

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

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 8529



Introduced by REP. RODOLFO "OMPONG" M. ORDANES

AN ACT
AMENDING REPUBLIC ACT NO. 11053, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE "ANTI-HAZING ACT OF 2018," TO TREAT HAZING AS ORGANIZED CRIME, STRENGTHEN REGISTRATION, MONITORING, AND INSTITUTIONAL ACCOUNTABILITY, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Hazing remains a persistent problem in Philippine schools and communities, particularly within fraternities, sororities, and similar organizations. Despite the enactment of Republic Act No. 11053, otherwise known as the "Anti-Hazing Act of 2018," incidents of severe injury and death continue to occur, often involving hierarchical coordination, alumni participation, and tacit approval from advisers and institutional authorities.

The recent hazing death of a 19-year-old maritime student in Cavite, allegedly linked to multiple members of the Tau Gamma Phi fraternity, tragically illustrates this ongoing problem and the limitations of the current law to deter systemic and coordinated hazing activities. Local authorities identified numerous suspects and issued calls for them to surrender, highlighting how hazing incidents can involve organized groups operating with hierarchical coordination and shared responsibility, and resulting in loss of life and intense national scrutiny.

This proposed measure seeks to strengthen the existing Anti-Hazing Act by treating systematic hazing as an organized crime. Under the bill, hazing incidents that result in death, sexual assault, mutilation, or other grave consequences are classified as Organized Hazing Crimes. By doing so, the law recognizes that these offenses are not isolated acts of individual misconduct but are often the product of coordinated structures within organizations, requiring comprehensive legal and institutional intervention.

The bill expands the definitions in the original law to capture hazing committed through hierarchical and coordinated structures and classifies the participating organization, its officers, alumni, and advisers as a criminal syndicate, allowing for collective liability. It mandates that all fraternities, sororities, and other organizations register with their educational institutions and submit copies to the Commission on Higher Education (CHED) and the Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG), thereby creating a national registry to track organizations, facilitate monitoring, and prevent the operation of unregistered or rogue groups. Institutional accountability is strengthened by establishing administrative liability for school officials, barangay officials, and local government unit officials who fail to act on unregistered or unauthorized hazing activities, and by requiring

CHED and DILG to submit joint annual reports to Congress on the status of registrations and hazing-related prosecutions.

The bill imposes enhanced penalties for those involved in organized hazing, including officers, alumni, advisers, and activity leaders, prescribing reclusion perpetua and fines of up to Five Million Pesos (₱5,000,000.00). Organized hazing crimes are deemed syndicated offenses, and individuals charged may be denied bail due to the threat to public order. CHED is empowered to audit compliance and may suspend or revoke the autonomous or deregulated status of institutions that fail to report hazing. The DILG coordinates with the Philippine National Police to establish a specialized Organized Hazing Task Force to investigate hierarchical involvement, including alumni and non-student members.

In essence, this legislation transforms the approach to hazing from reactive to proactive by addressing the structural and institutional factors that allow hazing to persist. By imposing collective liability, creating a national registry, and strengthening administrative oversight, the measure aims to protect the life, safety, and dignity of Filipino students and community members while ensuring that schools, local authorities, and national agencies are fully accountable for preventing and addressing hazing. The urgent passage of this bill is necessary to curb the systemic nature of hazing, prevent further loss of life, and uphold the State's duty to safeguard its citizens.

In view of the gravity of these concerns, the immediate passage of this bill is earnestly sought.



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ACCOUNTABILITY, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

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

1 SECTION 1. *Short Title.* – This Act shall be known as the "*Anti-Organized Hazing Crime*
2 *Act of 2026.*"

3 SEC. 2. *Declaration of Policy.* – It is the policy of the State to protect the life and
4 physical integrity of individuals. In recognition of the systemic nature of fraternity violence,
5 hazing, as defined by Republic Act No. 11053, is hereby declared an organized crime if, as a
6 consequence of the hazing, death, rape, sodomy, or mutilation results therefrom.

