

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

TWENTIETH (20th) CONGRESS
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

House Bill No. **7460**



Introduced by
Rep. ROBERT NAZAL

AN ACT
PROVIDING SPECIAL PROTECTION TO CHILDREN AND VULNERABLE
SECTORS AGAINST RADICALIZATION AND TERROR GROOMING AND
PRESCRIBING PENALTIES THEREFOR

EXPLANATORY NOTE

In recent years, radicalization and terror grooming have emerged as pressing threats to Filipino children and vulnerable sectors, fueled by a combination of social, economic, digital, and community-related factors. Across the country, minors and marginalized groups face heightened risks as extremist organizations exploit poverty, marginalization, historical grievances, and unresolved local conflicts to influence and recruit them into violent activities.¹

A growing body of evidence underscores this trend. Studies have shown that the early stages of radicalization namely, emotional manipulation, ideological indoctrination, and grooming, often occur unnoticed, long before any criminal act is committed.² Online platforms, social media, messaging applications, livestreams, and online games have become primary avenues for grooming, enabling extremists to create emotional dependency, shape beliefs, and exploit the search for identity, belonging, and purpose among youth and other vulnerable individuals.

Globally, the United Nations and counter-terrorism bodies recognize the manipulation of minors and vulnerable populations as a critical early warning stage in the radicalization process, highlighting the importance of preventive measures that combine community, educational, and digital interventions. In the Philippines, reports of online grooming and recruitment of youth by extremist groups have increased in recent years, reflecting both the evolving nature of radicalization and the urgent need for legislative safeguards.

¹ Handbook on Children Recruited and Exploited by Terrorist and Violent Extremist Groups: The Role of the Justice System, United Nations Office on Drugs and Crimes

² <https://www.ntfelcac.gov.ph/post/nationwide-effort-launched-to-shield-youth-from-terror-grooming-1>, National Task Force to End Local Communist Armed Conflict

Left unaddressed, terror grooming can lead not only to violent extremism but also to broader social consequences, including community destabilization, intergenerational trauma, and the perpetuation of conflict. Early prevention is therefore essential, both to protect individual well-being and to strengthen national resilience against violent extremism.

This measure is grounded in the principle that the protection of children and vulnerable sectors from manipulation, grooming, and radicalization is fundamental to their safety, development, and empowerment. The bill seeks to establish a comprehensive, rights-based, and community-anchored program that addresses both online and offline forms of terror grooming through preventive, educational, and protective measures.

The proposed measure operationalizes the State's duty to safeguard minors and other at-risk populations, integrating the roles of families, schools, local communities, online platforms, and government agencies in early detection, intervention, and support. It aligns with the Philippine Development Plan 2023–2028, particularly under Chapter 11 (Building Resilient Communities), and supports the United Nations Sustainable Development Goal 16 to promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, providing access to justice for all and building effective, accountable institutions at all levels.

With this bill, we lay the legislative foundation for a generation of Filipino children and vulnerable sectors who are protected, resilient, and empowered to resist manipulation and radicalization - our Bagong Henerasyon.

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



Rep. ROBERT NAZAL
Bagong Henerasyon Party-List

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act shall be known as the “Anti-Terror Grooming Act.”

SECTION 2. DECLARATION OF POLICY.

It is the policy of the State to protect and promote the safety, well-being, and resilience of all Filipino children, youth, and vulnerable sectors against radicalization, ideological indoctrination, psychological conditioning, and terror grooming. The State shall institutionalize a rights-based, inclusive, preventive, and multi-sectoral framework to address both online and offline forms of manipulation and recruitment by extremist groups. This policy is grounded in the constitutional mandate to protect life, liberty, and property, uphold human dignity, and promote the general welfare (Article II, Sections 5, 9, and 15 of the 1987 Constitution).

The State acknowledges that the early stages of radicalization and terror grooming exploit social, economic, digital, and cultural vulnerabilities. Programs and interventions shall therefore be sensitive to the intersectional realities faced by children, youth, and other vulnerable sectors, including those related to poverty, gender, indigenous identity, disability, and geographic disadvantage.

