

Republic of the Philippines  
House of Representatives  
Quezon City, Metro Manila

TWENTIETH CONGRESS  
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. **5379**



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**Introduced by Representative Kenneth T. Gatchalian**

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### EXPLANATORY NOTE

The Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA) continues to face serious challenges in achieving universal civil registration. As of the 2020 Census, 3.7 million Filipinos – or 3.4% of the population – remain unregistered, including 1.4 million children.<sup>1</sup> This is compounded by the proliferation of fake birth certificates and abuse of delayed registration, with 14.9 million late registrations filed from 2010 to 2024 now under review for authenticity.<sup>2</sup>

The prevailing law, Act No. 3753, enacted in 1930, is outdated and imposes minimal penalties for fraud and non-reporting of vital events. Such weak enforcement undermines the Philippines' constitutional and international commitments to uphold the right to identity, nationality, and recognition before the law.<sup>3</sup>

This measure seeks to modernize and strengthen the civil registration and vital statistics system by establishing a centralized Civil Registration Office under the PSA, enhancing inter-agency coordination nationwide, ensuring free

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<sup>1</sup>Philippine Statistics Authority, *PSA Strategy Bolsters Birth Registration in Asia and the Pacific: UNESCAP*, PSA WEBSITE, at <https://psa.gov.ph/content/psa-strategy-bolsters-birth-registration-asia-and-pacific-unescap> (last visited Dec. 1, 2024).

<sup>2</sup> Izzy Lee, *PSA discovers 14.89 million late birth registrations*, ABS-CBN NEWS, at <https://www.abs-cbn.com/news/2024/11/7/psa-discovers-14-89-million-late-birth-registrations-2227> (last visited Dec. 1, 2024).

<sup>3</sup> Act No. 3753 (1991), § 16. Philippine Law on Registry of Civil Status.

and universal registration of vital events, integrating registration with the Philippine Identification System (PhilSys), and imposing stiffer penalties against falsification, fraudulent registration, and failure to report vital events.

Through these reforms, this bill will ensure accurate, accessible, and secure civil registration, thereby strengthening public administration and protecting the rights of all Filipinos.

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



KENNETH T. GATCHALIAN

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HOUSE BILL NO. **5379**

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AN ACT  
PROVIDING FOR A COMPREHENSIVE AND RESPONSIVE CIVIL  
REGISTRATION AND VITAL STATISTICS SYSTEM, REPEALING FOR  
THIS PURPOSE ACT NO. 3753 OR THE PHILIPPINE LAW ON REGISTRY  
OF CIVIL STATUS, PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER  
PURPOSES

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

1           **SEC. 1.** *Short Title.* – This Act shall be known as the “Philippine Civil  
2           Registration and Vital Statistics Act”

3           **SEC. 2.** *Declaration of Policy.* – The State shall promote and maintain an  
4           efficient, responsive, inclusive, and accessible civil registration and vital statistics (CRVS)  
5           system, as well as uphold a safe and systematic recording of vital events of an individual.  
6           It shall implement a modern and simplified registration procedure necessary to establish  
7           the most precise identity of an individual for administrative and legal purposes.

8           This Act institutionalizes a CRVS system that provides universal, free, and  
9           accessible civil registration, and ensures easier generation, recording, and retrieval of vital  
10          statistics.

1           The enactment of the Philippine Civil Registration and Vital Statistics Act reaffirms  
2 the commitment of the State to international standards and recommendations, according to  
3 the principles of:

- 4           (a)     The universal human right to be recognized as a person before the law, as  
5                   provided under Article 6 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights  
6                   (UDHR);
- 7           (b)     The right of the child to nationality and registration after birth, as provided  
8                   under Article 7 of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child  
9                   (UNCRC);
- 10          (c)     The right to identity, as provided under Article 8 of the UNCRC;
- 11          (d)     The right to be protected from discrimination based on race, sex, color,  
12                   language, religion, national or social origin, as provided under Article 24  
13                   of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR);
- 14          (e)     The right to nationality of persons with disabilities, as provided under  
15                   Article 18 of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities  
16                   (CRPD);
- 17          (f)     The right of adolescents to birth registration, as provided under General  
18                   Comment No. 20, Article 8 of the UNCRC;
- 19          (g)     The right of children in street situations to be proactively supported to  
20                   obtain legal identity documents and the right of all children at all ages to  
21                   free, accessible, simple, and expeditious birth registration, as provided  
22                   under General Comment No. 21, Article 15 of the UNCRC; and
- 23          (h)     The right of all Filipino migrant workers to be recognized as a person of  
24                   the law, as provided under Article 24 of the International Convention on  
25                   the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their  
26                   Families (ICMW).

27           **SEC. 3. Coverage.** – This Act shall cover all acts, vital events, judicial  
28 decrees, and administrative issuances affecting the civil status of persons in the  
29 Philippines and Filipino citizens abroad.

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

3           (a)   **Abandoned child** refers to a child who has no proper parental care or  
4                   guardianship, a foundling, or one who has been deserted by one’s  
5                   parents for a period of at least three (3) continuous months and has  
6                   been declared as such by the National Authority for Child Care  
7                   (NACC).

8           (b)   **Abandoned Filipino child in a foreign country** refers to an  
9                   unregistered or undocumented child found outside the Philippine  
10                  territory, with known or unknown facts of birth, separated from or  
11                  deserted by the biological Filipino parent guardian, or custodian, for a  
12                  period of at least three (3) continuous months and committed to a  
13                  foreign orphanage or charitable institution or in a temporary informal  
14                  care, and has been declared as such by the NACC, upon  
15                  recommendation of the office of the Social Welfare Attaché (OSWA)  
16                  of the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD), or  
17                  the Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA).

18          (c)   **Adoption** refers to the socio-legal process of providing a permanent  
19                  family to a child whose parents had voluntarily or involuntarily given  
20                  up their parental rights, permanently transferring all rights and  
21                  responsibilities, along with filiation, making the child a legitimate  
22                  child of the adoptive parents.

23          (d)   **Barangay Civil Registration System (BCRS)** refers to a scheme to  
24                  facilitate extensive civil registration at the barangay level involving all  
25                  barangay officials assisting the Local Civil Registrars (LCRs) in civil  
26                  registration work, as provided in Section 394(d)(5) of Republic Act  
27                  (RA) No. 7160 or the Local Government Code of the Philippines.

- 1 (e) **Barangay Secretary** refers to the person appointed by the Punong  
2 Barangay, in accordance with Section 394(a) of Republic Act (RA)  
3 No. 7160 or the Local Government Code of 1991.
- 4 (f) **Cause of death** refers to diseases, morbid conditions, or injuries,  
5 which either resulted in or contributed to the death, and the  
6 circumstances of the accident or violence which produced such  
7 injuries, for purposes of registration, aligned with International  
8 Classification Standards;
- 9 (g) **Child** refers to any person below 18 years of age, or 18 years or older  
10 who is unable to fully take care of oneself from abuse, neglect, cruelty,  
11 exploitation or discrimination because of a physical or mental  
12 disability or condition.
- 13 (h) **Civil register** refers to the various civil registry books, and related  
14 certificates and documents, including physical, electronic, and digital  
15 copies, where registrable acts, events, judicial decrees, and  
16 administrative issuances concerning the civil status of a person are  
17 recorded and kept in the archives of Local Civil Registry Officers,  
18 Philippine Foreign Service Posts, Shari'a District and Circuit Courts,  
19 and the Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA).
- 20 (i) **Civil Registrar** refers to the officers performing civil registry  
21 functions, such as the head of the Local Civil Registry Office, the  
22 Clerk of Court in a Shari'a District or Circuit Court, or the Consul  
23 General in Philippine Foreign Service Posts.
- 24 (j) **Civil registration refers** to the continuous, permanent, universal, and  
25 compulsory recording of occurrences and characteristics of vital  
26 events in the life of a person, including any modifications thereto  
27 during their lifetime until death.

- 1 (k) **Civil registry document** refers to a certificate or any document,  
2 including electronic or digital copies thereof, concerning acts and  
3 events affecting the civil status of persons, which are recorded and  
4 kept in the civil register.
- 5 (l) **Consul General** refers to an official of the Department of Foreign  
6 Affairs (DFA) who has been issued a consular commission and acts  
7 as the head of a consular post or the head of the consular section of an  
8 embassy and entrusted in that capacity with the exercise of diplomatic  
9 and consular functions, including civil registration duties;
- 10 (m) **Consul/Vice Consul** refers to an official of the DFA who has been issued  
11 a consular commission and entrusted in that capacity with the exercise  
12 of diplomatic and consular functions. In exigencies, the civil  
13 registration duties herein provided for the Consul General may be  
14 delegated to, and can be exercised and performed by, the Consul or  
15 Vice Consul.
- 16 (n) **Death** refers to the permanent disappearance of all evidence of life at  
17 any time after live birth has taken place.
- 18 (o) **Document owner** refers to the individual whose legal identity and  
19 other vital statistics are recorded in the civil registry document or legal  
20 instrument in accordance with this Act.
- 21 (p) **Divorce** refers to the final legal dissolution of marriage which confers  
22 on the parties the right to remarriage under Presidential Decree (PD)  
23 No. 1083 or the Code of Muslim Personal Laws of the Philippines.
- 24 (q) **Fetal death** refers to death prior to the complete expulsion or  
25 extraction from its mother of a product of conception, irrespective of  
26 the duration of the pregnancy, where the death is indicated by the fact  
27 that after such separation, the fetus does not breathe or show any other

1 evidence of life, such as beating of the heart, pulsation of the umbilical  
2 cord, or definite movement of voluntary muscles.