7 SEC. 3. *Amendments to Section 2 of RA 11053 (Definition of Terms).* – Section 2 of RA
8 11053 is hereby amended to include the following definitions:

9 "*Section 2. Definition of Terms.* - As used in this Act:

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11 (e) *Organized Hazing Crime* – refers to hazing committed by an
12 organization where multiple participants act under a hierarchy or
13 coordinated structure, performing assigned roles, which are
14 sanctioned or tolerated by officers, alumni, or advisers. Such acts shall
15 be considered organized criminal activity and shall be prosecuted
16 under the category of a syndicated crime."

17 SEC. 4. *Registration and Monitoring.* – Section 9 of Republic Act No. 11053 is
18 hereby amended to read as follows:

19 "*Section 9. Registration of Fraternities, Sororities, and Other*
20 *Organizations.* –

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22 (a) *Role of the Commission on Higher Education (CHED)* – The
23 CHED shall exercise quasi-judicial power to audit the
24 compliance of Higher Education Institutions (HEIs). The CHED
25 is hereby authorized to suspend or revoke the autonomous or
26 deregulated status of any HEI that fails to report an incident of
27 Organized Hazing Crime within twenty-four (24) hours of its
28 occurrence.

- 1 (b) Role of the Department of the Interior and Local Government
2 (DILG) – The DILG shall mandate all barangays and local
3 government units (LGUs) to maintain a Registry of
4 Community-Based Organizations. The DILG shall oversee the
5 Philippine National Police (PNP) in establishing a specialized
6 Organized Hazing Task Force to investigate the hierarchical
7 involvement of alumni and non-student members in hazing
8 incidents.”

9 SEC. 5. **Administrative Liability.** A new section is hereby inserted in Section 14
10 of Republic Act No. 11053, to read as follows:

11 “Section 14-A. Administrative Sanctions for Enablers and
12 Negligent Officials.

- 13 (a) School Officials – Any school official who has prior
14 knowledge of the existence of an unregistered fraternity or
15 the conduct of unauthorized initiation rites and fails to take
16 documented action shall be liable for gross negligence and
17 may be dismissed from service.
18 (b) Local Officials – Any barangay or LGU official who fails to
19 monitor and report the presence of organized hazing
20 activities within their jurisdiction, despite having been
21 briefed by the DILG, shall be subject to administrative
22 disciplinary action under the Local Government Code.
23 (c) CHED and DILG Oversight – The heads of CHED and
24 DILG shall submit a joint annual report to Congress on the
25 status of fraternity registrations and hazing-related
26 prosecutions.”

27 SEC. 6. **Penalties.** – Section 14 of Republic Act No. 11053 is hereby amended to
28 include the following paragraph:

29 “In cases classified as an Organized Hazing Crime under
30 Section 2(e), the penalty of Reclusion Perpetua and a fine of Five
31 Million Pesos (₱5,000,000.00) shall be imposed upon:

- 32 a. All participating officers of the organization;
33 b. Alumni or advisers who were present, provided the venue,
34 funded the activity, or contributed in whatever manner; and
35 c. Any person who acted as a ‘master’ or ‘leader’ in the coordinated
36 structure of the initiation;

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38 Any person charged with an Organized Hazing Crime, where
39 evidence of guilt is strong, shall not be entitled to bail, as the offense is
40 deemed a threat to public order and a syndicated criminal act.”

41 SEC. 7. **Separability Clause.** – If any provision of this Act is declared
42 unconstitutional, the remainder of the Act shall remain valid.

43 SEC. 8. **Repealing Clause.** – All laws, executive orders, or rules inconsistent with
44 this Act, including specific provisions of the Local Government Code regarding
45 administrative disciplinary procedures, are hereby amended or repealed accordingly.

46 SEC. 9. **Effectivity.** – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its
47 publication in the Official Gazette or in two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

48 *Approved,*