In implementing this policy, the State shall:

- A. Adopt a preventive and promotive approach to countering radicalization, ideological manipulation, and terror grooming;
- B. Ensure access to accurate information and educational programs to counter extremist propaganda and disinformation, while respecting constitutionally protected freedoms of belief, expression, religion, and assembly;
- C. Engage families, schools, communities, youth organizations, online platforms, and local government units as key stakeholders in the prevention and early intervention of radicalization;
- D. Strengthen the role of the family as the primary safeguard against the influence of extremist and violent ideologies;
- E. Protect the rights and welfare of children, youth, and vulnerable populations against manipulation, exploitation, and recruitment by extremist organizations; and
- F. Develop the capacity of government agencies, civil society, and other stakeholders to implement culturally sensitive, trauma-informed, and rights-based strategies to prevent radicalization and support individuals at risk.

The State recognizes that the protection of vulnerable sectors from terror grooming and radicalization is integral to national security, social cohesion, and the promotion of democratic values. This policy underscores the importance of coordinated, preventive, and inclusive measures to ensure the safety, dignity, and resilience of all Filipinos.

SECTION 3. DEFINITION OF TERMS.

As used in this Act, the following terms shall mean:

- A. Child refers to a person below eighteen (18) years of age, or those over eighteen who are unable to fully protect themselves due to a physical or mental disability or condition.
- B. Child Recruitment refers to the forced, compulsory, or voluntary recruitment of persons under 18 into any armed force, armed group, terrorist organization, or violent extremist group.
- C. Exploitation of a child refers to the use of a child in any work or activities for the benefit of others or to the detriment of the child's development, including involvement in or support for terrorist acts.
- D. Internet café or kiosk refers to establishments offering internet access, including informal or non-registered venues.

- E. Internet hotspot refers to any place offering access to the internet.
- F. Internet intermediaries include entities providing infrastructure, platforms, hosting, transmission, and indexing services for third-party content.
- G. Internet service provider (ISP) refers to a public telecommunications entity or value-added service provider offering internet connectivity.
- H. Internet site refers to any online platform, website, bulletin board, or shared network location.
- I. People's Organization refers to community, regional, ethnic, faith-based, mutual benefit, and similar groups.
- J. Radicalization refers to the process by which individuals adopt extreme political, social, or religious views that directly and imminently advocate or incite violence or terrorism, excluding protected speech that does not constitute such incitement.
- K. School-based organizations include student and personnel organizations within academic institutions.
- L. Terrorism refers to acts defined in Section 4 of R.A. 11479 or the Anti-Terrorism Act of 2020.
- M. Terrorist Recruitment refers to the active process of enticing, manipulating, or mobilizing individuals to support or engage in terrorist activities.
- N. Terror Grooming refers to deliberate and systematic acts or processes of manipulation intended to prepare or condition a victim for involvement in terrorism or violent extremism.
- O. Violent Extremism refers to beliefs or actions supporting the use of violence to achieve ideological, political, or religious goals.
- P. Violent Extremist Ideologies refer to belief systems that advocate or justify the use of violence or terrorism.
- Q. Vulnerable Sector includes groups at higher risk of harm or exploitation, including children, youth, women, indigenous peoples, farmers, fisherfolk, and laborers.
- R. Workers' Organizations refer to unions, associations, cooperatives, and similar groups.
- S. Youth refers to persons aged fifteen (15) to thirty (30).

- T. Online Terror Grooming refers to establishing trust, dependency, or ideological influence through ICT for the purpose of radicalization or preparation for terrorist involvement.
- U. Digital Evidence refers to electronic records relevant to terror grooming, such as screenshots, URLs, logs, metadata, and file hashes.
- V. Confidential Reporting Channels refer to secure systems for reporting suspected terror grooming.
- W. Child Protection Committee (CPC) refers to the school committee responsible for prevention, reporting, and response to safety risks, including those related to terror grooming.

SECTION 4. ACTS OF TERROR GROOMING.