3 (r) **Philippine Foreign Service Post** refers to all Philippine embassies,  
4 missions, consulates general, and other foreign service establishments  
5 maintained by the DFA.

6 (s) **Foundling** refers to a deserted or abandoned child or infant with  
7 unknown facts of birth and parentage. This shall also include those  
8 who have been duly registered as a foundling during their infancy  
9 and/or childhood, and have reached the age of majority without  
10 benefitting from adoption procedures.

11 (t) **Health facility** refers to facilities or institutions, whether stationary or  
12 mobile, land-based or otherwise, that provides diagnostics,  
13 therapeutic, rehabilitative, and other healthcare services, except  
14 medical radiation facilities and hospital-based or stand-alone  
15 pharmacies.

16 (u) **Indigenous Cultural Communities/Indigenous Peoples (ICC/IPs)**  
17 refer to a group of people or homogenous societies identified by self-  
18 ascription and ascription by others, who have continuously lived as  
19 organized community on communally bounded and self-defined  
20 territory, and who have, under claims of ownership since time  
21 immemorial, occupied, possessed, and utilized such territories,  
22 sharing common bonds of language, customs, traditions, and other  
23 distinctive cultural traits, or who have, through resistance to political,  
24 social, and cultural inroads of colonization, non-indigenous religions  
25 and cultures, became historically differentiated from the majority of  
26 Filipinos. ICC/IPs shall likewise include people who are regarded as  
27 indigenous on account of their descent, but who may have been

1 displaced from their traditional domains or who may have resettled  
2 outside their ancestral domains.

3 (v) **Legal instrument** refers to registrable instruments issued pursuant to  
4 this Act, affecting the civil status of persons and executed without a  
5 court decree or order.

6 (w) **Live birth** refers to the complete expulsion or extraction of a product  
7 of conception from the mother, which after such separation, breathes  
8 or shows any other evidence of life, such as beating of the heart,  
9 pulsation of the umbilical cord, or definite movement of voluntary  
10 muscles, whether or not the umbilical cord has been cut off or the  
11 placenta is still attached

12 (x) **Manner of death** refers to the circumstances in which a death arose,  
13 as stated in the medical certification of cause of death.

14 (y) **Marriage** is a special contract of permanent union between a man and  
15 a woman entered into in accordance with law for the establishment of  
16 conjugal and family life. It is the foundation of the family and an  
17 inviolable social institution whose nature, consequences, and  
18 incidents are governed by law and not subject to stipulation, except  
19 that marriage settlements may fix the property relations during the  
20 marriage within the limits provided by the Family Code.

21 (z) **Mass death** occurs when several persons die due to natural calamities,  
22 accidents, epidemics, or other analogous circumstances.

23 (aa) **Muslim marriage** refers to a marriage where both parties are Muslims,  
24 or where only the male party is a Muslim and the marriage is  
25 solemnized in accordance with Muslim law or PD No. 1083.

26 (bb) **Next-of-kin** refers to a document owner's spouse, ascendant,  
27 descendant, brother or sister, or any person under the document  
28 owner's guardianship or related by consanguinity or affinity within

1 the sixth civil degree, or in the absence of the foregoing, any other  
2 person who lived with the document owner in the same household at  
3 the time of occurrence of the vital event, as provided in this Act.

4 (cc) **Out-of-Town Reporting** refers to the presentation of the certificate of  
5 live birth or death to the civil registrar of a city or municipality which  
6 is not the place of birth or death for purposes of forwarding to the civil  
7 registrar of the city or municipality where the birth or death occurred.

8 (dd) **PhilSys Number (PSN)** refers to a unique and randomly generated  
9 permanent identification number assigned to every citizen or resident  
10 alien upon successful registration to the Philippine Identification  
11 System (PhilSys), in accordance with registration guidelines.

12 (ee) **Solemnizing officer** refers to any person who may solemnize a marriage,  
13 as provided in Executive Order (EO) No. 209 or the Family Code of  
14 the Philippines, and PD No. 1083.

15 (ff) **Verbal autopsy** refers to a structured questionnaire or interview on a  
16 deceased's medical history, as well as signs and symptoms prior to  
17 death, that is completed by a reliable next-of-kin to determine a  
18 probable cause of death in deaths that are not medically attended.

19 (gg) **Vital event** refers to an event concerning life and death of individuals,  
20 as well as their family and civil status, including live birth, death,  
21 fetal death, marriage, annulment or declaration of nullity of marriage,  
22 divorce, adoption, and recognition of paternity.

23 **SEC. 5. Implementing Agency.** – The PSA, headed by the National  
24 Statistician and Civil Registrar General (NSCRG), shall be the primary  
25 implementing agency of this Act. The PSA shall issue rules in the implementation  
26 and enhancement of the civil registration and vital statistics (CRVS) system,  
27 including, but not limited to, registration, copy issuance, and data governance in

1 accordance with the provisions of this Act, including all other applicable laws and  
2 policies.

3 The PSA shall collaborate with local government units (LGUs), other  
4 government agencies, and government-owned and –controlled corporations  
5 (GOCCs) in order to facilitate the registration of reporting of all vital events of  
6 persons in the country and Filipinos abroad.

7 **SEC. 6.** *Civil Registration Office.* – To better implement the provisions of  
8 this Act, and attain its objectives and purposes, the Civil Registration Service shall  
9 be reorganized and strengthened into the Civil Registration Office which shall  
10 perform the functions provided under this Act.

11 The Civil Registration Office shall be headed by a Deputy Civil Registrar  
12 General with rank equivalent to a Deputy National Statistician. The Deputy Civil  
13 Registrar General shall be responsible for central registry document management  
14 and archiving, modernization of the Philippine CRVS system, policy development  
15 and advocacy on civil registration matters, and overseeing the performance of civil  
16 registration services.

17 The following Services shall be created under the Civil Registration Office,  
18 each of which shall be headed by an Assistant Civil Registrar General with rank  
19 equivalent to an Assistant National Statistician:

- 20 (a) National Civil Register Service;
- 21 (b) Civil Registration Operations and Management Service; and
- 22 (c) Civil Registration Advocacy and Frontline Services.

23 **SEC. 7.** *Creation of Regional and Field Offices for Civil Registration* – To  
24 perform the functions provided under this Act, the regional and field offices of the  
25 PSA shall be strengthened through the creation of new plantilla positions, subject to  
26 existing laws, rules, and regulations.

1           **SEC. 8.** *Civil Registration Inter-Agency Cooperation Committee* – A Civil  
2 Registration Inter-Agency Cooperation Committee shall be created, to be composed  
3 of the following:

4           (a) The PSA, represented by the Deputy Civil Registrar General, as  
5           Chairperson.

6           (b) Department of Health (DOH) representative with rank of at least  
7           director as Vice-Chairperson.

8           (c) One (1) representative from each of the following agencies with a  
9           rank of director or higher, nominated by their respective  
10           agencies, with two (2) permanent staff members as designated  
11           alternate representatives:

12           (1) Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA);

13           (2) Department of Justice (DOJ);

14           (3) Department of Education (DepEd);

15           (4) Commission on Higher Education (CHED);

16           (5) Department of the Interior and Local Government  
17           (DILG);

18           (6) Commission on Population and Development (CPD);

19           (7) Department of Social Welfare and Development  
20           (DSWD);

21           (8) National Authority for Child Care (NACC);

22           (9) Philippine National Police (PNP);

23           (10) Commission on Election (COMELEC);

24           (11) Bureau of Immigration (BI);

25           (12) Department of Information and Communications  
26           Technology (DICT);

27           (13) Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao  
28           (BARMM);

- 1 (14) National Commission on Muslim Filipinos (NMCF);  
2 (15) National Commission on Indigenous Peoples (NCIP);  
3 and  
4 (16) National Bureau of Investigation (NBI).

- 5 (d) One representative from among the associations of Local Civil  
6 Registrars, as determined by the Inter-Agency Cooperation  
7 Committee, in accordance with the guidelines set by the  
8 National Statistician and Civil Registrar General (NSCRG).

9 The Inter-Agency Cooperation Committee may establish technical working  
10 groups and task forces, and invite other members or participants, as the need arises,  
11 to address specific concerns on the enforcement of CRVS laws, as well as establish  
12 inter-agency task forces at the regional, provincial, and city/municipal level to  
13 ensure nationwide coordination and enforcement.

14 The Inter-Agency Cooperation Committee shall convene on a quarterly basis  
15 to discuss coordination on enforcement of CRVS laws and recommend policies  
16 relating to civil registration and vital statistics for the approval of the NSCRG.

