existing laws.

25
26 **SEC. 7. *Civil Registry Books.*** – The Civil Registrar shall keep, update, and preserve
27 the following books in their offices:

28
29 (a) Register of Births – the records of birth in the civil registry;

- (b) Register of Births of Person Without Known Parents or Facts of Birth – the records of abandoned children in the civil register;
- (c) Register of Deaths – the records of death of a deceased in the civil register;
- (d) Register of Marriages – the records of solemnized marriage in the civil register;
- (e) Register of Court Decrees or Orders – the records of court decree or order concerning the status of a person in the civil register;
- (f) Register of Legal Instruments – the records of legal instruments executed affecting the vital events of a person in the civil register;
- (g) Register of Applications for Marriage License – the records of application of marriage license in the civil register;
- (h) Register of Conversion to Islam – the records of conversion to Islam religion of a person in the civil register;
- (i) Register of Muslim Filipino Marriages – the records of marriage of a Muslim Filipino in the civil register;
- (j) Register of Muslim Filipino Divorces – the records of divorce of a Muslim Filipino in the civil register;
- (k) Register of Indigenous Cultural Communities/Indigenous Peoples (ICC/IPs) Marriage Dissolutions – the records of ICCs/IPs dissolution of marriage in the civil register; and
- (l) Register of ICCs/IPs Revocation of Marriage Dissolutions – the records of ICCs/IPs revocation of marriage dissolutions.

SEC. 8. Registrable Acts and Events. – The Registrable Acts and Events shall refer to any of the following:

- (a) Birth;
- (b) Death;
- (c) Application for Marriage License;
- (d) Marriage;

1 (e) Court Orders or Decrees; and

2 (f) Legal Instruments.

3
4 The Registrable Orders or Decrees of Courts and other competent authorities shall
5 refer to any of the following:

6
7 (a) Adoption;

8 (b) Rescission of Adoption;

9 (c) Annulment of Marriage;

10 (d) Declaration of Nullity of Marriage;

11 (e) Declaration of Presumptive Death;

12 (f) Compulsory Recognition of Illegitimate Child;

13 (g) Voluntary Recognition of Minor Illegitimate Child;

14 (h) Appointment of Guardian;

15 (i) Termination of Guardianship;

16 (j) Judicial Determination of Filiation;

17 (k) All forms of naturalization;

18 (l) Cancellation of Naturalization;

19 (m) Judicial Determination of the Fact of Reappearance, if Disputed;

20 (n) Separation of Property;

21 (o) Revival of Former Property Regime;

22 (p) Repatriation;

23 (q) Foreign Court Orders Decided Abroad; and

24 (r) Other orders/decrees that pertain to the civil status and vital statistics of a
25 person.

26
27 The civil registrar shall properly enter the registrable events and court orders or
28 decrees.

1 **SEC. 9. *Free Registration of Vital Civil Registry Events.*** – The registration of birth,
2 death, and marriage is hereby declared a national policy. Therefore, no fees shall be
3 imposed and collected in the registration of these events, whether or not these are
4 registered on time.

5
6 The first copies of civil registration certificates shall be free. For issuance of
7 succeeding copies of civil registry documents, a minimal fee prescribed by the CRG may
8 be collected.

9
10 For registration of registrable judicial and administrative issuances or orders, and
11 legal instruments, a standard fee shall be collected.

12
13 **SEC. 10. *Registration and Certification of Birth.*** – The declaration of the physician,
14 midwife, nurse, birth attendant, finder, or, in default thereof, the declaration of either
15 or both parents or any person who has knowledge of the facts of birth of the newborn
16 child shall be sufficient for the registration of birth in the civil register.

17
18 The duly accomplished Certificate of Live Birth (COLB) containing the above
19 declaration shall be submitted for registration to the Civil Registrar's Office in the city
20 or municipality where the birth occurred within thirty (30) calendar days from date of
21 birth by the aforementioned persons, declaring the following when available:

- 22
23 (a) Full name of the child;
24 (b) Sex;
25 (c) Date of birth;
26 (d) Place of birth or where found;
27 (e) Name of mother;
28 (f) Citizenship of the mother;
29 (g) Name of father;

- 1 (h) Citizenship of the father;
2 (i) Date and place of marriage of parents; and
3 (j) Such other data as may be identified in the implementing rules and regulations
4 of this Act.

5
6 Birth and other civil registry records of person when any or some of the following
7 information is absent/missing shall equal acceptability, and shall be respected before
8 all government, public, private, commercial, and business transactions where these are
9 presented:

- 10
11 (a) Usual middle initial or middle name;
12 (b) Citizenship, if stateless;
13 (c) Names of parents, if unknown;
14 (d) Date of marriage, if inapplicable;
15 (e) When an individual has only one birth name; or
16 (f) Any analogous circumstances.