Terror grooming may be done online or in-person, either in places of learning, work and/or living or a combination thereof. The act of terror grooming may be done through any or combination of the following acts when conducted with the specific intent to facilitate or cause the commission of acts of terrorism as defined in Republic Act No. 11479, and where such acts of grooming constitute a clear and present danger of leading to the commission of terrorism, and do not fall under the legitimate exercise of constitutional freedoms:

1. Knowingly and intentionally engages in a deliberate series of acts directed to a person – especially a minor or vulnerable individual – using psychological, ideological, or emotional manipulation to build trust or dependency with the intent of preparing, conditioning, or facilitating that person’s involvement in terrorist or violent extremist act;
2. Indoctrinating any person with violent extremist ideologies, which directly and imminently incite to violence or terrorism, for the purpose of preparing them to support, join, or commit acts of terrorism;
3. Encouraging, soliciting, or recruiting any person to join or provide support in furtherance of terrorism;
4. Using physical or online spaces including schools, religious or cultural institutions, or digital platforms for the purposes of grooming or indoctrination that directly and imminently incites to violence or terrorism;
5. Possessing, producing, or disseminating any material either in digital format and/or hard copies specifically intended for terrorist grooming or indoctrination, where such material directly and imminently incites to violence or terrorism, either in person, online or both; or in any medium of communication. This shall not apply to materials

used for academic, journalistic, or artistic purposes, unless proven to be in furtherance of terrorist grooming or recruitment;

6. Providing logistical, financial, or technological support, with actual knowledge or intent, that such support will be employed to facilitate radicalization, indoctrination, recruitment, or preparation for terrorist acts; This includes, but is not limited to, the funding of terrorist grooming activities, or the provision of software, communication devices, or means of transportation intended for such purposes;
7. Simulating, conducting, or facilitating physical, tactical, ideological, or strategic training under the pretense of lawful or legitimate activities, with the purpose of preparing, conditioning, or equipping a person to engage in terrorism or related offenses;
8. Establishing, managing, or participating in online forums, closed groups, encrypted communication channels, or any digital platform specifically designed or utilized for the purpose of grooming, indoctrinating, recruiting, or facilitating terrorist activities;
9. Facilitating, arranging, or otherwise assisting the travel or movement of any person, whether within the Philippines or abroad, with the intention that such person be subjected to indoctrination, training, or recruitment by terrorist organizations or groups;
10. Knowingly concealing, withholding, or intentionally misrepresenting the true nature, purpose, or intent of any group, organization, association, or activity, for the purpose of recruiting, radicalizing, or grooming individuals for terrorism or violent extremism; and
11. Employing cultural, religious, academic, or ideological narratives in a deceptive or manipulative manner with the intent to justify, promote, normalize, or facilitate extremist beliefs, ideologies, or acts of terrorism.

An alien or a foreign entity conducting any of the above acts within Philippine territory, or abroad targeting Filipino citizens inside or outside the Philippines, may likewise be penalized for the said act.

SECTION 5. DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF INSTITUTIONS/ORGANIZATIONS.

- A. Schools, Colleges, Universities and Alternative or Supplementary Learning Centers or Institutions shall:
 1. Take reasonable and appropriate steps to prevent terror grooming within their campuses or during school-related activities, whether academic or extra-curricular, and regardless of location.

2. Formulate and implement programs and activities that will enhance the information awareness and promote active participation of parents/guardians of learners in preventing radicalization, terror grooming and violent extremist ideologies.
3. Formulate and implement policies and programs that will prevent terror grooming and regulate students', academic and non-academic personnel's activities to ensure that said activities are not exploited by terrorist recruiters or used for radicalization and terror grooming while safeguarding the rights to free expression and organization in accordance with the Constitution.
4. Formulate and implement strategies and programs to provide interventions to victims of terror grooming for their reintegration into the school community with the assistance of mental health professionals, guidance counselors, and relevant government agencies where appropriate.
5. Monitor the activities of school-based organizations, and report all terror grooming related activities which transpire within their campuses to the relevant agency, e.g., Department of Education (DepEd), Commission on Higher Education (CHED), Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA), or Legal Education Board (LEB) or any member of the Inter-Agency Coordinating Committee under Section 7 of this law.
6. Impose disciplinary measures, and/or cause the cancellation of registration of school-based organizations, found to have engaged in or supported terror grooming related activities based on substantial evidence and proper investigation subject to existing laws, regulations, and due process.