17 **SEC. 9. Powers and Functions of the National Statistician and Civil**  
18 **Registrar General (NSCRG).** – The National Statistician and Civil Registrar General  
19 shall enforce the provisions of this Act and its implementing rules and regulations.  
20 The NSCRG shall have the following powers and functions:

- 21 (a) Maintain the National Civil Register;  
22 (b) Maintain the National Register for Solemnizing Officers;  
23 (c) Enforce the provisions of this Act and other laws on CRVS;  
24 (d) Exercise technical control and supervision over civil registrars, in the  
25 exercise of their civil registration functions;  
26 (e) Issue certificates and certifications of entries in civil registers  
27 maintained by the office in accordance with the provisions of this Act  
28 and upon payment of the prescribed fees;

- 1 (f) Assign a PhilSys Number (PSN) upon registration of birth, which shall  
2 be used by each registrant for the registration and reporting of all vital  
3 events;
- 4 (g) Develop modules and training programs for stakeholders involved in  
5 providing civil registration services;
- 6 (h) Establish and implement strategies and mechanisms to ensure the  
7 accessibility of civil registration services;
- 8 (i) Develop and adopt appropriate technology to facilitate and improve  
9 access to modernize the Philippine CRVS system and to improve  
10 access to and efficiency of civil registration services;
- 11 (j) Issue guidelines on reconstruction of burned, destroyed, and lost civil  
12 registry records;
- 13 (k) In cases of national calamity or disasters, coordinate with the national,  
14 regional, or local disaster risk reduction and management council to  
15 ensure continuity or resumption of civil registration services;
- 16 (l) Conduct a comprehensive and nationwide information, education, and  
17 communications campaign regarding this Act;
- 18 (m) Deny request for copy issuance of civil registry documents and  
19 certificates found to be fraudulent and/or fictitious, except for  
20 investigation purposes by law enforcement agencies and other  
21 government agencies with investigative and/or quasi-judicial powers,  
22 and court orders, in accordance with this Act, RA No. 10173 or the  
23 Data Privacy Act of 2012, and other relevant laws, rules, and  
24 regulations;
- 25 (n) Block civil registry documents in the database upon findings of fraud  
26 and unblock civil registry documents pursuant to a court or  
27 administrative order;

- 1 (o) Ensure accuracy of annotation in civil registry documents, including  
2 modification, revision, and correction of clerical errors in the  
3 annotation of administrative decisions, court decrees, and legal  
4 instruments;
- 5 (p) Issue regulations on the reporting and registration of vital events of  
6 Filipinos abroad, in coordination with the DFA;
- 7 (q) Exercise quasi-judicial functions in accordance with this Act;
- 8 (r) Exercise inspection and visitorial powers over civil registrars and such  
9 other officers exercising civil registration functions, in coordination  
10 with the Office of the Mayor, the Office of the Court Administrator,  
11 or the Secretary of Foreign Affairs, as may be applicable;
- 12 (s) Issue rules and regulations to enforce the provisions this Act and other  
13 applicable laws on civil registration; and
- 14 (t) Perform such other functions necessary to implement this Act.

15 **SEC. 10. *Technical Control and Supervision.*** – The NSCRG shall have  
16 technical control and supervision over civil registrars and such other officers  
17 designated by law to perform civil registration functions, and shall:

- 18 (a) Issue rules, regulations, guidelines, criteria, and standard operating  
19 procedures to guide the performance of civil registration functions of  
20 civil registrars and such other officers designated by law to perform  
21 civil registration functions;
- 22 (b) Review motu proprio and declare ultra vires acts or omissions of civil  
23 registrars and such other officers designated by law, in the exercise of  
24 their civil registration functions, and order modification of such acts  
25 or omissions; and
- 26 (c) Issue policies, rules, and regulations to carry out the purposes of this  
27 Act and other laws on CRVS, including the standardization of CRVS

1 processes and procedures, and prescribe the necessary forms for  
2 proper compliance with relevant laws and regulations.

3 **SEC. 11. *Quasi-Judicial Function.*** – The NSCRG shall have the power to  
4 review decisions rendered over the following:

- 5 (a) Appeal/reconsideration of decisions of regarding petitions under RA  
6 No. 9048, as amended by RA No. 10172;
- 7 (b) Application/cancellation of Certificated of Authority to Solemnize  
8 Marriage (CRASM);
- 9 (c) Decisions rendered by Local Civil Registrars (LCRs) on Petitions for  
10 Cancellation of Certificate of Live Birth of Persons with No Known  
11 Parents, as provided under RA No. 11767 or the Foundling  
12 Recognition and Protection Act; and
- 13 (d) Other analogous cases as may be provided under this Act and other  
14 relevant laws.

15 To better implement the provisions of this Act and attain its objectives and  
16 purposes, the Legal Service of the PSA shall be reorganized and strengthened into a  
17 Legal Office, which shall be responsible for the NSCRG’s exercise of quasi-judicial  
18 functions.

19 The Legal Office of the PSA shall be headed by a Director V. There shall be  
20 three (3) Services under the Director V, each headed by Director IV:

- 21 (1) Legal Operations and Administrative Support Service;
- 22 (2) Litigation and Enforcement Management Service; and
- 23 (3) Legislative Affairs and Regulatory Compliance Service.

24 **SEC. 12. *Investigative Power of NSCRG.*** – The NSCRG, in the exercise of  
25 its investigative powers, shall:

- 26 (a) Conduct investigations in relation to violations of this Act and all  
27 irregularities, negligence, or incompetence of civil registrars and such

1 other officers designated by law, in the exercise of their civil  
2 registration functions;

3 (b) Take action on and/or report any violation of the provisions of this Act  
4 and other issuances relating to civil registration, including acts and  
5 omissions of civil registrars and such other officers designated by law,  
6 in the exercise of their civil registration functions; and

7 (c) Cause the filing of the necessary civil, criminal, and/or administrative  
8 actions for violations of this Act and other relevant laws and  
9 regulations on CRVS.

10 The NSCRG shall, in the exercise of its investigative power, coordinate with  
11 the Office of the Mayor, the Office of the Court Administrator, or the Secretary of  
12 Foreign Affairs, as may be applicable.

13 **SEC. 13. Oversight Power of NSCRG.** – The NSCRG, in the exercise of its  
14 oversight power, shall review policies, programs, and projects implemented by civil  
15 registrars and such other officers designated by law, in the exercise of their civil  
16 registration functions. The NSCRG shall likewise ensure compliance with existing  
17 policies, laws, regulations, and ethical standards in relation to civil registration.

18 **SEC. 14. Appointment of Local Civil Registrar (LCR).** – The appointment of  
19 a Local Civil Registrar (LCR) shall be mandatory for all city and municipal  
20 governments. The LCR shall be responsible for the civil registration programs in the  
21 concerned LGU, in accordance with this Act and other existing laws, rules, and  
22 regulations.

23 **SEC. 15. Duties and Responsibilities of the LCR.** – The LCR shall develop  
24 plans and strategies for the effective implementation of this Act, subject to the approval of  
25 the Local Chief Executive, without prejudice to the NSCRG’s exercise of its oversight  
26 powers under Section 13 of this Act.

27 For purposes of this Act, the LCR shall:

- 1 (a) Verify correctness and completeness of information reported for  
2 registration;
- 3 (b) Accept for registration reports of vital events, court decrees, and legal  
4 instruments affecting the status of persons in accordance with this Act;
- 5 (c) Maintain and preserve civil registry books, documents, and/or electronic  
6 copies as required by this Act and other relevant laws, rules, and  
7 regulations;
- 8 (d) Receive applications for marriage license and issue the same in accordance  
9 with law;
- 10 (e) Transmit to the NSCRG copies of civil registry documents in the form and  
11 manner prescribed by the NSCRG;
- 12 (f) Issue certified copies of any registered certificates or documents in  
13 accordance with this Act and upon payment of the prescribed fees;
- 14 (g) Act on petitions for revocation of certificates of live birth of persons with  
15 no known parents under RA No. 11767;
- 16 (h) Administer oaths for civil registration purposes, free of charge;
- 17 (i) Delegate powers and responsibilities to, and supervise staff, in performing  
18 civil registration functions, except the power to administer oaths;
- 19 (j) Adopt mechanisms to improve access to civil registration services in their  
20 locality, in coordination with the NSCRG and upon approval of the Local  
21 Chief Executive;
- 22 (k) Annually collate records of inhabitants from barangay secretaries or  
23 through the Barangay Civil Registration System (BCRS) and, as needed,  
24 seek assistance from Barangay Secretaries in the registration of births,  
25 deaths, and marriages;
- 26 (l) Coordinate with the Civil Registration Office of the PSA in conducting  
27 information, education, and awareness campaigns for civil registration, and  
28 assist in the preparation of demographic information and other statistics for  
29 the LGU concerned; and

- 1           (m)    Exercise such other powers and perform such other duties and functions as  
2                    may be prescribed by law or relevant rules and regulations.

3           **SEC. 16.** *Duties and Responsibilities of the Shari'a District Registrar.* – The  
4 Clerk of Court of the Shari'a District Court shall, in addition to their regular  
5 functions, act as District Registrar of Muslim marriages, divorces, revocations of  
6 divorces, and conversions within the territorial jurisdiction of the said court.

7           Every District Registrar shall exercise supervision over Shari'a Circuit  
8 Registrars and shall, in addition to maintaining an entry book, maintain copies of  
9 certificates of marriage, divorce, revocation of divorce, and conversion received  
10 from Shari'a Circuit Registrars in separate general registers. The District Registrar  
11 shall transmit copies of such civil registry documents to the NSCRG in the form and  
12 manner prescribed by the NSCRG.

13           **SEC. 17.** *Duties and Responsibilities of the Shari'a Circuit Registrar.* – The  
14 Clerk of Court of the Shari'a Circuit Court shall act as Circuit Registrar of Muslim  
15 marriages, divorces, revocation of divorces, and conversions within the territorial  
16 jurisdiction of the said court. For this purpose, the Circuit Registrar shall:

- 17           (a)    Register and file certificates of Muslim marriage, divorce, revocation  
18                   of divorce, and conversion, and such other documents presented for  
19                   registration;
- 20           (b)    Issue certified copies of any certificate or document registered by their  
21                   office in accordance with this Act and upon payment of prescribed  
22                   fees;
- 23           (c)    Compile certificates of Muslim marriage, divorce, revocation of  
24                   divorce, and conversion, and transmit the same to the Shari'a District  
25                   Registrar in the manner and form prescribed by the NSCRG; and
- 26           (d)    Administer oaths for civil registration purposes, free of charge.