17
18 All regulatory bodies such as, but not limited to, the Securities and Exchange
19 Commission (SEC) and Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas shall adhere to this law and adopt
20 the necessary rules and regulations to implement this Act.

21
22 The fetus is considered born if it is alive at the time it is completely delivered from
23 the mother's womb, and shall be considered as live birth and registered in the Register
24 of Births.

25
26 All cases of birth on board a vessel or airplane en route to the Philippines shall be
27 recorded in the civil register of the city or municipality where the mother habitually
28 resides if either or both of the parents is/are a citizen/s of the Philippines. When the

1 parents are both foreigners but not residents of the Philippines, the birth may be
2 recorded in any civil registry office in the Philippines, if they so desire.

3
4 Abandoned children or foundlings whose parents, guardians, or relatives are
5 unknown, or children committed to an orphanage or a child-caring institution with
6 unknown facts of birth and parentage, shall be registered by the finder or charitable
7 institution concerned within thirty (30) days from the date of finding or commitment of
8 the child with the C/MCR of the place where such person was found. The CRG shall
9 issue a COLB to these children.

10
11 All LCR/PSAs in partnership with LGUs shall provide mobile birth registration
12 services, especially in all Geographically Isolated and Disadvantaged Area (GIDA)
13 under their jurisdiction.

14
15 **SEC. 11. *Delayed Registration of Birth.*** – A person, regardless of age, who has not
16 been registered with the Civil Registrar’s Office at the place of birth or where found
17 shall apply for delayed registration within the prescribed period of thirty (30) calendar
18 days shall apply on the basis of his or her nearest kin. The informant and affiant must
19 show authentic proof of the identity of the person to be registered, the facts of his birth,
20 his parentage, and other relevant data.

21
22 In the implementation of this Act, the LCR/PSA shall conduct regular review to
23 assess the accessibility of registration and design, and implement programmatic
24 interventions to address gaps in CRVS, with PSA as the central office for data
25 management and standards.

26
27 The record of a person’s birth shall be kept strictly confidential, and any treatment
28 thereof shall be fully compliant with the Republic Act No. 10173, otherwise known as
29 the “Data Privacy Act of 2012”.

1
2 **SEC. 12. *Indigenous Peoples Civil Registration System.*** – PSA, in collaboration with
3 the National Commission for Indigenous Peoples (NCIP), National Commission on
4 Muslim Filipinos (NCMF), Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao
5 (BARMM), Philippine Association of Civil Registrars, National Commission for Culture
6 and the Arts (NCCA), and distinguished anthropologists and selected elders and
7 leaders of IPs shall establish an Indigenous Peoples Civil Registration System (IPCRS)
8 that is sensitive and appropriate to the unique cultural practices and identification
9 systems of IPs: *Provided, That* the IPCRS shall be harmonized with existing laws and
10 systems on civil registry.
11

12 In recording the birth of IPs delivered in the traditional customs and practices of the
13 indigenous community, the report as to the circumstances of the birth by any of the
14 parents or by the tribal doctor or tribal midwife who attended to the delivery shall be
15 conclusive upon the Local Civil Registrar without need for further proof and PSA.
16

17 The IPCRS shall take into account the various ethnic affiliations of the IPs in the
18 country. For this purpose, the PSA Head, acting as the Civil Registrar General, instead
19 of issuing separate forms for the IPCRS, shall cause the amendment of the existing civil
20 registry forms, for uniformity of all civil registry documents to ensure acceptability by
21 end-user agencies or institutions of the facts and information contained in said
22 documents and ease of establishing filial bonds between or among parents or parents
23 and child.
24

25 In the absence of any identifying document, the self-ascription or ascription by any
26 of the parents or tribal leader or elder shall suffice to establish the identity of IPs when
27 applying with the LCR/PSA for recording birth, marriage, or death.
28

1 **SEC. 13. *Mandatory Continuing Education and Training Program.*** – To ensure that
2 the efficient and effective delivery of civil registration services meet the demand for
3 quality civil registrars who shall perform civil registration functions, the CRG, together
4 with LGUs, shall conduct continuing education and training program for Civil
5 Registrars, Consul Generals, District Recorders, and Circuit Registrars and their staff,
6 in collaboration with relevant partners in government, academe, industry, and non-
7 governmental organizations. Such training programs shall be initiated and conducted
8 based on Training Needs Analysis, and evaluated regularly throughout the year to
9 ensure constant upgrading of skills of the Civil Registrars, Consul Generals, District
10 Recorders and Circuit Registrars, and their staff.

