

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

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 10058



**Introduced by AKBAYAN Representatives PERCIVAL V. CENDAÑA,
JOSE MANUEL TADEO "CHEL" I. DIOKNO, and DADAH KIRAM ISMULA and
Dinagat Islands Representative KAKA BAG-AO**

**AN ACT INSTITUTING COMPREHENSIVE MEASURES TO ADDRESS CHILD
SAFETY AGAINST GUN VIOLENCE, STRENGTHENING SCHOOL SAFETY AND
SECURITY, REGULATING ACCESS AND USE OF FIREARMS, ESTABLISHING
ACCOUNTABILITY MECHANISMS AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

On 22 June 2026, two students, aged 14 and 15, opened fire inside San Jose National High School in Tacloban City, Leyte, killing three of their classmates and wounding several others. A .38 caliber revolver and a 9mm semi-automatic pistol were used, one of which was registered to a suspect's aunt, a non-commissioned police officer. The two student-suspects had reportedly planned the attack in advance, discussing the assault online before carrying it out.¹

The tragedy of the Tacloban shooting has exposed grave and longstanding gaps in our legal framework governing school safety, firearms regulation, and the welfare of minors.² It was followed within days by two separate knife-related incidents in schools in Cavite, and by the disruption of a planned attack on another school in Tolosa, Leyte, all forming a pattern that the Department of Education (DepEd) has described as a "high-alert situation" nationwide.³

¹Republic of the Philippines, Department of Education, Statement on the San Jose National High School Incident, Tacloban City (June 22, 2026); Police Regional Office 8, Report on the Tacloban City School Shooting Incident (June 24, 2026).

²Jelo Ritzhie Mantaring & Jerry Yubal Jr., School shooting in Tacloban: What we know so far, RAPPLER (June 22, 2026).

³Philippine Daily Inquirer, School shooting kills 3 students in Tacloban (June 23, 2026); Philstar.com,

This Act is our nuanced response to this emerging threat. While laws on gun ownership and possession exist, they are not tailored to specifically address the reality of minors gaining access to and learning how to use firearms, especially in and out of households where adults are licensed to own and operate the same.

This Bill seeks to address: (1) the unauthorized possession of firearms by minors, (2) the regulation of minors' access to firearms training and shooting or firing ranges; (3) the civil and administrative liability of parents, guardians, firearm licensees, shooting range and gun club operators, as well as of school officials who fail to act on credible threats of armed violence; (4) the strengthening of school security and emergency preparedness, and (5) the reinforcement of anti-bullying enforcement, guidance counseling, and intervention programs for at-risk youth.

No single law can guarantee that what happened in Tacloban will never happen again. But the State owes its children, their parents, and their teachers nothing less than a society that does everything within its power to prevent it.

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



PERCIVAL V. CENDAÑA

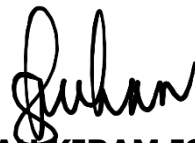
Akbayan Representative



JOSE MANUEL TADEO

"CHEL" I. DIOKNO

Akbayan Representative



DADAN KIRAM ISMULA

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

ARTICLE I. GENERAL PROVISIONS

SEC. 1. *Short Title.* – This Act shall be known as the "Child Safety Against Gun
Violence Act."

SEC. 2. *Declaration of Policy.* – The State affirms its policy to protect and
promote the right of all citizens to quality education, and to ensure that learners,
teachers, and school personnel can teach and learn in an environment free from
violence, intimidation, and fear. Pursuant to Article II, Section 13 and Article XV,
Section 3 (2) of the Constitution, the State recognizes the vital role of the youth in
nation-building and seeks to protect their physical, moral, spiritual, intellectual, and
social well-being.

Towards this end, the State shall:

- (a) Strictly regulate and restrict the access of minors to firearms, ammunition,
and firearms training, consistent with the State's policy of treating firearm
possession as a privilege and not a right;