1           **SEC. 18. *Duties and Responsibilities of Consul General/Consul/Vice***  
2 *Consul.* – The Consul General/Consul/Vice Consul within the Philippine Foreign  
3 Service Posts shall:

- 4           (a) Receive reports or records of vital events of Filipinos occurring abroad  
5           or while in transit to a foreign destination;
- 6           (b) Register vital events of Filipinos occurring within Philippine Foreign  
7           Service Posts or while in transit to a foreign destination;
- 8           (c) Submit copies of reported vital events to the NSCRG on a regular  
9           basis, as prescribed by the NSCRG;
- 10          (d) Maintain registry books of such reported and registered vital events of  
11          Filipinos; and
- 12          (e) Facilitate the registration of undocumented Filipinos and Filipinos at  
13          risk of statelessness abroad, in coordination with the NSCRG.

14           **SEC. 19. *Civil Registry Books.*** – The civil registry books making up the  
15 Civil Register under this Act, and all records relating thereto, shall be considered  
16 public documents and shall be prima facie evidence of the facts contained therein.

17           In case of discrepancy between civil registry documents issued by LCRs,  
18 Circuit/District Registrars, or Consul General/Consul/Vice Consul, and the civil  
19 registry documents issued by the NSCRG, the latter shall prevail.

20           Every LCR shall maintain, keep, and preserve in a secured place in their  
21 office the following registry books where they shall properly enter the acts, events,  
22 and judicial decrees concerning the civil status of persons:

- 23          (a) Register of births;
- 24          (b) Register of foundling or persons with no known parents;
- 25          (c) Register of deaths;
- 26          (d) Register of fetal deaths;
- 27          (e) Register of marriages;
- 28          (f) Register of court decrees/orders

- 1 (g) Register of legal instruments; and
- 2 (h) Register of applications for marriage license.

3 The Shari'a Circuit Registrar shall maintain, keep, and preserve in a secured  
4 place in their office the following registry books where they shall properly enter the  
5 acts, events, and judicial decrees concerning the civil status of persons, in  
6 accordance with PD No. 1083:

- 7 (a) Register of Muslim marriages;
- 8 (b) Register of Muslim divorces;
- 9 (c) Register of revocations of Muslim divorces;
- 10 (d) Register of conversions to Islam; and
- 11 (e) Register of court decrees/orders.

12 Philippine Foreign Service Posts shall maintain the following registers:

- 13 (a) Register of marriage between Filipinos, celebrated within Foreign  
14 Service Posts;
- 15 (b) Register of births of foundlings or persons with no known parents; and
- 16 (c) Register of legal instruments.

17 In addition to the registers cited above, Philippine Foreign Service Posts shall  
18 maintain databases for the following:

- 19 (a) Reports of birth;
- 20 (b) Reports of death; and
- 21 (c) Reports of marriages.

22 The NSCRG may prescribe additional registers for other registrable  
23 documents.

24 **SEC. 20. Operative Act of Registration.** – Unless otherwise provided in this  
25 Act, civil registrars shall register a vital event upon ensuring that:

- 26 (a) The appropriate form is used, and the form is properly and completely  
27 accomplished;
- 28 (b) All required documents are submitted;

- 1 (c) The information provided is complete and correct based on the documents  
2 submitted, including but not limited to the identity and civil status of the  
3 persons involved; and  
4 (d) Based on available information, the vital event has not been previously  
5 registered.

6 When all the foregoing conditions are present, the presumption of regularity on the  
7 performance of the duty of civil registrars shall apply.

8 **SEC. 21.** *Registration of Court Decree/Order.* – Judicial decrees concerning  
9 the civil status of persons shall be recorded in the Civil Register. The following are  
10 registrable court decrees/orders:

- 11 (a) Judicial adoption;  
12 (b) Rescission of judicial adoption;  
13 (c) Annulment of marriage;  
14 (d) Declaration of nullity of marriage;  
15 (e) Declaration of presumptive death;  
16 (f) Compulsory recognition of illegitimate child;  
17 (g) Voluntary recognition of minor illegitimate child;  
18 (h) Appointment of guardian;  
19 (i) Termination of guardianship;  
20 (j) Judicial determination of filiation;  
21 (k) Judicial naturalization;  
22 (l) Judicial cancellation of naturalization;  
23 (m) Judicial determination of the fact of reappearance, if disputed;  
24 (n) Separation of property;  
25 (o) Revival of former property regime;  
26 (p) Correction/cancellation of entries in the Civil Register;  
27 (q) Recognition of foreign court orders; and

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

3 The civil registrar shall properly enter the registrable events and court  
4 decrees/orders, as well as final decisions on administrative adoption and other  
5 orders/decrees affecting civil status of persons rendered by quasi-judicial bodies.

6 **SEC. 22. *Free Civil Registration Services.*** – The timely civil registration of  
7 vital events shall be completely free of charge. No fees for processing or for the  
8 preparation of supporting documents, including miscellaneous and computer fees,  
9 shall be imposed: Provided, That in case of late or delayed registration of births,  
10 deaths, or marriages, a processing fee may be charged, subject to limits prescribed  
11 by the NSCRG.

12 Upon registration of the vital event, the applicant shall be given a personal  
13 copy of the civil registry document free of charge. Succeeding copies of birth, death,  
14 marriage certificates, and other civil registry documents may be issued upon  
15 payment of fees as prescribed by the NSCRG.

16 **SEC. 23. *Place of Registration*** – Unless otherwise provided in this Act, vital  
17 events occurring in the Philippines shall be registered in the city or municipality  
18 where said vital event occurred.

19 **SEC. 24. *Reporting of Vital Events Occurring Abroad.*** – All vital events  
20 occurring to Filipinos residing abroad, whether permanently or temporarily, shall be  
21 reported to the Philippine Foreign Service Posts of the country of residence or where  
22 the vital event took place. If there is no Philippine Foreign Service Post located in  
23 the country of residence or where the vital event took place, such vital event shall  
24 be reported in the Philippine Foreign Service Post of the country nearest the place  
25 of residence of the party concerned or where the vital event occurred.

26 **SEC. 25. *Out-of-Town Reporting and Special Circumstances*** – The NSCRG  
27 shall issue guidelines on out-of-town reporting and registration of vital events, and

1 the registration of vital events in special circumstances as defined in this Act,  
2 including but not limited to those vital events occurring abroad and the parties are  
3 already residing in the Philippines, as well as vital events occurring in the  
4 Philippines and the parties are already residing abroad.

5 **SEC. 26. *Mandatory Continuing Education and Training Program.*** – To  
6 ensure the efficient and effective delivery of civil registration services, the NSCRG,  
7 in coordination with LGUs, the Supreme Court, the DFA, and other relevant  
8 stakeholders, shall conduct continuing education and training program for LCRs,  
9 Shari’a District/Circuit Registrars, Consul Generals/Consuls/Vice Consuls, their  
10 staff, and all barangay officials under Section 28 of this Act. Such training programs  
11 shall be initiated and conducted based on Training Needs Analysis, and evaluated  
12 regularly throughout the year by the NSCRG, through the Civil Registration Office.

13 In addition to civil registrars, all physicians shall be required to undergo  
14 training on their duties and responsibilities in relation to civil registration, including  
15 on medical certification of cause of death. The DOH shall provide capacity building  
16 for local health officers, physicians, and other members of the health sector on their  
17 duties and responsibilities in relation to civil registration. The CHED shall likewise  
18 ensure that birth registration, death registration, and medical certification of cause  
19 of death are integrated in the curriculum of all medical schools in the Philippines.

20 **SEC. 27. *Professionalization of Civil Registration Profession.*** – In order to  
21 build a cadre of civil registrar professionals, the Department of Budget and  
22 Management (DBM) shall create Civil Registrar positions in the government based  
23 on the qualification standards recommended by the NSCRG and approved by the  
24 Civil Service Commission (CSC). The PSA shall ensure the professionalization of  
25 civil registrar practitioners and, for these purposes, shall develop the following:

- 26 (a) A competency framework to identify the skills, knowledge, and  
27 attribute of each of the civil registrar positions;

- 1 (b) A certification framework to upscale civil registration competencies  
2 and ensure continued professional development;
- 3 (c) A code of ethics for civil registrar professionals; and
- 4 (d) An inclusive capacity development program in order to enhance  
5 accountability of all civil registrars, promote diversity, promote  
6 competition, and optimize efficiency.

7 Moreover, the Professional Regulation Commission (PRC), in consultation  
8 with the NSCRG, shall establish, administer, and regulate a professional licensing  
9 program and the continuing education of civil registrars as the requirement for  
10 holding Civil Registrar positions in government.

11 **SEC. 28.** *Barangay Civil Registration System (BCRS).* – The NSCRG shall,  
12 in coordination with the Department of Information and Communications  
13 Technology (DICT), establish a systematic civil registration procedure at the  
14 barangay level, to be called the Barangay Civil Registration System (BCRS), where  
15 elected and appointed barangay officials shall be mandated to assist in the  
16 facilitation of civil registration within their area or jurisdiction, as provided under  
17 Section 394(d)(5) of RA No. 7160, and in accordance with this Act and the  
18 procedures prescribed by the NSCRG.

19 The Barangay Captain shall submit to the Local Civil Registrar’s Office  
20 (LCRO) the names of the Barangay Secretary as Ex-Officio Barangay Civil  
21 Registration Officer (BCRO) and another deputized barangay official as Barangay  
22 Civil Registration Assistant (BCRA) who shall assist in the registration of all vital  
23 events within their jurisdiction.

