



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



TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. **2282**

Introduced by **Representative MA. VICTORIA CO-PILAR**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Bullying, in its many forms, whether physical, verbal, social, or cyber remains a serious and pervasive problem in Philippine schools and communities. It endangers the mental health, well-being, and educational development of children and youth. Despite existing policies such as Republic Act No. 10627 or the “Anti-Bullying Act of 2013,” cases of bullying continue to rise, especially in the digital age where online harassment has become more prevalent and difficult to monitor.

Bullying is not just a childhood or adolescent issue – it is a social issue that affects the entire nation. Children who are bullied are more likely to experience anxiety, depression, and low self-esteem. In more severe cases, bullying can even lead to school dropouts, self-harm, or suicide. As such, sustained awareness, education, and community engagement are necessary to break the cycle of abuse, promote respect, and create a culture of empathy and inclusion.

The proposed measure is aligned with the State’s constitutional duty to promote the rights and welfare of children and to ensure quality education in a safe and secure environment. Designating a National Bullying Awareness and Prevention Month not only enhances public awareness but also strengthens the mechanisms for reporting, responding to, and ultimately reducing incidents of bullying and abuse.

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



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HOUSE BILL NO. 2282

Introduced by **Representative MA. VICTORIA CO-PILAR**

1 **AN ACT**
2 **DECLARING THE MONTH OF SEPTEMBER OF EACH YEAR AS THE NATIONAL**
3 **BULLYING AWARENESS AND PREVENTION MONTH**
4

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

7 **SECTION 1.** This Act shall be known as the “*National Bullying Awareness and*
8 *Prevention Month Act.*”
9

10 **SEC. 2.** The month of September of each year is hereby declared the “National
11 Bullying Awareness and Prevention Month” to raise public awareness about bullying
12 prevention and the importance of protecting children and youth from abuse, cruelty,
13 exploitation, and other harmful conditions, with the goal of promoting safe environments
14 and ensuring access to quality education for all.
15

16 **SEC. 3.** In observance of the “National Bullying Awareness and Prevention
17 Month,” an annual program of activities shall be prepared and implemented by the
18 Department of Education (DepEd), in collaboration with the National Youth Commission
19 (NYC) and the Council for the Welfare of Children (CWC). The DepEd, NYC, and CWC
20 are authorized to request assistance from other government departments, bureaus,
21 offices, agencies, or instrumentalities, including government-owned or -controlled
22 corporations, as necessary to effectively carry out the objectives of this Act.
23

24 The DepEd shall oversee awareness-raising activities on bullying prevention, as
25 well as the prevention of other forms of abuse, cruelty, and exploitation against children,
26 in all public and private elementary and high schools nationwide.
27

28 **SEC. 4.** The Philippine Information Agency (PIA) shall, in collaboration with the
29 DepEd, NYC, and CWC, ensure the effective dissemination of information regarding this
30 Act.
31

1 **SEC. 5.** All local government units, private organizations, civil society groups,
2 nongovernmental organizations, and people’s organizations are encouraged to observe
3 the “National Bullying Awareness and Prevention Month” through simple ceremonies
4 and actively participate in related activities.

5 **SEC. 6.** Within ninety (90) days from the effectivity of this Act, the DepEd shall,
6 in consultation with the NYC, CWC, PIA, and other concerned agencies, issue the
7 necessary rules and regulations for the effective implementation of this Act.

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9 **SEC. 7.** All laws, decrees, orders, rules, and regulations or parts thereof which are
10 inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or amended accordingly.

11
12 **SEC. 8.** This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the *Official*
13 *Gazette* or in a newspaper of general circulation.

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15 Approved,