- 1
- 2 (b) Declare and enforce all schools and their immediate premises as gun-free
- 3 zones and zones of peace, free from the actual or threatened presence of
- 4 firearms and armed violence;
- 5
- 6 (c) Establish clear and enforceable lines of civil and administrative
- 7 accountability for parents, guardians, firearms licensees, and shooting
- 8 range or gun club operators whose negligence enables a minor's
- 9 unauthorized access to or use of a firearm;
- 10
- 11 (d) Institutionalize safety and emergency response plans in all schools that is
- 12 designed according to each school's context;
- 13
- 14 (e) Strengthen the security infrastructure of schools, including perimeter
- 15 security, visitor management, and coordination with local law enforcement;
- 16
- 17 (f) Reinforce existing anti-bullying, guidance counseling, mental health, and
- 18 intervention programs as front-line measures to prevent youth violence;
- 19 and
- 20
- 21 (g) Ensure that all measures herein are implemented without prejudice to, and
- 22 consistent with, the rights of children in conflict with the law under Republic
- 23 Act No. 9344, as amended, and the rights of all children under Republic Act
- 24 No. 7610, as amended, the Convention on the Rights of the Child, and other
- 25 applicable laws.
- 26

27 SEC. 3. *Definition of Terms.* – For purposes of this Act, the following terms shall

28 be understood as:

29

- 30 a) "Bahay Pag-asa" refers to a child-caring institution established, funded, and
- 31 managed by local government units (LGUs) and licensed and/or accredited
- 32 non-government organizations (NGOs) providing short-term residential care
- 33 for children in conflict with the law (CICL), who are above fifteen (15) years
- 34 old but below eighteen (18) years old, and who are awaiting court
- 35 disposition, consistent with Republic Act No. 9344, as amended.
- 36
- 37 b) "Child at Risk" shall have the meaning given to it under Republic Act No.
- 38 9344, as amended, and shall, for purposes of this Act, expressly include a
- 39 child who has been a victim or perpetrator of bullying, a child who has
- 40 exhibited a credible threat of violence against persons or property, or a child
- 41 who has access to a firearm in the household.
- 42

- 1 c) "Firearm" shall have the meaning given to it under Republic Act No. 10591,
2 and refers to any handheld or portable weapon, whether a small arm or
3 light weapon, that expels or is designed to expel a bullet, shot, slug, missile
4 or any projectile, which is discharged by means of expansive force of gases
5 from burning gunpowder or other form of combustion or any similar
6 instrument or implement. For purposes of this Act, the barrel, frame or
7 receiver is considered a firearm.
8
- 9 d) "Gun-Free School Zone" refers to a school and all immediate premises within
10 100 meters thereof, declared as such pursuant to Section 5 of this Act,
11 wherein the carrying, brandishing, or unauthorized possession of any
12 firearm, imitation firearm, or deadly weapon is strictly prohibited.
13
- 14 e) "Minor" refers to any person below eighteen (18) years of age, consistent
15 with Republic Act No. 6809.
16
- 17 f) "School" refers to any public or private institution offering education —and
18 Community Learning Centers under the Alternative Learning System, as well
19 as their immediate premises, including school grounds, parking areas, and
20 routes immediately adjacent to school entrances and exits.
21
- 22 g) "School Safety Officer" refers to a designated school personnel responsible
23 for the coordination, implementation, and monitoring of school safety
24 policies, programs, and measures aimed at preventing, preparing for,
25 responding to, and recovering from incidents of violence, including gun-
26 related violence, emergencies, and other threats to the safety and security
27 of learners, teaching and non-teaching personnel, and school stakeholders.
28
- 29 h) "Shooting Range or Firing Range" refers to a facility established for firearms
30 training, skills development, firearm testing, or sports and competition
31 shooting, as defined under Republic Act No. 10591, whether for the
32 exclusive use of its members or open to the general public.
33
- 34 i) "School Safety Committee" refers to a multi-sectoral body established within
35 a school responsible for developing, coordinating, implementing, and
36 evaluating school safety policies, programs, and strategies, including
37 measures for the prevention of gun violence, emergency preparedness, risk
38 reduction, incident response, and the promotion of a safe and secure
39 learning environment. It shall be chaired by the School Safety Officer.
40
- 41 j) "Unauthorized Possession of a Firearm by a Minor" refers to the possession,
42 carrying, or control by a minor of any firearm, major part thereof, or

1 ammunition, whether or not the firearm is registered to and lawfully
2 possessed by a parent or legal guardian residing in the same household,
3 and regardless of the direct, physical, and uninterrupted supervision of a
4 duly licensed adult.