24 The LCRO shall engage barangays in the implementation of this Act,  
25 including the provision of fiscal and budgetary support

26 **CHAPTER I**

27 **Registration and Certification of Birth**

1           **SEC. 29. *Mandatory Registration of Live Birth.*** – All live births occurring  
2 within the Philippines shall be registered in accordance with this Act: Provided, That  
3 the birth of a fetus with an intrauterine life of less than seven (7) months that dies  
4 within twenty-four (24) hours after its complete delivery from the maternal womb  
5 shall be reported for statistical purposes, but shall not be entered in the register of  
6 live births; Provided, further, That a fetus with an intrauterine life of seven (7)  
7 months or more and born alive at the time it was completely delivered from the  
8 maternal womb, but died later, shall be considered a live birth and shall be registered  
9 in the register of births and register of deaths accordingly.

10           **SEC. 30. *Persons Responsible for Reporting a Live Birth.*** – The following  
11 persons and institutions shall be responsible for reporting a live birth occurring  
12 within the Philippines to the LCR:

- 13           (a) The administrator of a health facility, physician, or midwife, who  
14 attended the birth, in such order, for live births that occur in a health  
15 facility;
- 16           (b) The physician, nurse, midwife, or any person who attended to the  
17 birth, for live births that occur outside a health facility;
- 18           (c) In the absence of (a) or (b), the mother of the child, the father of the  
19 child, or next-of-kin; or
- 20           (d) The Barangay Sectary or deputized BCRA's, through the BCRS.

21           The declaration of the following persons shall be sufficient for purposes of  
22 registration:

- 23           (a) Either parent of the newborn child born within a valid marriage;
- 24           (b) The mother or, in her absence, the guardian, in case of a child born  
25 outside a valid marriage;
- 26           (c) Any responsible person who has knowledge of the facts of birth; or
- 27           (d) The person themselves, upon reaching the age of majority.

1           **SEC. 31. *Persons Responsible for Reporting a Live Birth Under Special***  
2 *Circumstances.* – The following persons shall be responsible for informing a live  
3 birth occurring under special circumstances:

4           (a) The driver of a vehicle, captain of a vessel, or pilot of an airplane, as  
5 the case may be, and the parents of the child, in case of a live birth  
6 that occurs aboard a vehicle, vessel, or airplane while in transit;

7           (b) The imam, priest, religious leader, village chief, or community or  
8 tribal leader for a live birth that occurs within the religious or  
9 indigenous cultural community or, in default thereof, either parent of  
10 the child in accordance with this Act; or

11           (c) The head of the facility that has custody over the mother for live  
12 births occurring while the mother is in state custody.

13           The NSCRG shall issue guidelines on the registration of live births under  
14 special circumstances.

15           **SEC. 32. *Duty to Report Live Birth.*** – It shall be the duty of the informants  
16 mentioned under this Act to report a live birth within thirty (30) calendar days from  
17 the date of the live birth, or from knowledge thereof, in accordance with Sections 23  
18 to 25 of this Act.

19           **SEC. 33. *Duty to Keep Records of Birth.*** – All health facilities shall submit  
20 to the LCR a record of all births occurring in such facilities, which shall contain  
21 information required for registration, including but not limited to the name of the  
22 child, the parents, the medical attendant at birth, and the date of submission of  
23 registration documents to the LCR.

24           **SEC. 34. *Registration of Foundlings or Persons with No Known Parents.*** –  
25 The registration of foundlings or persons with no known parents shall be governed  
26 by the relevant provisions of RA No. 11767, its implementing rules and regulations,  
27 and other relevant issuances.



1           **SEC. 39. *Registration of Fetal Death.*** – Fetal deaths shall be registered with  
2 the LCR in the city or municipality where the death occurred within thirty (30) days  
3 from the time of death, in accordance with this Act.

4           **SEC. 40. *Registration of Mass Death.*** – Where the deceased cannot be  
5 identified, the Local Health Officer, pursuant to existing guidelines and in the  
6 exercise of their discretion, may issue and cause the registration of the death  
7 certificate bearing the annotation "Body Not Identified". The NSCRG shall issue  
8 guidelines on the registration of mass deaths.

9           **SEC. 41. *Permit to Dispose of Dead Bodies.*** – No remains shall be buried,  
10 cremated, donated, transferred, or otherwise disposed of without a permit to dispose  
11 of dead bodies issued by the Local Health Officer in the city or municipality where  
12 the decedent died. A permit to dispose of human remains shall only be issued upon  
13 the submission of the duly accomplished death certificate to the Local Health  
14 Officer. In the case of medicolegal deaths, such permit shall only be issued upon  
15 approval of the Medicolegal Officer conducting the medicolegal death investigation.

16           The DOH shall, in coordination with the NSCRG and the DILG, establish  
17 mechanisms for adoption of Local Health Officers to ensure that there is no  
18 interruption of services on weekends, holidays, and instances of absence of a Local  
19 Health Officer, such as:

- 20           (a)     Assignment of a Provincial Health Officer or Local Health Officer of  
21                   a contiguous city or municipality in case of absence of the Local  
22                   Health Officer;
- 23           (b)     Temporary appointment of a government physician to perform the  
24                   functions of the Local Health Officer under this Act; or
- 25           (c)     Enabling reporting of deaths to Barangay Secretaries during  
26                   weekends or holidays: *Provided*, That the cause of death has been  
27                   determined and certified in accordance with this Act, and that the  
28                   death is immediately reported to the Local Health Officer.

1           **SEC. 42. *Persons Responsible for Reporting a Death.*** – The following shall  
2 be responsible for reporting a death occurring within the Philippines to the LCR in  
3 accordance with this Act:

4           (a)       The head of the health facility, or the physician who last attended to  
5                      the deceased, for deaths occurring in a health facility;

6           (b)       The physician who attended to the deceased during their last illness,  
7                      or in their absence, the next-of-kin, or in their default, any person who  
8                      has knowledge of the death, for deaths occurring outside health  
9                      facilities; or

10          (c)       Medicolegal officers of the Philippine National Police (PNP) or the  
11                      National Bureau of Investigation (NBI) for medicolegal deaths  
12                      reported to them.

13           It shall be the duty of funeral parlors, burial facilities, crematoriums, and  
14           embalmers to report a death to the LCR pursuant to this Act and other relevant laws,  
15           rules, and regulations, upon knowledge that a death has not been registered.

16           **SEC. 43. *Persons Responsible for Reporting a Death Under Special***  
17 ***Circumstances.*** – The following persons shall be responsible for informing the LCR  
18 of the fact of death occurring under special circumstances:

19          (a)       The driver of a vehicle, captain of a vessel, or pilot of an airplane, as  
20                      the case may be, or in default thereof, the owner of the moving  
21                      conveyance, for a death that occurs aboard a vehicle, vessel, or  
22                      airplane;

23          (b)       The imam, village chief, or tribal leader, as the case may be, for a  
24                      death that occurs within the religious or indigenous cultural  
25                      community;

26          (c)       The head of a detention facility for deaths that occur in state custody.

1           **SEC. 44. *Duty to Report a Death.*** – It shall be duty of the informants under  
2 Sections 42 and 43 of this Act to inform the Local Health Officer of the city or  
3 municipality where the death occurred or where the body was found, of a death  
4 within forty-eight (48) hours from the time of death, or from knowledge of such  
5 death: Provided, That in case of medicolegal deaths, the medicolegal officer to  
6 whom the death was referred shall report such death to the Local Health Officer  
7 within ten (10) days from the date of death or receipt of the report of death.

8           The Local Health Officer, or any other government physician authorized  
9 under this Act shall, upon ensuring that the information provided is complete and  
10 accurate, and that the medical certification on cause of death is properly filled out,  
11 report the death to the LCR by forwarding the certificate of death and other relevant  
12 documents within thirty (30) days from the time of or discovery of death.

13           **SEC. 45. *Medical Certification and Determination of Cause of Death.*** – The  
14 cause and manner of death of deceased persons shall be determined and medically  
15 certified, by the following persons, subject to guidelines to be issued by the DOH:

- 16           (a) By the head of the health facility or the attending physician, in case  
17 of deaths occurring in a health facility and deaths pronounced in the  
18 health facility;
- 19           (b) By the physician who last attended to the deceased during their last  
20 illness, in case of deaths occurring outside a health facility but with  
21 medical attendance;
- 22           (c) By the Local Health Officer, or other physicians authorized by them,  
23 in case of deaths occurring outside a health facility and without  
24 medical attendance, upon viewing the body in-person or through  
25 video conferencing, and upon reviewing the deceased’s medical  
26 records; or
- 27           (d) By the medicolegal officer of the PNP or NBI, in cases of  
28 medicolegal deaths.

1           The cause and manner of death shall be reported to the LCR in the same  
2 manner as the fact of death. The Local Health Officer may designate other  
3 physicians to determine the cause and manner of death for deaths without medical  
4 attendance: Provided, That such physician has undergone training on medical  
5 certification of cause of death, as prescribed by the DOH.

6           **SEC. 46. *Verbal Autopsy.*** – In cases where a person died outside a health  
7 facility and without medical attendance, and no medical records are available to  
8 determine the cause and manner of death of the deceased, the Local Health Officer  
9 receiving the report of death or other physicians authorized by the Local Health  
10 Officer shall view the body in-person, through video conferencing, or such other  
11 means allowed under regulations, and conduct verbal autopsy to determine the most  
12 likely cause of death: *Provided*, That physicians designated by the Local Health  
13 Officer to conduct verbal autopsy have undergone training on the use of verbal  
14 autopsy. The fact that verbal autopsy was used to determine the most likely cause of  
15 death shall be specified in the certificate of death.