B. School-based organization shall:

1. Actively contribute to the prevention and countering of radicalization and terror grooming within their ranks through proactive, peace-promoting, and rights-respecting programs consistent with the learning institution's academic and civic mandate.
2. Report suspected activities or behaviors involving terror grooming to the proper school authorities or concerned government agencies, in accordance with institutional protocols and national laws.
3. In cases where it is established through due process that a school-based organization, as a collective entity, knowingly or negligently facilitated, abetted, or directly engaged in terror grooming or related activities, appropriate sanctions may be imposed. This may include temporary or permanent suspension of registration, subject to a formal investigation, the right to be heard, and the final determination by the administration or a competent

authority, e.g., student affairs office of the school, college or university as defined by applicable laws and institutional rules.

4. If the involvement in terroristic activity is determined by the learning institution's administration or a competent authority, e.g., the student affairs office of the school, college or university to be an isolated act of an individual member, and there is no evidence of organizational complicity, the organization shall not be held liable.

C. Workers' Organization shall:

1. Prevent and counter radicalization and terror grooming within their ranks through proactive programs and activities consistent with the workers' organization's purpose, i.e., for the promotion of their rights and welfare.
2. In case of terror grooming being conducted or has been committed resulting to members of their organization being recruited and surrendered, captured or killed during the conduct of a terrorist activity, said organization's registration with the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) or the Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE), whichever has jurisdiction, shall be canceled. However, in cases wherein only a member of the organization was recruited and upon determination of pertinent government agency, the said organization shall not be held liable.

D. People's Organizations in Communities shall:

1. To prevent and counter radicalization and terror grooming within their ranks through proactive programs and activities consistent with their organization's mandate and purpose.
2. Inform pertinent authorities, e.g., Barangay Council, Sangguniang Kabataan, Municipal or City Peace and Order Council or any of its members for appropriate actions to prevent and counter said terror grooming activities within their organization or community.
3. In case of terror grooming being conducted or has been committed resulting in members of their organization being recruited and surrendered, captured or killed during the conduct of a terroristic activity, said people's organization registration shall be canceled and banned in the community. The ban may be temporary or permanent depending on the circumstances of the particular instance, and evaluation and determination of a competent authority, or the Barangay Council, the Sangguniang Kabataan, the Municipal or City Peace and Order Council with the assistance of the Municipal or City Social Work and Development Office. However, in cases wherein only a member of the

organization was recruited and upon determination of the aforementioned office, the said organization shall not be held liable.

E. Internet Intermediaries shall:

1. Adopt in their terms of service or service agreements with third-party users or creators of contents, products and services the prohibition of any form or any conduct of streaming or live-streaming of terror grooming in the use of their website, platform, server or facility.
2. Immediately block access to, remove or take down the internet address, uniform resource locator (URL), websites or any content thereof promoting violent extremist ideologies or terror grooming materials or activities involving streaming or live-streaming, within twenty-four (24) hours from receipt of notice from a competent authority, i.e., National Telecommunication Commission, NBI or PNP; notice containing sufficient information to identify the content and its source: Provided, That this period may be extended to another twenty-four (24) hours upon submission of a written justification if the notice was made by any private citizen or by a competent authority without sufficient information to identify the content and its source;
3. Develop, establish and install mechanisms or measures designed to prevent, detect, respond or report violations of this Act within their websites, platforms, applications, servers or facilities, compatible with the products and services they offer that may be in accordance with the global best practices and guidelines to counter terrorism which may include the installation of available technology, program, or software to ensure that access to or streaming of violations of this Act will be removed, blocked or filtered;