11
12 **SEC. 14. *Barangay Civil Registration System.*** – The CRG shall establish a systematic
13 civil registration procedure at the barangay level, to be called as the Barangay Civil
14 Registration System (BCRS), where elected and appointed barangay officials shall be
15 mandated to assist in the facilitation of civil registration within their area or jurisdiction,
16 subject to the provision of this Act.

17
18 The Barangay Captain shall submit to the Civil Registrar’s Office of his/her city or
19 municipality the names of the Barangay Secretary as Ex-Officio Barangay Civil
20 Registration Officer (BCRO) and another deputized barangay official as Barangay Civil
21 Registration Assistant (BCRA) who shall assist in the registration of all vital events of
22 every individual within their area of jurisdiction.

23
24 The BCRO shall engage the barangays to support in the implementation of the law,
25 including the provision of fiscal and budgetary support.

26
27 Proper networking, interconnection, and collaboration between the barangay and its
28 respective Civil Registrar’s Office shall be ensured in order to attain mandatory civil
29 registration of all born Filipinos. The PSA, LGUs, a national professional organization

1 of local civil registrars duly registered with the SEC, and other accredited government
2 or private institutions shall conduct regular training and capacity building programs to
3 upgrade the knowledge and skills in civil registration functions of all partners in the
4 barangay.

5
6 **SEC. 15. *Free Delayed Registration Program.*** – LGUs are mandated to implement a
7 Free Delayed Registration Program (FDRP) for persons whose births have not been
8 registered and certified due to such factors as poverty, distance, or lack of literacy. The
9 Sangguniang Barangay shall assist in the implementation of the program through the
10 BCRS.

11
12 The OCRG, the DILG, and the NCIP shall jointly prepare a Free Delayed Registration
13 Program (FDRIP) which shall be implemented by the LGUs and the NCIP regional or
14 local offices in the localities concerned.

15
16 **SEC. 16. *Strict Confidentiality of Birth Records.*** – The record of a person's birth shall
17 be kept confidential and no information relating thereto shall be issued except upon
18 request of the following:

- 19
20 (a) The concerned person herself/himself, or any person authorized by him;
21 (b) Spouse;
22 (c) Any or both the parents, direct descendants, or the guardian, or institution
23 legally in charge in case of a minor;
24 (d) The Court or appropriate public official whenever absolutely necessary in
25 administrative, judicial, or other official proceedings to determine the identity of
26 the child's parents or other circumstances surrounding the birth; and
27 (e) The nearest kin in case of a person's death.

1 **SEC. 17. *Registration and Certification of Death.*** – No human body shall be buried
2 or cremated, unless the proper death certificate has been presented and recorded in the
3 Civil Registrar's Office.

4
5 The physician who attended the deceased, or in his default, the health officer
6 concerned, any member of the family of the deceased or any person having knowledge
7 of the death shall immediately report the same to the local health authorities who shall
8 issue a death certificate and shall order the same to be recorded before the Civil
9 Registrar's Office of the city or municipality where the death occurred.

10
11 The death certificate which shall be issued by the attending physician of the deceased
12 or, in his default, by the authorized health officer, shall indicate the following data,
13 which shall be furnished by the person reporting the death to the civil registrar:

- 14
15 (a) Full name of the deceased;
16 (b) Sex;
17 (c) Age;
18 (d) Civil status;
19 (e) Nationality;
20 (f) Date of birth;
21 (g) Place of birth;
22 (h) Date of death;
23 (i) Place of death;
24 (j) Full names of the deceased's parents;
25 (k) Cause of death; and
26 (l) Such other relevant data that may be required.

27
28 The surname to be entered in the registry of death and the Death Certificate shall be
29 the surname used prior to his/her death. In case the deceased is a legally married

1 woman, informants shall register the death using the surname she chose as a legally
2 married person.

3
4 The registration of death shall be made within thirty (30) calendar days from the time
5 and date of death before the Civil Registrar's Office of the city or municipality where
6 the death occurred, or the Philippine Consulate Office in the foreign country where the
7 death happened.

8
9 In the absence of the city or municipal health officer or his authorized representative
10 in the place of registration, or when it is a non-working day and the health officer or his
11 authorized representative is not expected to be in the office, the death shall be reported
12 by the nearest kin of the deceased or by any person having knowledge of the death
13 within forty-eight (48) hours after its occurrence, to the mayor or to the vice mayor or
14 any member of the Sangguniang Bayan or to the municipal secretary, who shall issue
15 and sign the medical certification of the Certificate of Death for burial, cremation, and
16 registration purposes.