16           The DOH shall issue guidelines on the conduct of verbal autopsies by Local  
17 Health Officers.

18           **SEC. 47. *Medicolegal Deaths.*** – The following deaths shall be considered  
19 medicolegal deaths that must be reported to medicolegal officers of the PNP or NBI  
20 in cases within their jurisdiction, by any person who has knowledge of such death:

- 21           (a) Deaths due to known or suspected unnatural or external causes,  
22 including violent deaths, whether due to homicide, suicide, or  
23 accident;
- 24           (b) All potentially unlawful deaths;
- 25           (c) Sudden, unexpected, or unexplained deaths not caused by a readily  
26 recognizable disease, including dead-on-arrival cases with  
27 improbable or inconsistent medical history or within confinement of  
28 less than twenty-four (24) hours;

1 (d) Deaths in state custody; and

2 (e) Other analogous causes.

3 Upon receipt of the report, the medicolegal officer to whom the case is  
4 assigned shall conduct a post-mortem examination of the deceased and such other  
5 examinations needed to determine the cause and manner of death. The consent of  
6 the deceased's next-of-kin shall not be required for such examinations.

7 The medicolegal officer shall certify and report the cause and manner of  
8 death, in the form and manner prescribed by the NSCRG, and according to  
9 guidelines to be issued by the NSCRG in coordination with the DILG, the DOJ, and  
10 the DOH.

11 In the absence of a medicolegal officer of the PNP and NBI in the city or  
12 municipality where the death occurred, the PNP may authorize a Local Health  
13 Officer or government physician to conduct the medicolegal death investigation  
14 (MLDI): *Provided*, That such Local Health Officer or government physician shall  
15 act under the supervision of the PNP.

16 The cause and manner of death determined upon request for a second opinion  
17 made to another agency shall not be registered without court order: *Provided*, That  
18 in case jurisdiction is transferred to the NBI or PNP upon order of the Secretary of  
19 Justice or the Secretary of the Interior and Local Government, the agency designated  
20 to conduct the MLDI shall be responsible for reporting the cause and manner of  
21 death.

22 **SEC. 48. *Duty to Keep Records of Death.*** – All health facilities shall submit  
23 to the LCR a record of all deaths occurring in such facilities on a quarterly basis.  
24 Such record shall contain information required for registration, including but not  
25 limited to the name of the deceased, the certifier of cause and manner of death, and  
26 the date of submission of registration documents to the LCR.

27 All funeral parlors, embalmers, cemeteries, and crematoriums shall likewise  
28 submit to the LCR on a quarterly basis, a record of all deaths referred to their facility

1 for embalming, burial, or cremation services. Such record shall contain relevant  
2 information, including but not limited to the name of the deceased, the date of  
3 issuance of the permit to dispose of the body, the name of the embalmer, and the  
4 date of registration of death.

5 **SEC. 49. *Classification of Diseases.*** – The DOH and the PSA shall adopt a  
6 standard for the classification of diseases consistent with international standards.

7 **SEC. 50. *Registration of Deaths of Unidentified Persons.*** – The NSCRG, in  
8 coordination with the PNP, NBI, DOJ, DILG, DOH, and other relevant  
9 organizations, shall issue guidelines for the registration of deaths of unidentified  
10 persons. These guidelines shall include mechanisms to amend the identity, cause  
11 and manner of death, and other relevant information on the deceased when they  
12 become known, in accordance with this Act.

13 The DOH shall ensure that all funeral parlors, burial facilities, and  
14 crematoriums are trained on disposal of unidentified bodies and remains.

15 **SEC. 51. *Monitoring and Review of Causes of Death.*** – The DOH, through  
16 its regional offices and provincial health officers, shall conduct regular and random  
17 audits of causes of death within their territorial jurisdiction and shall submit reports  
18 and recommendations to the Civil Registration Inter-Agency Cooperation  
19 Committee to improve the quality, accuracy, and timeliness of cause of death  
20 determination and certification.

### 21 **CHAPTER III**

#### 22 **Marriage License and Registration of Marriage**

23 **SEC. 52. *Registration of the Application for Marriage License.*** – An  
24 application for a marriage license shall be filed by the contracting parties before the  
25 LCR where either of the parties resides. The LCR shall enter all applications in the  
26 Register of Applications for Marriage License strictly in the order of receipt of  
27 applications. The LCR shall record in the said register the names of the applicants,

1 the date of issuance of the marriage license, and such other information as may be  
2 prescribed by the NSCRG.

3 No application shall be received by the LCR unless supporting documents  
4 are attached thereto and no application shall be posted unless it is received by the  
5 LCR. Registration of such application shall only take place after the completion of  
6 the posting period.

7 All applications for marriage license shall be governed by the pertinent  
8 provisions of EO No. 209.

9 **SEC. 53. *Registration of Marriage.*** – All marriages, including marriages  
10 among ICCs/IPs requiring a marriage license, shall be registered by the solemnizing  
11 officer within fifteen (15) days following the solemnization of the marriage at the  
12 LCRO of the place where the marriage was solemnized. Marriages exempted from  
13 the license requirement, as provided in Title I, Chapter 2 of EO No. 209, shall be  
14 registered in the same manner within thirty (30) days from the date of celebration of  
15 marriage.

16 A marriage solemnized while in transit within Philippine territory is  
17 registrable at the place of destination or usual residence of either party.

18 Marriage among Muslim Filipinos performed under their customs, rites, and  
19 practices shall be registered by the officiating person, or in their default, by the  
20 parties to the marriage, with the Circuit Registrar of the city or municipality where  
21 the Shari'a Circuit Court exists. Where there is no Shari'a Circuit Court, marriages  
22 among Muslim Filipinos shall be registered at the LCRO where the marriage was  
23 celebrated.

24 **SEC. 54. *Marriages Exempt from the License Requirement.*** – In marriages  
25 exempt from the license requirement, the solemnizing officer, in accordance with  
26 Title I, Chapter 2 of EO No. 209, shall indicate in the space provided in the  
27 Certificate of Marriage the specific provision of EO No. 209 under which the

1 marriage was performed. The civil registrar shall enter the same in the remarks  
2 column of the marriage register, in accordance with relevant NSCRG guidelines.

3 **CHAPTER IV**  
4 **Delayed Registration**

5 **SEC. 55. *Delayed Registration.*** – Delayed registration refers to the  
6 registration of a vital event beyond the reglementary period under this Act and other  
7 relevant laws, rules, and regulations.

8 The NSCRG shall prescribe guidelines on the delayed registration of vital  
9 events, in accordance with this Act and other relevant laws, rules, and regulations.  
10 Such guidelines shall include but not be limited to the requirements and procedures  
11 for the following:

- 12 (a) Appearance of the document owner in relation to the processing of  
13 delayed registration, including instances where personal appearance  
14 may be dispensed with;
- 15 (b) Exceptional circumstances, such as the occurrence of a state of  
16 calamity or pandemic, necessitating birth registration assistance  
17 programs to aid in the expedient registration of birth among the  
18 vulnerable sectors of society;
- 19 (c) Imposition of standard fees for delayed registration and/or waiver of  
20 the delayed registration fee where the applicant is an indigent, has  
21 limited access to registration services, and such other similar  
22 circumstances; and
- 23 (d) Other analogous cases as may be deemed necessary to realize the  
24 objectives of this Act.

25 **SEC. 56. *Delayed Registration of Birth.*** – The primary documentary  
26 requirements for the application for delayed registrations of birth shall be:

- 1 (a) Certificate of Live Birth duly accomplished and signed by the proper  
2 parties;  
3 (b) Accomplished Affidavit for Delayed Registration; and  
4 (c) National ID or ePhilID.

5 **SEC. 57. *Waiving of Delayed Registration Fee.*** – The standard fee for  
6 delayed registration shall be waived upon presentation of any of the following:

- 7 (a) Certificate of indigency issued by the DSWD or by the Local Social  
8 Welfare and Development Office (LSWDO); or  
9 (b) Certificate of 4Ps.

10 *Provided,* That certificates of indigency issued by the LSWDO shall be  
11 subject to further verification by the PSA; *Provided, further,* That that persons  
12 requesting for waiver of the delayed registration fee should be in the DSWD’s  
13 Listahanan or other equivalent lists or databases.

## 14 **CHAPTER V**

### 15 **Multiple Registration**

16 **SEC. 58. *Multiple Registration.*** – In cases of multiple registrations of birth  
17 and death, the first registered certificate shall be presumed valid, unless otherwise  
18 canceled by the court. No copies of subsequently registered certificates registering  
19 the same birth or death shall be issued.

20 For multiple marriages involving the same parties, the certificate of marriage  
21 pertaining to the first celebrated marriage shall be presumed valid, unless otherwise  
22 canceled by the court.

23 The NSCRG shall promptly inform the concerned LCR, Shari’a Circuit  
24 Registrar, or Philippine Foreign Service Post of the multiple registration upon  
25 discovery.



1 Solemnize Marriage (CRASM), and record the name of such priest, rabbi , imam,  
2 or minister in the register of solemnizing officers. A denomination, church, sect, or  
3 religion shall be deemed operating in the Philippines when such appears in the latest  
4 census records of the Philippines. In the absence of census records, the current  
5 Certificate of Registration or General Information Sheet issued by the SEC may be  
6 presented. In the absence of the foregoing, a certification from the mayor having  
7 jurisdiction over the place where its church, temple, chapel, mosque, synagogue, and  
8 other places of worship used actually and exclusively for holding religious  
9 gatherings, rites, and services is situated, affirming that the religion or religious sect  
10 is operating in its locality, may be submitted.