F. Internet Service Providers (ISPs). - In addition to the above duties and responsibilities, all ISPs shall:

1. Notify the PNP or the NBI within forty-eight (48) hours from receipt of information that any form of terror grooming is being committed using its server or facility, or is likely being committed using its server or facility;
2. Block terror grooming and/or violent extremist materials or the streaming or live-streaming promoting violent extremism within twenty-four (24) hours from receipt of notice containing sufficient information to identify the content and its source: Provided, That if the information contained in the notice points to a legitimate website where the blocking thereof may result to blocking of legitimate contents therein, the ISPs shall have the obligation to inform the PNP or NBI within the same period of such fact: Provided, further, That failure of the ISPs to block any form of terror grooming activities and violent extremist

materials or the streaming and/or live-streaming of terror grooming activities within twenty-four (24) hours from receipt of notice as described above, shall be prima facie evidence of knowledge;

3. Develop and adopt a set of systems and procedures for preventing, blocking, detecting, and reporting of terror grooming committed within their platforms, by partnering with organizations that maintain the most comprehensive list of URLs.

G. Internet hotspots, cafes or kiosks shall:

1. Notify the competent authority, within twenty-four (24) hours from obtaining facts and circumstances, of any violation of this Act that are being committed within their premises: Provided, that there is a prima facie knowledge that a violation of this Act is being committed if such acts have been committed within the premises of such internet hotspot, cafe or kiosk;
2. Install and update programs and software designed to detect terror grooming activities and ensure that access to or transmittal of violent extremist materials will be blocked or filtered; and
3. Promote awareness against terror grooming through clear and visible signages in both English and the local dialect, with local and national hotlines posted within their facilities.

SECTION 6. EXTRATERRITORIAL APPLICATION.

This Act shall apply to any Filipino citizen, and to any foreign national, who commits any of the prohibited acts defined herein outside the territorial jurisdiction of the Philippines, where any of the following circumstances are present:

- A. The offense is committed against a Filipino citizen, child, or vulnerable sector abroad;
- B. The prohibited act produces, is intended to produce, or is reasonably expected to produce effects within the Philippines;
- C. The offender targets or intends to target Filipino communities, institutions, schools, or online platforms accessible to Filipinos;
- D. The offender commits any act of digital or online terror grooming using ICT systems, servers, websites, domains, or digital infrastructure that are hosted in the Philippines or accessible to users within the Philippines;

- E. The offender is a Filipino citizen, permanent resident, or habitual resident who commits terror grooming abroad;
- F. The offender is found within the Philippines after the commission of the act, regardless of nationality, and is not extradited pursuant to applicable treaties; or
- G. The act constitutes an offense for which the Philippines may exercise jurisdiction under international law, including the protective principle, passive personality principle, nationality principle, and universality principle where applicable.

The exercise of extraterritorial jurisdiction under this Act shall be consistent with international law, mutual legal assistance agreements, and existing extradition treaties to which the Philippines is a party.

SECTION 7. INTER-AGENCY COORDINATING COMMITTEE ON ANTI-TERROR GROOMING.

An Inter-Agency Coordinating Committee on Anti-Terror Grooming (IACCATG) shall be created mandated to perform the following:

- A. To facilitate coordination and collaboration between relevant government agencies, e.g., national, regional and local government to prevent terror grooming and provide the necessary interventions for the victims and their families.
- B. To formulate and implement a national strategy and plan to prevent radicalization and recruitment of vulnerable sectors; and prevent terror grooming especially among children and other vulnerable sectors through a whole-of-nation approach and collaboration of all pertinent government agencies and stakeholders including private sector, civil society organizations, non-governmental organizations and people's organizations.
- C. To review media content (including online platforms) that explicitly incites or praises terrorism or violent extremism, while ensuring that constitutionally protected speech is not restricted. In performing such function, the Committee shall strictly uphold the constitutional right to freedom of expression and shall not impose any form of censorship or prior restraint on media content, unless such content satisfies the legal threshold of incitement to terrorism or violence, as defined under Philippine law and international human rights standards.
- D. The Committee shall also issue regular public reports and provide due process to creators or distributors of content under review.
- E. To initiate or file complaint against any suspected violator, person or organization committing any act as provided for in Section 4 of this Act.

- F. The Inter-Agency Coordinating Committee shall convene forthwith upon the enactment of this law to formulate the implementing rules and regulations of this Act, including internal organizational structure and guidelines for the effective and efficient operation and realization of the mandate of this Act.

