

Republic of the Philippines **HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

Quezon City, Metro Manila

TWENTIETH (20th) CONGRESS FIRST REGULAR SESSION

House Bill No. 807



Introduced by Rep. ROBERT NAZAL

AN ACT

CRIMINALIZING THE CREATION AND DISTRIBUTION OF NONCONSENSUAL SEXUALLY EXPLICIT MATERIAL, INCLUDING AI-GENERATED IMAGERY, ESTABLISHING A "TAKE IT DOWN" SYSTEM FOR THEIR REMOVAL, PROVIDING FOR EXTRATERRITORIAL APPLICATION, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The rise of artificial-intelligence (AI) tools has made it easier to create realistic "deepfake" images and videos. Criminals now use these tools to place a victim's face onto pornographic content or generate fake nude images or videos to harass, extort, or humiliate. Official data illustrate the urgency of the issue:

- a) The Philippine National Police Anti-Cybercrime Group recorded an 18% increase in voyeurism cases, from 294 in 2023 to 347 in 2024.
- b) The National Bureau of Investigation Digital Forensic Laboratories reported a 240% increase in complaints about Al-generated "deepfake sextortion" in 2024.
- c) UNICEF-INTERPOL-ECPAT's "Disrupting Harm" study in 2022 found that 1 in 5 Filipino children aged 12-17 experienced some form of online sexual exploitation or abuse.

Althought existing laws such as the Anti-Photo and Video Voyeurism Act (R.A. No. 9995), the Cybercrime Prevention Act (R.A. No. 10175), and the Data Privacy Act (R.A. No. 10173) provide fragmented protection, none expressly criminalize the use of AI to fabricate sexual images created without any underlying real photo. Legal challenges also arise when perpetrators are based outside the Philippines or when social media platforms where these deepfake content are posted fail to act swiftly.

Other countries have taken steps to address these gaps. The U.S. National Center for Missing & Exploited Children (NCMEC) launched a "Take It Down" service in 2023. Similarly, the U.K.-based StopNCII.org offers a hash-matching takedown protocol for non-consensual intimate images. The proposed Philippine "Take It Down Act" adopts similar best practices while grounding enforcement in our legal framework and recognizing extraterritorial reach under Republic Act No. 10175, otherwise known as "Cybercrime Prevention Act of 2012". Key features include:

- a) Comprehensive Criminalization Outlaws the creation, possession for distribution, or dissemination of non-consensual sexually explicit material—whether real or Al-generated.
- b) *Extraterritorial Jurisdiction* Aligns with RA 10175, ensuring Filipinos victimized by offenders abroad can obtain redress in Philippine courts.
- c) 24-Hour Verification / 48-Hour Removal Mandates DICT to validate takedown requests within 24 hours and requires platforms to erase content within 48 hours, subject to stiff fines.
- d) *Victim-Centered Confidentiality* Protects identities in all proceedings and allows independent civil suits for damages.
- e) Appropriation & Oversight Allocates an initial ₱50 million to DICT for portal infrastructure and creates a Joint Congressional Oversight Committee for periodic review.

By harmonizing technological safeguards, swift takedown timelines, and proportionate penalties, the measure fulfills the State's constitutional mandate to "protect the life, liberty, and property of every citizen" in cyberspace.

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

Rep. ROBERT NAZAL
Bagong Henerasyon Party-List

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

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House Bill No. **807**

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AN ACT

CRIMINALIZING THE CREATION AND DISTRIBUTION OF NONCONSENSUAL SEXUALLY EXPLICIT MATERIAL, INCLUDING AI-GENERATED IMAGERY, ESTABLISHING A "TAKE IT DOWN" SYSTEM FOR THEIR REMOVAL, PROVIDING FOR EXTRATERRITORIAL APPLICATION, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

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 "Take It Down Act of 2025."

SECTION. 2. Declaration of Policy.

The State values the dignity of every human person and guarantees full respect for human rights. It is the policy of the State to protect individuals, especially women and children, from the harms arising from the non-consensual creation, possession, and dissemination of sexually explicit materials, including those produced through artificial intelligence, deepfake or any other digital manipulation.

SECTION. 3. Definition of Terms.

As used in this Act:

A. "Sexually Explicit Material" - refers to any image, video, or visual representation, whether genuine, altered, or computer-generated, that depicts actual or simulated nudity, sexual intercourse, exhibition of sexual organs, and is intended or reasonably likely to cause sexual arousal, humiliation, degradation, or emotional distress.