11 **SEC. 61.** *Grounds for Cancellation of CRASM.* – The NSCRG shall have  
12 the authority to cancel the CRASM, upon due notice and hearing, based on the  
13 following grounds:

- 14 (a) When the bishop or head of religion or religious sect of which the  
15 solemnizing officer is a member requests for its cancellation;
- 16 (b) When the solemnizing officer voluntarily requests for cancellation;
- 17 (c) When the solemnizing officer ceases to be a member of the religion  
18 or religious sect indicated in the certificate, or retires, or ceases to be  
19 a priest, minister, or religious minister;
- 20 (d) When the solemnizing officer is convicted by final judgment of any  
21 crime involving moral turpitude;
- 22 (e) When the solemnizing officer becomes permanently incapacitated to  
23 discharge the functions of their office;
- 24 (f) When the solemnizing officer willfully violates laws or regulations  
25 on marriage, or willfully fails to fulfill their duties as solemnizing  
26 officer;

- 1 (g) When the solemnizing officer commits other acts in contravention  
2 of law; and  
3 (h) Other analogous circumstances.

## 4 CHAPTER VII

### 5 Court Orders and Legal Instruments

6 **SEC. 62.** *Registration of Court Orders.* – In case of a court decree/order  
7 concerning the status of a person, it shall be the duty of the Clerk of Court to advise  
8 the successful petitioner to have the decree/order registered in the LCRO where the  
9 court is functioning within thirty (30) days after the decree/order has become final.

10 The successful petitioner or their authorized representative, in lieu of the  
11 Clerk of Court, may cause the registration of the court decree/order. The civil  
12 registrar, upon receipt of the application for registration, shall verify the authenticity  
13 of the court decree/order. It shall be the duty of the Clerk of Court who issued the  
14 decree/order to ascertain whether the same has been registered, and if not, to cause  
15 the registration of the same.

16 Applications for registration of a court decree/order filed beyond the 30-day  
17 reglementary period shall be processed subject to the rules for delayed registration,  
18 in accordance with this Act and the guidelines issued by the NSCRG.

19 The LCRO where the decree/order was registered shall forward a certified  
20 true copy of the same to the LCRO where the vital event affected was originally  
21 registered, in accordance with the guidelines issued by the NSCRG.

22 **SEC. 63.** *Registration of Divorce Among Muslim Filipinos.* – Divorce in  
23 accordance with PD No. 1083 shall be registered at the Shari'a Circuit Court where  
24 the divorce occurred within thirty (30) days from the occurrence of the vital event.  
25 In the event that there is no Shari'a Circuit Court in the place where the divorce  
26 occurred, the same shall be registered in the Shari'a Circuit Court of the place of

1 habitual residence of the requesting party, or at the nearest Shari'a Circuit Court  
2 where the divorce occurred.

3 A Decree of Divorce issued by a Shari'a Circuit Court, once final and  
4 executory, shall be registered by the Shari'a Circuit Registrar of the place where the  
5 divorce occurred and entered in the Register of Muslim Divorces within thirty (30)  
6 days after the divorce has become final and executory. The Shari'a Circuit Registrar  
7 shall transmit registered copies of the Decree of Divorce and its Certificate of  
8 Finality to the appropriate office, in accordance with the guidelines issued by the  
9 NSCRG.

10 **SEC. 64.** *Registration of the Dissolution of Marriages Among ICCs/IPs.* –  
11 In accordance with existing laws, rules, and regulations, the Certificate of  
12 Dissolution of Marriage of ICCs/IPs shall be registered with the LCRO of the city  
13 or municipality where the dissolution of marriage occurred within thirty (30) days  
14 from the confirmation of the occurrence of the dissolution of marriage: *Provided,*  
15 That facts and information contained in such Certificate shall be confirmed in  
16 writing by a tribal leader, chieftain, or community elder of the ICC to which any of  
17 the parties belongs.

18 **SEC. 65.** *Recognition of Foreign Decree or Judgment.* – The foreign decree  
19 or judgment must be judicially recognized by filing a proper civil action with the  
20 Regional Trial Court (RTC). The court decision recognizing such foreign judgment  
21 shall be registered at the LCRO where the concerned RTC functions within thirty  
22 (30) calendar days from the finality of judgment. The court decree/order, together  
23 with the Certificate of Finality, shall be submitted to the LCRO where the marriage  
24 is registered for annotation.

25 **SEC. 66.** *Registration of Judicial Declaration of Presumptive Death.* – The  
26 Clerk of Court that issues the order or the successful petitioner of the case declaring  
27 the presumptive death of a person shall submit a copy of the court decree/order,  
28 together with the Certificate of Finality, to the LCRO in the city or municipality

1 where the court decree/order was issued, within thirty (30) calendar days from the  
2 time of issuance of the court decree/order, in accordance with the provisions of this  
3 Act and EO No. 209.

4 **SEC. 67. *Adoption.*** – All adoptions processed and recognized under  
5 Philippine law shall be duly registered in accordance with this Act.

6 The registration of Administrative Orders of Adoption shall be governed by  
7 the relevant provisions of RA No. 11642 or the Domestic Administrative Adoption  
8 and Alternative Child Care Act, its implementing rules and regulations, and other  
9 relevant laws, rules, and regulations.

10 **SEC. 68. *Rectification of Simulated Birth Records.*** – The registration of  
11 rectification of simulated birth records shall be governed by the relevant provisions  
12 of RA No. 11222, as amended by RA No. 11642, its implementing rules and  
13 regulations, and other relevant laws, rules, and regulations.

14 **SEC. 69. *Registration of Legal Instruments.*** – The following shall be  
15 recorded in the Register of Legal Instruments:

- 16 (a) Affidavit of reappearance;
- 17 (b) Affidavit of acknowledgement under the Civil Code;
- 18 (c) Acquisition of citizenship;
- 19 (d) Acquisition of traditional title upon completion of Hajj or Ada, in  
20 accordance with Section 17 of RA 9997 or the National Commission  
21 on Muslim Filipinos Act of 2009;
- 22 (e) Administrative reacquisition and retention of citizenship under RA  
23 No. 9225 or the Citizenship Retention and Reacquisition Act of  
24 2003;
- 25 (f) Renunciation of Philippine citizenship;
- 26 (g) Authorization and ratification of artificial insemination;
- 27 (h) Certificate of legal capacity to contract marriage;
- 28 (i) Legitimization;

- 1 (j) Option to elect Philippine citizenship;
- 2 (k) Marriage settlements and any modification thereof before the
- 3 celebration of marriage;
- 4 (l) Repatriation document with oath of allegiance;
- 5 (m) Dissolution of marriage among ICCs/IPs, in accordance with their
- 6 customs and traditions;
- 7 (n) Affidavit to use the surname of the father;
- 8 (o) Affidavit of admission of paternity;
- 9 (p) Partition and distribution of properties of spouses and delivery of
- 10 the children's presumptive legitime;
- 11 (q) Waiver of rights/interests in absolute community of property; and
- 12 (r) Such other registrable legal instruments as may be determined by
- 13 the NSCRG.

14 **SEC. 70.** *Place of Registration.* – As a general rule, all legal instruments  
15 shall be registered in the LCRO of the place where they were executed except for  
16 the following:

- 17 (a) Affidavit of reappearance;
- 18 (b) Marriage settlement;
- 19 (c) Admission of paternity or equivalent document;
- 20 (d) Acknowledgement, legitimation, or voluntary emancipation of a
- 21 minor;
- 22 (e) Authorization and ratification of artificial insemination; and
- 23 (f) Affidavit to use the surname of the father.

24 **SEC. 71.** *Registration of Affidavit of Reappearance.* – A sworn statement of  
25 the facts and circumstances of reappearance of a spouse declared to be absent or  
26 presumptively dead shall be recorded with the LCRO where the judicial declaration  
27 of presumptive death was recorded, and in the LCRO where a subsequent marriage  
28 was recorded, if applicable. The affidavit of reappearance shall be annotated both in  
29 the first and subsequent certificates of marriage of the spouses, if applicable.



1 certified copies shall be *prima facie* evidence of the truth of the facts contained  
2 therein.

3 The civil registrar shall not, under any circumstance, permit any document  
4 entrusted to their care to be removed from their office, except upon lawful order of  
5 the court, in which case the proper receipt shall be secured.

6 **SEC. 78.** *Data Privacy and Confidentiality of Civil Registration Records.* –  
7 All processes, databases, and information gathered through and stored in the CRVS  
8 System shall be processed in accordance with RA No. 10173.

9 The PSA shall adopt such controls and safeguards as are appropriate and  
10 necessary to ensure that only authorized personnel have access to its data and  
11 records, and that the confidentiality of the information handled and processed by the  
12 CRVS system is protected at all times, in accordance with relevant provisions of PD  
13 No. 603 or the Child and Youth Welfare Code, as amended, and RA No. 10173.

14 The NSCRG shall issue policies and guidelines on the copy issuance of civil  
15 registry documents.

16 **SEC. 79.** *Generation and Sharing of CRVS Information.* – Civil registration  
17 information shall be the primary source of vital statistics. The PSA shall regularly  
18 publish vital statistics and reports thereon, in accordance with RA No. 10625 or the  
19 Philippine Statistical Act of 2013.

20 The PSA shall likewise share information to other government agencies,  
21 including LGUs, as may be necessary to the purposes of such requests and in  
22 accordance with relevant provisions of PD No. 603, RA No. 10173, and other  
23 relevant laws, rules, and regulations.