The Inter-Agency Coordinating Committee on Anti-Terror Grooming shall be composed of the following:

1. Executive Secretary as the Chairperson
2. Secretary of Social Welfare and Development as the Vice Chairperson
3. National Security Adviser
4. Presidential Adviser on Peace, Reconciliation, and Unity
5. Secretary of National Defense
6. Secretary of Interior and Local Government
7. Secretary of Information and Communication Technology
8. Secretary of Education
9. Secretary of Labor and Employment
10. Secretary of Foreign Affairs
11. Secretary of Justice
12. Secretary of the National Commission on Muslim Filipinos
13. Chairperson of the National Youth Council
14. Chairperson of the National Commission on Indigenous People
15. Chairperson of the Commission on Higher Education
16. Director General of the Philippine Information Agency
17. Chairperson of the Movie and Television Review and Classification Board
18. Chief of the Philippine National Police
19. Chairperson of the National Youth Commission
20. Three (3) Private Sector Representatives (preferably from faith-based organization, academe and civil society organization).

The IACCATG may call or invite any government agency or entity and its instrumentalities, government owned and controlled corporation, state/local university and college, civil society organization and interim bodies relevant to the attainment of the mandate of this Act.

SECTION 8. THE NATIONAL SECRETARIAT.

A National Secretariat shall be organized to supervise and coordinate the implementation of the national strategy. The DSWD shall serve as the Secretariat of the IACCATG.

The National Secretariat shall be headed by an Executive Director with the rank of an Undersecretary. The National Secretariat shall formulate its organizational structure including the roles, functions and relationships of its component departments and/or units; and its respective officers and personnel in accordance with existing laws, regulations and issuances by the Civil Service Commission and other relevant agencies.

SECTION 9. THE NATIONAL ANTI-TERROR GROOMING PROGRAM.

There is hereby established a National Anti-Terror Grooming Program (NATGP) to prevent radicalization, terror grooming, and recruitment into terrorism through coordinated, rights-based, and evidence-informed strategies. The NATGP shall be implemented with strict adherence to the Constitution, the Bill of Rights, human rights standards, and privacy and data protection laws, ensuring that all interventions are voluntary, non-coercive, nondiscriminatory, and designed to prevent violence without suppressing legitimate expression, dissent, belief, or political advocacy.

A. Objectives.

The NATGP shall pursue the following objectives:

1. Prevent the spread of radical and violent extremist ideologies by identifying and addressing early indicators of radicalization among vulnerable individuals and communities.
2. Promote resilience among children, youth, families, schools, and other vulnerable sectors through early intervention, peace education, and skills that counter recruitment and terror grooming.
3. Strengthen inter-agency, intersectoral, and community coordination to ensure timely detection, referral, intervention, and deradicalization at national and local levels.
4. Uphold human rights and democratic values by ensuring that all programs respect freedoms of speech, belief, religion, and association, while preventing their misuse for terroristic purposes.

B. Capacity-Building and Institutional Development.

All government agencies, LGUs, and partner institutions involved in deradicalization, child protection, community safety, and counter-terrorism shall conduct regular capacity-building activities, including training on:

1. Indicators and pathways of radicalization and terror grooming;
2. Trauma-informed and culturally sensitive intervention;
3. Human rights and data privacy standards; and
4. Referral pathways and community-based prevention strategies.

Such training shall cover educators, social workers, barangay officials, health professionals, law enforcement personnel, guidance counselors, and other frontline service providers.

C. Policy Development and Early Detection Mechanisms.

The Inter-Agency Coordinating Committee on Anti-Terror Grooming shall develop and strengthen policy frameworks and platforms for the early detection of radicalization and grooming, including in environments of learning, work, online activity, and community life. These mechanisms shall incorporate child protection principles, anti-bullying protocols, and community-based monitoring, with safeguards against profiling or discrimination.

D. Counter-Grooming and Digital Prevention Strategies.

The government shall develop strategies to counter online, digital, and traditional forms of terror grooming and recruitment by:

1. Strengthening public information and digital literacy programs;
2. Monitoring online violent extremist or terrorist activities in accordance with law;
3. Supporting community-based reporting mechanisms; and
4. Implementing counter-narrative and alternative messaging campaigns.