5
6 ARTICLE II. UNAUTHORIZED POSSESSION OF FIREARMS
7 AND REGULATION OF ACCESS TO FIRING RANGES
8

9 SEC. 4. *Prohibition on Possession of Firearms by Minors.* – Without prejudice to
10 the Comprehensive Firearms and Ammunition Regulation Act or Republic Act No.
11 10591, no minor shall acquire, possess, carry, or have custody or control of any
12 firearm, major part thereof, or ammunition at all times. This prohibition shall apply
13 regardless of whether the firearm is registered in the name of a parent, guardian,
14 household member, or any other adult.
15

16 SEC. 5. *Penalty for Unauthorized Possession by a Minor.* – A minor found to be
17 in unauthorized possession of a firearm in violation of Section 4 shall be dealt with in
18 accordance with the Juvenile Justice and Welfare Act of 2006 or Republic Act No. 9344
19 as amended, and shall, regardless of age or exemption from criminal liability, be
20 referred for intervention to the Local Social Welfare and Development Office and,
21 where applicable, to a *Bahay Pag-asa*, without prejudice to the civil liability provided
22 under Article III of this Act and to whatever criminal liability may separately attach to
23 any adult who furnished, sold, or negligently allowed access to the firearm.
24

25 SEC. 6. *Duty to Report.* – Any person, including a parent, guardian, teacher,
26 school official, school staff, or fellow student, who has knowledge or reasonable
27 suspicion that a minor possesses, has access to, or has expressed an intent to bring
28 a firearm onto school premises, shall immediately report the same to the school
29 administration, the nearest Philippine National Police (PNP) station, or the barangay.
30 Reports made in good faith under this Section shall be free from any civil or
31 administrative liability.
32

33 SEC. 7. *Gun-Free School Zones.* – All schools and their immediate premises
34 within 100 meters thereof are hereby declared Gun-Free School Zones. No person,
35 regardless of license, permit, or authority to carry firearms under Republic Act No.
36 10591, shall bring, carry, or possess a firearm within a Gun-Free School Zone, except:
37

- 38 a) On-duty law enforcement officers and military personnel acting within the
39 scope of their official functions;
40

1 b) Licensed security personnel assigned to the school pursuant to a duty detail
2 order, subject to such storage and handling protocols as the school and the
3 PNP may jointly prescribe; and
4

5 c) Such other exceptions as the Department of Education (DepEd), in
6 coordination with the Department of the Interior and Local Government
7 (DILG) and the PNP, may provide in the Implementing Rules and
8 Regulations of this Act.
9

10 Every school shall conspicuously post signages declaring itself a Gun-Free
11 School Zone at all entrances.
12

13 SEC. 8. *Ban in Shooting Ranges and Firearms Training.* – No shooting range,
14 firing range, or gun club accredited by the Firearms and Explosives Office (FEO) of the
15 PNP shall allow any person below 21 years old, especially minors, to enter its premises,
16 engage in live-fire shooting, handle a firearm, or otherwise receive hands-on firearms
17 training.
18

19 SEC. 9. *Mandatory Safe Storage.* – Every licensed firearm holder who resides
20 in the same household as a minor shall store all firearms and ammunition unloaded,
21 separately from ammunition, and inaccessible to the minor, in accordance with the
22 following requirements:
23

24 (a) Storage Standard. – The firearm shall be stored in a locked, tamper-
25 resistant gun safe equipped with a combination lock, biometric lock, or similar
26 mechanism designed to resist forced or unauthorized entry. A trigger lock, cable lock,
27 or ordinary lock box shall not be sufficient compliance under this Section for
28 households where a minor resides.
29

30 (b) Higher-Tier Licenses. – Where the licensee holds a Type 2 license or higher
31 under Republic Act No. 10591, or is licensed to possess more than one firearm, the
32 safe required under paragraph (a) shall, in addition, be anchored or bolted to a wall
33 or floor structure, or otherwise rendered resistant to removal from the premises, in
34 accordance with standards to be set in the Implementing Rules and Regulations of
35 this Act.
36

37 (c) Confidentiality of Access. – The combination, passcode, key, or biometric
38 credential used to access the safe shall be known only to the licensee and other adult,
39 legally authorized users of the firearm residing in the household. The licensee shall
40 not disclose, record, or store the combination, passcode, or key in any manner
41 accessible to a minor, including by writing it in a location visible or known to the minor,
42 or storing it in a device or application accessible to the minor.