24 **CHAPTER IX**

25 **Digitalization**

1           **SEC. 80. *Digitalization of CRVS System.*** – The NSCRG, in coordination  
2 with the DICT, shall develop and adopt appropriate technology to facilitate and  
3 improve the CRVS system. The NSCRG may, for this purpose, issue guidelines on:

4           (a) The digitalization of civil registration processes and the digitization  
5 of the national register, local registers, and other civil registration  
6 records;

7           (b) The requirements for the adoption of the CRVS system, including  
8 its interoperability or integration with existing IT systems, by  
9 LCRs, Shari’a District/Circuit Registrars, Philippine Foreign  
10 Service Posts, health facilities, BCRS, and other government  
11 stakeholders;

12           (c) The use of electronic or digital signatures for registration of vital  
13 events, in accordance with RA No. 8792 or the Electronic  
14 Commerce Act of 2000.

15           All national and local registers, and all civil registration records forming part  
16 of said registers, shall conform to the guidelines set by the NSCRG, in coordination  
17 with the DICT, taking into consideration new technologies available.

18           The NSCRG may prescribe the form of civil registry documents and reports,  
19 including physical and electronic/digital copies, to be used by civil registrars.

20           **SEC. 81. *Interoperability of CRVS System with PhilSys Database.*** – The  
21 CRVS System shall be interoperable with the Philippine Identification System  
22 (PhilSys), in accordance with relevant provisions of RA No. 11055 or the Philippine  
23 Identification System Act. The NSCRG shall issue guidelines to ensure the secure  
24 sharing and interoperability of the CRVS system with the PhilSys.

25           **SEC. 82. *E-Filing.*** – The Civil Registration Office shall establish an  
26 electronic filing system for the following:

27           (a) Petitions under RA No. 9048, as amended by RA No. 10172;

28           (b) Submission or Application for Annotation under RA 9858;

- 1 (c) Application for Registration of CRASM;  
2 (d) Petition for cancellation of CRASM; and  
3 (e) Appeals and other processes related to civil registration, as may be  
4 deemed necessary.

5 **SEC. 83.** *Posting and Publication Requirements.* – The posting and  
6 publication relative to the registration of vital events shall be made in accordance  
7 with this Act and other relevant laws, rules, and regulations. This notwithstanding,  
8 posting through the official PSA central and field office websites or other official  
9 government website shall constitute compliance with the posting and publication  
10 requirements under civil registration laws.

## 11 **CHAPTER X**

### 12 **Penal Provisions**

13 **SEC. 84.** *Immunity from Suit of Civil Registration Officers.* – The NSCRG,  
14 LCRs, Shari’a District/Circuit Registrars, Consul Generals/Consuls/Vice Consuls,  
15 and other officers performing civil registration functions shall not be subject to any  
16 action, claim, or demand in connection with any act done or omitted by them in the  
17 performance of their duties and exercise of their powers to implement the provisions  
18 of this Act, except for acts and omissions done in evident bad faith or gross neglect  
19 of duty.

20 Unless the actions of the above-mentioned officers are found to be in willful  
21 violation of this Act or performed with evident bad faith or gross negligence, the  
22 abovementioned officers are held free and harmless from any liability, to the full  
23 extent permissible by law, and they shall be indemnified for any and all costs, and  
24 expenses of whatever kind and nature that may arise in connection with the lawful  
25 exercise of their powers and performance of their duties and functions.

1           **SEC. 85. *Offenses and Penalties.*** – (A) It shall be prohibited for any natural  
2 or juridical person to commit or facilitate the commission of any of the following  
3 acts:

- 4           (1) Forging civil registration documents, certificates, and registers;
- 5           (2) Willfully falsifying, altering, or tampering civil registration  
6 documents, certificates, and registers;
- 7           (3) Submitting false information in registering vital events;
- 8           (4) Using, abetting to use, or possessing falsified or illegally obtained  
9 certificates and security papers; and
- 10          (5) Profiteering and unauthorized facilitation of registration and copy  
11 issuance of civil registration documents.

12           Any person who commits the foregoing violations shall, upon conviction, be  
13 punished with imprisonment of not less than six (6) years but not more than twelve  
14 (12) years, or a fine of not less than One Hundred Thousand Pesos (Php 100,000.00)  
15 but not more than One Million Pesos (Php 1,000,000.00), or both, at the discretion  
16 of the court.

17           (B) It shall be prohibited for any government employee or official,  
18 solemnizing officer, or medical practitioner, attendant, or health facility officer  
19 authorized to prepare civil registry documents to:

- 20          (1) Intentionally prepare, or aid or abet in the preparation of, a certificate  
21 or civil registration document containing false or fraudulent  
22 information; and
- 23          (2) Violation of civil registration laws, including those involving national  
24 interest.
- 25          (3) Make any unauthorized alteration in civil registration documents,  
26 certifications, and registers; and
- 27          (4) Intentionally withhold information form, or refuse to inform, the LCR  
28 of a vital event.

1 Any government employee or official, solemnizing officer, or medical  
2 practitioner, attendant, or health facility officer, who commits the foregoing  
3 violations shall, upon conviction, be punished with imprisonment of not less than  
4 six (6) years but not more than twelve (12) years, or a fine of not less than One  
5 Hundred Thousand Pesos (Php 100,000.00) but not more than One Million Pesos  
6 (Php 1,000,000.00), or both, at the discretion of the court.

7 In all instances, if the violation was committed by a government official or  
8 employee, the penalty shall include perpetual absolute disqualification from holding  
9 any public office or employment in the government, including GOCCs, and their  
10 subsidiaries.

11 This provision shall be without prejudice to the filing of the appropriate  
12 criminal cases, in accordance with the Revised Penal Code and other special penal  
13 laws.

14 (C) It shall be unlawful for health facilities and their responsible personnel,  
15 and medical practitioners, to refuse to report or cause the registration of a vital event  
16 due to non-payment of hospital fees.

17 Any government employee or official, medical practitioner, or health facility  
18 officer who commits the foregoing violation shall, upon conviction, be punished  
19 with imprisonment of not less than six (6) years but not more than twelve (12) years,  
20 or a fine of not less than One Hundred Thousand Pesos (Php 100,000.00) but not  
21 more than One Million Pesos (Php 1,000,000.00), or both, at the discretion of the  
22 court. This provision shall be without prejudice to other penalties and fines that may  
23 be imposed on government employees and officials for misfeasance, malfeasance,  
24 and other acts and omissions prohibited by law.

25 In case of acts committed by private individuals, the penalties imposed in this  
26 section shall be without prejudice to the filing of the appropriate criminal cases, in  
27 accordance with the Revised Penal Code and other special penal laws.



1 extension of time to render its Decision in view of the nature of the case. Such  
2 decision shall become final and executory fifteen (15) days after the receipt thereof  
3 by the parties to the proceedings, subject to appeal under Section 90 of this Act.

4 **SEC. 89. *Canceled Civil Registration Documents.*** – Upon finality of the  
5 decision rendered by the Special Committee under Section 88, the Special  
6 Committee shall notify the concerned civil registrar of the finality of the decision,  
7 who shall then cancel the affected civil registry document. Copies of civil  
8 registration documents canceled in accordance with this provision shall only be  
9 issued upon issuance of a court order.

10 **SEC. 90. *Appeals.*** – Any person whose interest is affected by a decision or  
11 inaction by a civil registrar or any officer performing civil registration functions  
12 under this Act, including the Special Committee under Section 87, may appeal the  
13 decision or inaction to the NSCRG, in accordance with guidelines promulgated by  
14 the PSA. Appeals from decisions of the NSCRG may be made in accordance with  
15 Rule 43 of the Rules of Court.

16 **SEC. 91. *Use of Income.*** – Ten percent (10%) of the income generated from  
17 the civil registration services shall be retained for the upgrading of equipment,  
18 system, database, physical facilities, and operations of the Civil Registration Office.

19 **SEC. 92. *Transitory Provisions.*** – For the first two (2) years from the  
20 effectivity of this Act, the existing rules, guidelines, standard operating procedures,  
21 and forms for the registration of vital events shall continue to be in effect to ensure  
22 continuity of civil registration services. The NSCRG shall issue guidelines, as  
23 necessary, to clarify which procedures shall remain in effect notwithstanding the  
24 effectivity of this Act.

25 **SEC. 93. *Appropriations.*** – There shall be an initial appropriation of One  
26 Hundred Fifty Million Pesos (Php 150,000,000.00) in the General Appropriations  
27 Act, which shall be included in the PSA’s budget, for the digitalization of civil

1 registration processes and the digitization of the national register, local registers, and  
2 other civil registration records.

3 **SEC. 94. *Mandatory Review.*** – This Act shall undergo mandatory review at  
4 least every five (5) years to integrate global best practices, and accommodate  
5 necessary modifications and developments to the CRVS system.

6 **SEC. 95. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.*** – The PSA, in coordination  
7 with the Civil Registration Inter-Agency Cooperation Committee and other relevant  
8 stakeholders, including national professional organizations of LCRs, shall adopt  
9 such rules and regulations for the proper and effective implementation of this Act  
10 within one (1) year from the effectivity of this Act.

11 **SEC. 96. *Separability Clause.*** – If any part or provision of this Act shall be  
12 held invalid or unconstitutional, other parts or provisions of this Act not otherwise  
13 affected shall continue to be in full force and effect.

14 **SEC. 97. *Repealing Clause.*** – Act No. 3753 or the Law on registry of Civil  
15 Status, and all other laws, rules, regulations, and issuances inconsistent with any  
16 provisions of this Act, are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

17 **SEC. 98. *Retroactivity.*** – This Act shall have retroactive effect insofar as it  
18 does not prejudice or impair vested or acquired rights.

19 **SEC. 99. *Effectivity.*** This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its  
20 publication in the Official Gazette or in any newspaper of general circulation.

*Approved,*