In line with this, the Philippine Information Agency (PIA) shall spearhead public communication initiatives, in coordination with DICT, NTC, DILG, DepEd, CHED, and relevant civil society partners.

E. Disengagement, Rehabilitation, and Reintegration Services.

The Inter-Agency Coordinating Committee on Anti-Terror Grooming shall develop strategies to facilitate voluntary disengagement from terror grooming and extremist groups and ensure access to:

1. Psychological, psychiatric, and psychosocial rehabilitation;
2. Trauma-informed support and case management;
3. Reintegration services for affected individuals and their families.

These services shall be delivered in accordance with Republic Act No. 11036 (Mental Health Act) and relevant child protection and social welfare laws.

F. Specialized Psychological and Social Support Services.

The government shall ensure the availability of culturally sensitive, trauma-informed, and evidence-based mental health and psychosocial services for individuals who:

1. Are at risk of radicalization;
2. Exhibit early signs of grooming; or
3. Have disengaged from violent extremist or terrorist organizations.

Services shall be accessible at community, school, and LGU levels through DOH, DSWD, DepEd, CHED, and accredited service providers.

G. Education, Vocational Training, and Socioeconomic Support.

The government shall implement education, livelihood, and vocational training programs for vulnerable individuals and communities, including skills development, formal and non-formal education, employment facilitation, and socioeconomic reintegration.

These shall be implemented in coordination with TESDA, DOLE, DepEd, CHED, LEB, and local government units.

H. Engagement of Former Violent Extremists and Victims of Terrorism.

Subject to rigorous vetting and safeguarding mechanisms, former violent extremists, individuals who have disengaged from terrorist groups, and survivors of terrorism may be engaged as peer mentors, speakers, or advocates in structured deradicalization and awareness campaigns, with their free and informed consent and in accordance with restorative justice principles.

I. Digital Literacy and Counter-Narrative Programs.

The Inter-Agency Coordinating Committee on Anti-Terror Grooming shall integrate digital literacy education into school curricula and community learning systems to equip the public, especially youth, with skills to identify extremist content, resist online manipulation and grooming, and promote peace-oriented and rights-aligned counter-narratives.

The DICT, NTC, PIA, DepEd, CHED, and civil society groups shall coordinate in developing these materials.

SECTION 10. NATIONAL ANTI-TERROR GROOMING WATCH PROGRAM.

An Anti-Terror Grooming Watch Program shall be established by the city/municipal/barangay local government units at the barangay level to:

1. Conduct barangay-level monitoring and community risk mapping;
2. Provide anonymous reporting channels for parents, teachers, and community leaders; and
3. Implement rehabilitation pathways for individuals voluntarily disengaging from indoctrination or recruitment

SECTION 11. NATIONAL CENTRRALIZED DATABASE.

The IACCATG, in compliance with Republic Act No. 10173 (Data Privacy Act of 2012), shall establish, administer and operate a centralized and updated national database of victims of terror grooming, containing only necessary data such as name including aliases, age, sex, address, place and circumstances of grooming, organizational affiliation, and other relevant information for policy purposes. Data shall be collected and stored securely, with access limited to authorized officials.

SECTION 12. PROTECTION OF RIGHTS AND DUE PROCESS.

No act shall be penalized under this Act unless intent to facilitate terrorism is established beyond reasonable doubt. The mere expression of political, religious, or ideological beliefs, absent incitement to terrorism or violence, shall not be criminalized.

In accordance with Articles 37 and 40 of the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the Optional Protocol on Children in Armed Conflict, and consistent with pertinent provisions of the R.A. 10630 or the Juvenile Justice and Welfare Act, children alleged to have been radicalized or groomed shall be treated primarily as victims in need of rehabilitation and reintegration, not as offenders.

SECTION 13. REHABILITATION, REINTEGRATION, AND FAMILY SUPPORT.