17
18 When the death is subjected to a medico-legal examination, or the cause of death is
19 under investigation by the National Bureau of Investigation (NBI) or other concerned
20 government office and the body of the deceased is subjected to autopsy or examination
21 of the medico-legal officers and no record of death had been registered, the head of the
22 NBI or other investigative agency or the duly authorized representative shall cause the
23 registration of such death through the City or Municipal Health Officer of the city or
24 municipality where the death occurred. The medico-legal officer shall accomplish and
25 sign the medical certification portion of the certificate of death, subject to the review of
26 the City or Municipal Health Officer.

1 **SEC. 18. *Delayed Registration of Death.*** – A deceased person’s facts of death that
2 have not been registered within thirty (30) calendar days from the date of death shall be
3 allowed delayed registration before the Civil Registrar’s Office at the place of death.

4
5 In any case, out-of-town registration of death may be allowed.
6

7 **SEC. 19. *Registration of the Application for Marriage License.*** – An application for
8 marriage license shall be filed by the contracting parties before the Civil Registrar’s
9 Office of the city or municipality where one of the parties resides. The Civil Registrar
10 shall enter all applications in the Register of Applications for Marriage License strictly
11 in the order of receipt of applications. The CR shall record in said register the names of
12 the applicants, the date on which the marriage license was issued, and such other data
13 as may be necessary.
14

15 No application shall be received by the CR unless supporting documents are
16 attached thereto and no application shall be posted unless it is received by the CR.
17 Registration of the application shall only take place after the completion of the posting
18 period.
19

20 All applications for marriage license shall be registered by the solemnizing officer
21 before the Civil Registrar’s Office of the place where they were solemnized.
22

- 23 a) In case of marriages solemnized while in transit;
- 24 i. En route to, or within the Philippines, the marriage shall be registered at
25 the place of residency of either party; or
- 26 ii. Leaving the Philippines, the marriage shall be registered at the consulate
27 of the Philippines in the place of destination of the parties, or in the absence
28 thereof, to the nearest Philippine consulate from the place of destination.

1 b) In case of registration of traditional marriages and dissolution of marriages
2 among and between IPs.

3
4 The report of marriage among and between IPs solemnized in accordance with
5 customary laws, rites, traditions, and practices by the person duly authorized to
6 perform the ritual or ceremony and by the parties to the marriage shall be conclusive
7 upon the LCR or PSA without need for further proof. For this purpose, the NCIP shall
8 submit to the PSA a list of IPs recognized by each indigenous community to solemnize
9 marriage according to its customary laws or practices. The PSA shall issue a Certificate
10 of Registration of Authority to Solemnize Marriage (CRASM) to such IPs for free.

11
12 In the case of indigenous communities whose traditional marriage ceremony does
13 not require the presence of a solemnizing officer, as determined by the NCIP, the report
14 by the contracting parties shall be conclusive upon the LCR/PSA without the need for
15 further proof except personal confirmation, orally or in writing, by any of the parents
16 or by a tribal leader or elder of the indigenous community to which any of the spouses
17 belong. For this purpose, the NCIP shall furnish the PSA and the LCR with a list of
18 indigenous communities falling under this paragraph: *Provided*, That pending the
19 submission of such list, the oral or written confirmation of the tribal leader or elder shall
20 be conclusive upon the LCR/PSA.

21
22 The dissolution of marriage of IPs following customary indigenous laws and
23 practices shall be directly recorded with the LCP/PSA without need of court
24 intervention: *Provided*, That such facts and information shall be confirmed orally or in
25 writing by a tribal leader or elder of the indigenous community to which any of the
26 spouses belongs.

27
28 All marriages shall be registered within thirty (30) days from the date of the marriage.
29 Marriages registered after the stipulated period shall be considered late registration and

1 an administrative fee shall be imposed on the solemnizing officer. In no case shall
2 double or multiple registration of marriages be allowed, except for cases provided by
3 law.

4
5 **SEC. 21. *Multiple Registration.*** – In cases of multiple registrations of birth, marriage
6 or death, the first duly registered document shall prevail, unless the Court orders
7 otherwise.

8
9 For multiple marriages by and between the same parties, the first marriage shall
10 prevail, not the first registered marriage of such parties.

11
12 **SEC. 22. *Registration of Solemnizing Officers.*** – All solemnizing officers shall be
13 registered with the Office of the CRG, except those who are not required to be so
14 registered as provided for by law or existing rules.

15
16 The Mayor, with the assistance of the Civil Registrar's Office, shall determine
17 documents pertaining to the existence of religious sects.