- B. "Non-consensual" refers to any act undertaken without the freely given, informed, and prior consent of the depicted person.
- C. "Deepfake or Al-Generated Content" refers to any image, video, audio, or other media synthetically produced, altered, or manipulated using artificial intelligence, machine learning, or similar technologies to falsely portray a person's appearance, voice, or actions.
- D. "Take Down Request" refers to a formal verified notification submitted by an affected individual, or in the case of minors or incapacitated persons, by a parent, legal guardian, or duly authorized representative seeking removal or disabling of access to content that is alleged to be non-consensual, sexually explicit, or otherwise prohibited under this Act.
- E. "Content Host" includes any website, online platform, social-networking site, forum, or digital service, domestic, or foreign that allows users to upload, share, store, or distribute content accessible in the Philippines.

SECTON 4. Prohibited Acts.

It shall be unlawful for any person to knowingly:

- A. Create, publish, distribute, transmit, sell, or offer to sell non-consensual sexually explicit material;
- B. Produce or distribute such material using deepfake, AI, or other digital manipulation tools; or
- C. Threaten, coerce, or extort another through such material, regardless of actual publication.

Possession of such content shall likewise be punishable when intended for distribution, extortion, or harassment.

SECTION 5. Extraterritorial Application and Venue.

Consistent with SEC. 21 of Republic Act No. 10175, this Act shall apply to:

- A. Offenses wholly or partly committed within the Philippine jurisdiction;
- B. Offenses committed by any Filipino national outside the Philippines; and
- C. Offenses committed by a foreign national outside the Philippines where the victim is a Filipino citizen or the content is accessible within the Philippines. Venue shall lie with the designated cybercrime courts.

SECTION 6. "Take It Down" Mechanism.

The Department of Information and Communications Technology (DICT) shall establish and maintain an online "Take It Down Portal" that shall:

- A. Accept electronic takedown requests with secure identity verification;
- B. Evaluate completeness and authenticity within twenty-four (24) hours;
- C. Transmit verified notices to concerned content hosts within one (1) hour of verification;
- D. Monitor compliance, generate audit logs, and furnish the National Bureau of Investigation (NBI) Cybercrime Division and Philippine National Police Anti-Cybercrime Group (PNP-ACG) for investigation and prosecution.

SECTION 7. *Duties of Content Hosts.* - Within forty-eight (48) hours from receipt of a verified takedown notice, the content host shall:

- A. Remove, disable access to, or otherwise render the identified content inaccessible in the Philippines;
- B. Preserve relevant traffic data and content for a minimum of ninety (90) days; and
- C. Notify the uploader of the content of the removal, without disclosing the identity of the complainant except upon lawful order.

Failure to comply constitutes a violation of this Act without prejudice to liability under the Cybercrime Prevention Act (RA 10175) and other applicable laws.

SECTION 8. Penalties.

A. Individuals:

- 1. First Offense: *Prisión Correccional* in its medium period (4 years, 2 months and 1 day to 6 years) and a fine of not less than Two Hundred Thousand pesos (₱200,000.00).
- 2. Second and Subsequent Offenses: *Prisión Mayor* (6 years and 1 day to 12 years) and a fine of Five Hundred Thousand pesos (₱500,000.00) to One Million pesos (₱1,000,000.00).

- 3. If the victim is a minor, the penalty shall be *Reclusion Temporal* (12 years and 1 day to 20 years) and perpetual absolute disqualification from public office, profession, or license.
- B. Content Hosts. An administrative fine of One Million pesos (₱1,000,000.00) per verified incident of non-compliance, and, upon repeated refusal, temporary blocking of services in the Philippines subject to due process.
- C. Civil Action. The victim may independently sue for moral, exemplary, and other damages.

SECTION 9. Protection of Victims.

Proceedings under this Act shall be confidential. The identities of victims shall be redacted in all public pleadings, orders, and decisions, save upon the victim's written consent or by order of a competent court.

SECTION. 10. Appropriation.

The initial amount of Fifty Million pesos (₱50,000,000.00) is hereby appropriated to the DICT for the establishment and operation of the Take It Down Portal, chargeable against the current year's DICT budget. Thereafter, such sums as may be necessary shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

SECTION 11. Congressional Oversight.

A Joint Congressional Oversight Committee, co-chaired by the Chairpersons of the House Committee on Information and Communications Technology and the Senate Committee on Science and Technology, is hereby created to monitor implementation and to review the effectiveness of this Act every three (3) years.

SECTION. 12. Implementing Rules and Regulations.

Within ninety (90) days from the effectivity of this Act, the DICT, in consultation with the DOJ, National Privacy Commission (NPC), Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD), and relevant stakeholders, shall promulgate the necessary rules and regulations.

SECTION. 13. Separability Clause.

If any provision of this Act is declared unconstitutional or invalid, the remaining provisions shall remain in full force and effect.

SECTION. 14. Repealing Clause.

All laws, decrees, executive orders, proclamations, rules, and regulations inconsistent with or contrary to the provisions of this Act are hereby amended, repealed, or modified accordingly.

SECTION. 15. Effectivity.

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

Approved,