To ensure the humane, rights-based, and effective reintegration of individuals affected by radicalization or terror grooming, the following programs and mechanisms are hereby mandated:

- A. Rehabilitation Programs. — The Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD), Department of Health (DOH), Department of Education (DepEd), Commission on Higher Education (CHED), Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA), local government units (LGUs), and accredited civil society organizations (CSOs) shall develop and implement trauma-informed, culturally sensitive, and evidence-based rehabilitation programs. These shall include, but not be limited to:
1. psychosocial services and case management;
 2. mental health care and counseling;
 3. resilience-building and life skills training;
 4. continuing education and academic reintegration support; and
 5. values formation, civic engagement, and community renewal initiatives.

Such programs shall prioritize the best interests of the child, uphold human rights standards, and ensure confidentiality in accordance with law.

- B. Family Support. — Families and guardians of affected individuals shall be provided with parental coaching, family counseling, livelihood referrals, social protection assistance, and other support services necessary to strengthen family functioning and prevent further vulnerability to radicalization or terror grooming. The DSWD, in coordination with LGUs and relevant agencies, shall ensure that such services are accessible and culturally appropriate.
- C. Community Reintegration and Acceptance. — LGUs, in coordination with the DILG and DSWD, shall establish structured community reintegration programs designed to promote acceptance, reduce stigma, prevent discrimination, and avert re-radicalization. These programs shall include community sensitization activities, peacebuilding initiatives, and reintegration support tailored to the specific needs of individuals who have disengaged from extremist influences.
- D. Safeguards. — Participation in any rehabilitation, psychosocial support, or reintegration program shall not be construed as an admission of guilt, nor shall it prejudice the legal rights of any participant. All interventions shall remain voluntary, confidential, and compliant with the Constitution, the Data Privacy Act, and the Mental Health Act.

SECTION 14. PENALTIES.

Any person found guilty of the acts described under Section 4 hereof shall be punished according to the following penalties:

- 1. If the victim of any of the acts mentioned in Section 4 is found to be a child during the time of grooming and recruitment, the penalty to be imposed shall be forty (40) years and a fine of Ten million pesos (P10,000,000.00) without benefit of parole and benefits of R.A. 10592.
- 2. If the act is committed by a Public Official or employee he/she shall be charged with administrative offense of grave misconduct and/or disloyalty to the Republic of the Philippines and the Filipino people, and be meted with penalty of dismissal from service, with the accessory penalties of cancellation of civil service eligibility, forfeiture of retirement benefits and perpetual absolute disqualification from running for any elective office or holding any public office, and shall serve a prison term of twenty (20) years and a fine of Five million pesos (P5,000,000.00) without benefit of parole and benefits of R.A. 10592.
- 3. If the offender exercises moral ascendancy (for example, as a teacher, coach, spiritual leader, or guardian) over the victim, and this relationship is exploited in committing the crime, the penalty shall be twenty (20) years and a fine of Five million pesos (P5,000,000.00) without benefit of parole and benefits of R.A. 10592.

4. Any person found to be guilty of any of the acts enumerated in Section 4 shall suffer the penalty of fifteen (15) years and a fine of Two million pesos (P2,000,000.00) without benefit of parole and benefits of R.A. 10592.
5. School administrators shall be held liable for damages if any of the acts mentioned in Section 4 be committed within their school premises, and/or during school sponsored program or activity, and it is proven that such administrators acted with gross negligence or willful disregard of their duties to prevent such acts, after being duly informed of credible threats.
6. If the act is committed by a Foreign Individual, the offender shall, after serving sentence, be deported and permanently blacklisted from re-entry into the Philippines.

Any foreign entity or organization found liable shall be permanently barred from operating within the Philippines, and its assets subject to forfeiture under applicable and existing laws.

SECTION 15. IMPLEMENTING RULES AND REGULATIONS.

The Inter-Agency Coordinating Committee on Anti-Terror Grooming shall convene to formulate and issue the implementing rules and regulations of this Act within ninety days (90) from its publication.

SECTION 16. SEPARABILITY CLAUSE.

If any provision of this Act is declared invalid or unconstitutional, the provisions not affected thereby shall remain in full force and effect.

SECTION 17. REPEALING CLAUSE.

All laws, executive orders, proclamations, rules, regulations, and other issuances or parts inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or amended accordingly.

SECTION 18. EFFECTIVITY.

This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,