18
19 **SEC. 23. *Registration of Court Orders.*** – In case of court issuance or order concerning
20 the status of a person, the Clerk of Court shall advise the successful petitioner to register
21 such document before the Civil Registrar's Office which has jurisdiction on the issuing
22 court.

23
24 In cases of legal separation, absolute nullity of void marriages, and annulment of
25 voidable marriages, the prevailing party shall cause the registration of the decree in (1)
26 the Civil Registrar's Office where the marriage was registered, (2) the Civil Registrar's
27 Office where the family court is situated, and (3) the PSA. Such party shall report to the
28 Court compliance with this requirement within thirty (30) days from receipt of the copy
29 of the decree.

1
2 In case a person other than the petitioner shall apply to register a court order before
3 the Civil Registrar's Office, the LCR has the responsibility to verify the veracity of the
4 court issuance or order. Otherwise, registration thereof shall be refused.
5

6 The Civil Registrar's Office where the event was registered shall forward a certified
7 true copy of the order to the Civil Registrar's Office where the vital event affected was
8 originally registered. The Civil Registrar's Office where the vital event was originally
9 registered shall make proper annotations in the document and in the applicable registry
10 book. The Civil Registrar's Office which has jurisdiction over the original registry shall
11 send a certified true copy of the annotated document and the registered court order to
12 the CRG.
13

14 Each corrected document shall be reported to the Office of the CRG during the usual
15 reporting month.
16

17 All court orders shall be affected through annotations in the civil registry document
18 except in an adoption case when the child shall be entitled to the issuance of an
19 amended COLB.
20

21 **SEC. 24. *Registration of a child born abroad to at least one Filipino parent.*** – The
22 parents shall cause the registration of the birth of their child to the Philippine Consulate
23 which in turn shall issue a Report of Birth within thirty (30) calendar days from date of
24 birth of a Filipino child declaring the following when available:
25

- 26 a) Full name of the child;
27 b) Sex;
28 c) Date of birth;
29 d) Place of birth or where found;

- e) Name of mother;
- f) Citizenship of the mother;
- g) Name of father;
- h) Citizenship of the father;
- i) Date and place of marriage of parents; and
- j) Such other data as may be required in the implementing rules and regulations of this Act.

SEC. 25. *Registration of Persons without Known Parents.* – All without known parents, guardians or relatives, or a person committed in an orphanage or charitable institution with unknown facts of birth and parentage, shall be reported by the finder to the Barangay Chairperson or any member of the Barangay Council for the Protection of Children (BCPC) of the place where the person was found, or to the Philippine National Police Women and Children’s Protection Desk (PNP-WCPD), whichever is nearer or convenient to the finder, stating the facts and circumstances surrounding the finding of the person. When the report is duly noted, the finder shall bring the child to the nearest DSWD office in the region, for proper screening, assessment, and evaluation by an authorized social worker within fifteen (15) calendar days from the date of finding or commitment of the child. The finder shall execute a sworn statement before the Barangay Captain stating the facts and circumstances surrounding the finding of the person.

In case of foundlings found in Philippine Consulates, embassies, and territories, the relevant Philippine Consulate shall be governed by Republic Act No. 11767, otherwise known as the “Foundling Recognition and Protection Act”, the finder or charitable institution concerned shall cause the registration before the Civil Registrar’s Office where such person was found within thirty (30) calendar days from the date of entrustment to the institution.

1 Any report made after the thirty (30) day period shall be considered late registration,
2 and the concerned party shall be required to state in a sworn statement the
3 circumstances that caused the late reporting to the civil registrar.

4
5 Should the foundling become adopted, the Local Civil Registrar shall stamp the
6 simulated birth record "cancelled" with an annotation of the issuance of a new rectified
7 certificate of birth is in place. The rectified birth certificate bearing the names of the
8 biological parents of the child or the foundling certificate shall then likewise be stamped
9 "cancelled" with the annotation of the issuance of a new birth record in its place, and
10 shall be sealed in the civil registry records. Thereafter, the Local Civil Registrar shall
11 record, register, and issue a new certificate of birth which shall not bear any notation
12 that it is a new or amended issue, as stated in Sec. 12 of Republic Act No. 11222,
13 otherwise known as the Simulated Birth Rectification Act.

14
15 **SEC. 26. *Registration of Adoption.*** – The decree of adoption shall be recorded in the
16 civil register within thirty (30) days after the date of issue of the final judgment of the
17 court.

18
19 After registration of the decree of adoption, the Civil Registrar's Office where the
20 birth of the adopted was registered shall immediately issue an amended COLB.

21
22 Such COLB of an adopted child shall not bear any mark or annotation or any
23 indication of the facts of adoption. It shall have the same entries as those appearing in
24 the original records of birth, except for the following items of information.