1 (d) Consistency with Republic Act No. 10591. – The requirements of this Section
2 are additional to, and shall be observed together with, the safe storage requirements
3 of Republic Act No. 10591 and its Implementing Rules and Regulations.
4

5 (e) Verification. – The Firearms and Explosive Office (FEO) shall, as part of its
6 periodic inspection and license-renewal process under Republic Act No. 10591, verify
7 compliance with this Section for any licensee who has disclosed, or is known to have,
8 a minor residing in the same household.
9

10 ARTICLE III. LIABILITY OF PARENTS, GUARDIANS, AND
11 FIREARMS AND SHOOTING RANGE OPERATORS
12

13 SEC. 10. *Civil Liability of Parents and Guardians.* – Without prejudice to Article
14 2180 of the Civil Code and Article 221 of the Family Code, a parent or legal guardian
15 shall be presumed civilly liable, jointly and severally with the minor, for (a) the latter's
16 unauthorized possession of the firearm, and (b) the death, injury, or damage caused
17 by the minor's use of the same, where:
18

- 19 1) The firearm used was owned by, registered to, or in the custody of the parent
20 or guardian, or any other person residing in the same household;
21
- 22 2) The parent or guardian failed to comply with the mandatory safe storage
23 requirements under Section 9 of this Act; or
24
- 25 3) The parent or guardian had actual knowledge, or should reasonably have
26 known, that the minor had access to or possession of a firearm, and failed to
27 report the same or take reasonable steps to remove such access.
28

29 This presumption may be overcome only upon proof that the parent or legal
30 guardian exercised extraordinary diligence in the safekeeping of the firearm and in
31 the supervision of the minor. This civil liability shall be independent of, and may
32 proceed regardless of any criminal or intervention proceeding involving the minor
33 under Republic Act No. 9344, as amended.
34

35 SEC. 11. *Liability of Firearms Licensees and Other Persons Facilitating Illegal*
36 *Access.* – A licensed firearm holder who negligently allows a minor to gain access to,
37 or who knowingly furnishes, lends, sells, or gives a firearm or ammunition to a minor,
38 or to any other person below twenty-one (21) years of age, shall, in addition to the
39 civil liability under Section 10 of this Act, be subject to suspension or revocation of his
40 or her firearm license and registration by the FEO, without prejudice to whatever
41 criminal liability may attach under Republic Act No. 10591 or other applicable laws.
42

1 Any person who knowingly facilitates, assists, persuades, or induces a person
2 below twenty-one (21) years of age to possess, carry, or use a firearm, or to commit
3 any crime involving a firearm, shall be criminally liable therefor, without prejudice to
4 prosecution under the Revised Penal Code, Republic Act No. 10591, or other applicable
5 laws. Where the offender is a parent, legal guardian, or person exercising parental
6 authority over the person so facilitated, the penalty shall be imposed in its maximum
7 period.

8
9 SEC. 12. *Liability of Shooting Range and Gun Club Operators.* – A shooting
10 range, firing range, or gun club, and the officers thereof who knowingly and willingly
11 allow or fail to prevent any of the following, shall be solidarily liable for resulting
12 death, injury, or damage, and shall be subject to suspension, non-renewal, or
13 revocation of accreditation by the FEO:

- 14
15 a) Allowing a minor to enter into the shooting range or gun club even if the
16 minor does not handle the firearms;
17
18 b) Allowing a minor to engage in live-fire shooting or firearms handling;
19
20 c) Releasing a firearm or ammunition owned or controlled by the range or club
21 into the custody of a minor.
22

23 This Section shall be without prejudice to the liability of a juridical entity under
24 Republic Act No. 10591, where applicable.
25

26 SEC. 13. *Administrative Liability of School Officials.* – A school head or other
27 school official who, having actual knowledge of a credible threat of armed violence or
28 of a learner's possession of a firearm on campus, fails to act in accordance with the
29 protocols required under Article IV of this Act, shall be subject to administrative liability
30 under the Civil Service rules, or, in the case of private schools, under DepEd rules
31 governing the suspension or revocation of a school's permit to operate, without
32 prejudice to whatever civil or criminal liability may separately attach.
33

34 ARTICLE IV. SCHOOL SECURITY, EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS,
35 AND SAFETY PROTOCOLS
36

37 SEC. 14. *Designation of a School Safety Officer* – Every school shall designate
38 a School Safety Officer who shall act as the focal person for the implementation and
39 coordination of school safety programs and measures.
40

1 The Implementing Rules and Regulations of this Act shall provide the
2 qualifications, training requirements, appointment or designation procedures, and
3 other standards applicable to School Safety Officers.