- 25
26 a) Name of the adopted – The first name of the adopted child shall be the same as
27 in the original COLB, unless the order of adoption carried an order changing it to
28 another name. The middle name of the adopted child shall be the same as the
29 middle name of the adopter, except when the husband and the wife jointly

1 adopted the child, in which case, the middle name of the adopted shall be the
2 surname of the adopting mother.

3
4 The surname of the adopted child shall be that of the adopter. If the husband and
5 wife jointly adopt the child, the adopted child shall use the surname of the
6 adopting father;

7
8 b) Names of parents – The names of natural parents of the adopted child shall be
9 substituted by the names of the adopting parents, to be indicated in the
10 appropriate spaces in the COLB as the father or mother, as the case may be; and

11
12 c) Other information – Other information about the adopting parents such as
13 citizenship and religion shall be indicated in the appropriate spaces of the
14 amended certificate of live birth.

15
16 The birth order of the adopted and other information about the adopted shall follow
17 the information given by the adopting parents, unless the court order states otherwise.
18 In cases where legally married husband and wife jointly adopt the child, the date and
19 place of marriage of the adopting parents shall be entered in the appropriate spaces of
20 the amended certificate of live birth of the adopted child.

21
22 In all cases of adoption, no amendment or changes shall be affected in the civil
23 registry books where the original birth records were duly registered, except for the
24 marginal annotation by virtue of the adoption decree.

25
26 In case the adopted child has no known parents, the basis for the issuance of the
27 amended COLB shall be the court order.

1 **SEC. 27. *Registration of Presumptive Death.*** – A judicial order or decree declaring a
2 person presumably dead for purposes of remarriage shall be registered in the office of
3 the local civil registrar of the place where the marriage was solemnized. It shall be
4 annotated and recorded. The registration shall be annotated in the marriage register as
5 well as in the marriage certificate.

6
7 **SEC. 28. *Registration of Foreign Court Orders Decided Abroad.*** – All foreign court
8 orders involving status of persons residing in the Philippines shall be registered before
9 the Civil Registrar's Office where the affected document is registered. These foreign
10 court orders, to be legal and binding in Philippine jurisdiction, must first be recognized
11 by the appropriate embassy of such country here in the Philippines or Regional Trial
12 Court which has the lawful jurisdiction over such case.

13
14 **SEC. 29. *Registration of Legal Instruments.*** – As a general rule, all legal instruments
15 shall be registered in the civil registry of the place where they were executed except for
16 the following:

- 17
18 a) Affidavit of Reappearance – where the parties to the subsequent marriage are
19 residing;
20 b) Marriage Settlement – where the marriage is recorded; and
21 c) Admission of Paternity, Acknowledgment, Legitimation, Voluntary
22 Emancipation of Minor, Artificial Insemination – where the birth of child was
23 recorded.

24
25 **SEC. 30. *Registration of Affidavit of Reappearance.*** – A sworn statement of the facts
26 and circumstances of reappearance of the absentee spouse shall be recorded in the civil
27 registry office where subsequent marriage of the present spouse was recorded, at the
28 instance of any interested person, with due notice to the spouses of the subsequent

1 marriage and without prejudice to the fact of reappearance being judicially determined
2 in cases where such a fact is disputed.

3
4 **SEC. 31. *Registration of Affidavit of Acknowledgment or Affidavit of Admission of***
5 ***Paternity.*** – it shall be the duty of parents or parent who executed the affidavit of
6 acknowledgment to send the original copy to the Civil Registrar’s Office where the
7 entries on the birth of the child were recorded for registration on the Register of Legal
8 Instruments and for proper annotation in the Register of Births.

9
10 **SEC. 32. *Registration of Repatriation.*** – The instrument of repatriation and the oath
11 of allegiance to the Constitution and the Government of the Philippines, shall be filed
12 in the Civil Registrar’s Office of the place where the instrument was executed: *Provided,*
13 That if the Philippine citizenship is reacquired by naturalization, the order of the court
14 or any mandated (omnibus) authority granting citizenship shall be recorded in the
15 Register of Court Order.

16
17 **SEC. 33. *Registration of Muslim Filipinos, Indigenous Cultural Communities (ICCs)***
18 ***or Indigenous Peoples (IPs) and Children in Need of Special Protection (CNSP).*** –
19 Muslim Filipinos, ICCs or IPs and CNSP, by reason of their socio-cultural, religious,
20 and indigenous peculiarities, and vulnerabilities, shall be registered as follows:

- 21
22 a) Muslim Filipinos – civil registration of Muslim Filipinos shall be governed by P.D.
23 No. 1083, Executive Order No. 157, s. 1994, otherwise known as the “Civil
24 Registration System for Muslim Filipinos”, and its implementing rules and
25 regulations;
26 b) Indigenous Peoples – civil registration of indigenous cultural communities or
27 indigenous peoples shall be governed by Republic Act No. 8371, otherwise
28 known as the “Indigenous Peoples’ Rights Act of 1997”, and its implementing
29 rules and regulations; or

1 c) CNSP – Civil registration of Children in Need of Special Protection shall be
2 governed by the provisions of this Act, special laws, and implementing rules and
3 regulations, in coordination with the Department of Social Welfare and
4 Development and other concerned agencies.
5

6 **SEC. 34. *Civil Registry Documents as Public Documents.*** – The registry books
7 making up the civil register, the office files in hard copies and its corresponding digital
8 files of the Civil Registrar’s Offices, certifications or certified copies from these files and
9 all other documents relating thereto shall be considered public documents and shall be
10 *prima facie* evidence of the truth of the facts therein contained. These public documents,
11 except those documents which are to be kept strictly confidential as provided for under
12 this Act and other applicable laws shall be opened to the public during office hours and
13 shall be kept in a secured place which shall be furnished to civil registrar at the expenses
14 of the funds of the civil registrar’s office, Philippine consulate office, or Shari’a court
15 concerned.
16

17 The civil registrar shall not, under any circumstances, permit any documents
18 entrusted to his/her care to be removed from his/her office, except upon lawful order
19 of the court, in which case the proper receipt shall be secured.
20

21 **SEC. 35. *Digital/Electronic Reporting of Births, Death, and Marriages.*** – There shall
22 be a compulsory reporting of all occurrences of births, deaths, and marriages from all
23 Barangays of the Philippines. As Barangay Registration Agents, all Barangay Secretaries
24 or their authorized representatives are hereby mandated to report these events using
25 appropriate and duly-inspected secure electronic devices and systems to the LCR/PSA
26 and other government agencies mandated by law to monitor the status of registration
27 of vital civil registry events and shall assist the subsequent registration thereof.
28 Continuing skills training relevant to Digital/ Electronic Reporting of Births, Death, and
29 Marriages of Barangay Registration Agents shall be provided by the PSA, LGU, PACR,

1 and other accredited government and private institutions and organizations. This
2 training shall equip Barangay Registration Agents with the knowledge and skills
3 needed to properly implement digital/electronic civil registration.
4

5 **SEC. 36. *Development of National Civil Registry Database (NCRD) Software.*** – The
6 National Government through the National Computer Center in close coordination
7 with the PSA, the PACR, and the DILG shall develop official software responsive to the
8 NCRD implementation. Participation and assistance of international and local private
9 organization having parallel objectives on the full development of digital civil
10 registration may be sought in the development of this software. Among other features,
11 this software shall include the highest degree of data security to ensure the integrity
12 and confidentiality of its database.
13

14 **SEC. 37. *Digitization of all Civil Registry Files.*** – All registered documents in the
15 LCR/PSA shall be digitized. In addition to the usual reports and forwarding of the
16 printed hard copy files, digitized files shall also be submitted to the PSA as back up files
17 of the National Civil Registry Database (NCRD), for digital archiving purposes.
18

19 **SEC. 38. *False Statements.*** – Any person who shall unknowingly make false
20 statements in the furnished forms and present the same for entry in the civil registers
21 shall be penalized in accordance with law unless it was done for the best interest of the
22 child.
23

24 **SEC. 39. *Digitalization of Linkages and Interconnection of All Participating***
25 ***LCR/PSA.*** – All capable LCR/PSA shall be interconnected to facilitate retrieval, online
26 certifications, and for local government revenue generation using LGU-linked NCRD
27 digital files. Participating LCR/PSA are hereby authorized to issue certifications from
28 NCRD for and in behalf of other LCR/PSA subject to pertinent laws, rules, and
29 regulations on the confidentiality of birth records.

1
2 **SEC. 40. *Penal Provisions.*** – Persons in authority who knowingly fail to perform
3 their duties in relation to this Act shall be held administratively liable in accordance to
4 law.

5
6 Any solemnizing officer without being authorized by the Civil Registrar General or
7 who, upon solemnizing marriage, refuses to exhibit his authority to solemnize marriage
8 when called upon to do so by the parties or parents, grandparents, guardians, or
9 persons having charge of the parties; or any bishop or officer, priest, minister, or imam,
10 of any church, religion or sect, the regulations and practices whereof require bans or
11 publication previous to the solemnization of marriage that is subsequently declared
12 illegal, or any solemnizing officer in violation of this Act, shall be punished with
13 imprisonment of not less than six (6) months but not to exceed three (3) years, a fine of
14 not less than Fifty Thousand Pesos (PhP50,000.00) but not more than One Hundred
15 Thousand Pesos (PhP100,000.00), or both, and the revocation of the authority to
16 solemnize marriage, upon the discretion of the Court.

17
18 The attending physician, midwife, nurse, birth attendant, hospital administrator in-
19 charge to cause the registration of live births, but knowingly fails or withholds the
20 delivery of copies of the certificate/s of live birth to the city or municipal civil registrar
21 for registration, or any person who caused the failure of delivery, shall be penalized by
22 imprisonment of not more than six (6) months and a fine of not less than Fifty Thousand
23 Pesos (PhP50,000.00), or both, upon the discretion of the Court.

24
25 **SEC. 41. *Withholding of Documents Due to Non-payment of Hospital Fees.*** – In no
26 case shall failure to settle hospital bills, in full or in part, be a ground for non-delivery
27 or withholding of the certificate of live birth or certificate of death or documents
28 required in the issuance of the said certificates.

1 **SEC. 42. *Use of Fees and Income Collected.*** – All fees that are remitted to the PSA by
2 the National Treasury and all income that the PSA is allowed to retain under law shall,
3 any provision of law contrary notwithstanding, be used primarily for operating
4 expenses including capital outlay, upgrading of its current facilities, acquisition of office
5 and space, and establishment of satellite offices in the provinces, and other activities or
6 services the PSA in the performance of its mandate needs.

7
8 **SEC. 43. *Transitory Provisions.*** – The PSA shall carry out the reorganization of the
9 civil registrars in such a manner that personnel of such office absorbed by the PSA shall
10 continue to perform their respective duties and responsibilities in a holdover capacity
11 so as not to unduly delay the production of statistics from ongoing censuses, surveys,
12 and processing of administrative records.

13
14 **SEC. 44. *Appropriations.*** – There shall be an initial appropriation of One Hundred
15 Fifty Million Pesos (PhP150,000,000.00) in the General Appropriations Act, which will
16 be included in the PSA's budget for the initial development of software and the
17 digitization of the Civil Registrar's Office files.

18
19 **SEC. 45. *Mandatory Review.*** – This Act shall undergo a mandatory review on its
20 provisions every five (5) years to make the law more responsive to the needs of the
21 times. The review shall be made by Congress, which shall conduct public hearings and
22 record relevant testimonies of functionaries in the civil registration system, which shall
23 be the basis of any amendment or modification of this Act.

24
25 **SEC. 46. *Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR).*** – Within sixty (60) days from
26 the effectivity of this Act, the PSA shall promulgate the IRR for the effective
27 implementation of this Act. The PSA may consult with the Department of Foreign
28 Affairs, Department of Interior and Local Government, Department of Justice (DOJ),
29 DSWD, NCMF, the Office of the Supreme Court Administrator, the University of the

Philippines Law Center, a national professional organization of local civil registrars duly registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission, the National Privacy Commission, the Department of Health, the Office of Solicitor General, the NCIP, the Child Rights Network (CRN), the Commission on Human Rights (CHR), the Bureau of Immigration (BIR), the Council for the Welfare of Children (CWC), the National Council of Disability Affairs (NCDA), the Commission on Filipinos Overseas (CFO), the Department of Education (DepEd), the Overseas Workers Welfare Administration (OWWA), related child caring agencies, international agencies, civil society organizations, related ministries of the BARMM and such other agencies in the formulation of the IRR. Other relevant stakeholders may also be consulted in the crafting of the IRR.

Within ninety (90) days from the effectivity of this Act, the OCRG shall issue implementing rules and regulations for the free delayed registration program, as mandated in Section 15 of this Act.

SEC. 47. *Separability Clause.* – If any part or provision of this Act which shall be held to be invalid or unconstitutional, other parts or provisions hereof which are not affected thereby shall continue to be in full force and effect.

SEC. 48. *Repealing Clause.* – Act No. 3753 or the “Law on Registry of Civil Status” is repealed. Sections 453, 454, and 479 of Republic Act No. 7160 are also hereby repealed. All other laws, rules, regulations, orders, memoranda, or circulars inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed and modified accordingly.

SEC. 49. *Construction.* – In the interpretation of this law, the best interest of the child shall prevail.

1 **SEC. 50. *Retroactivity.*** – This Act shall have retroactive effect insofar as it does not
2 prejudice or impair vested or acquired rights.

3
4 **SEC. 51. *Effectivity.*** – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication
5 in the Official Gazette or in any newspaper of general circulation.

6
7 *Approved,*