4
5 SEC. 15. *Functions and Responsibilities of the School Safety Officer.* -- The
6 School Safety Officer shall:

- 7
8 a) Serve as the coordinator for school safety programs and activities;
9
10 b) Facilitate the implementation of violence prevention, emergency
11 preparedness, and response programs;
12
13 c) Maintain appropriate records and documentation relating to school safety
14 incidents, interventions, and preventive measures, subject to applicable
15 laws on privacy and confidentiality;
16
17 d) Coordinate with relevant school personnel, government agencies, and
18 community partners during safety-related incidents;
19
20 e) Recommend measures to strengthen school safety and prevent incidents of
21 violence; and
22
23 f) Perform such other duties as may be prescribed by the Department of
24 Education or other appropriate agencies.
25

26 SEC. 16. *Creation of the School Safety Committee.* -- Every school shall establish
27 a School Safety Committee which shall serve as the primary school-based body
28 responsible for the development, implementation, coordination, and monitoring of
29 school safety policies, programs, and measures.
30

31 The School Safety Committee shall adopt a whole-of-school and multi-sectoral
32 approach and safety plan to prevent and address threats to the safety and security of
33 learners, teaching and non-teaching personnel, and other members of the school
34 community, including incidents involving firearms and other forms of violence.
35

36 SEC. 17. *Composition of the School Safety Committee.* -- The School Safety
37 Committee shall be composed of representatives from the following sectors:
38

- 39 a) The School Head or authorized representative, as Chairperson;
40
41 b) The School Safety Officer, as Secretariat or designated coordinator;
42

- c) Teaching personnel;
- d) Non-teaching personnel;
- e) School Child Protection Committee or designated child protection representative;
- f) School Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Coordinator or equivalent;
- g) Guidance counselor, school counselor, or designated learner welfare personnel, where available;
- h) Parent-Teacher Association representative;
- i) Learner representative, subject to appropriate safeguards and policies on child participation; and
- j) Representatives from relevant government agencies or community stakeholders, as may be necessary.

The Implementing Rules and Regulations of this Act shall provide the specific composition, qualifications, appointment, and operational procedures of the Committee.

SEC. 18. *Functions and Responsibilities of the School Safety Committee.* -- The School Safety Committee shall have the following functions:

- (a) Formulate, recommend, and implement school safety policies, programs, and action plans consistent with this Act;
- (b) Conduct periodic assessment of school safety risks, including risks related to firearms, violence, bullying, threats, and other hazards;
- (c) Establish mechanisms for the prevention, early identification, reporting, and appropriate response to threats or incidents affecting school safety;
- (d) Develop and maintain school emergency response and crisis management protocols;
- (e) Coordinate with parents, learners, community stakeholders, local government units, and relevant authorities in implementing school safety initiatives;

- 1
- 2 (f) Promote awareness, education, and training programs on violence
- 3 prevention, responsible behavior, conflict management, and emergency
- 4 preparedness;
- 5
- 6 (g) Monitor and evaluate the effectiveness of school safety measures and
- 7 recommend improvements; and
- 8
- 9 (h) Perform such other functions as may be necessary to carry out the
- 10 objectives of this Act.
- 11

12 SEC. 19. *Minimum Physical Security Standards.* – The Department of

13 Education (DepEd), in coordination with the Department of Interior and Local

14 Government (DILG), the Philippine National Police (PNP), and the Department of

15 Public Works and Highways (DPWH), shall promulgate minimum physical security

16 standards for all public schools, which shall include, at minimum:

17

- 18 a) A controlled point of entry and exit during class hours wherever the school's
- 19 physical layout permits, with all other gates secured;
- 20
- 21 b) A visitor management system requiring the logging and identification of all
- 22 non-student, non-personnel persons entering the campus;
- 23
- 24 c) Adequate perimeter fencing and lighting;
- 25
- 26 d) At least one (1) trained security guard, DepEd-recognized security
- 27 personnel, or barangay *tanod* per shift, with the number scaled to the size
- 28 of the student population and the assessed risk level of the school, in
- 29 coordination with the local PNP station;
- 30
- 31 e) A direct communication line or protocol with the nearest PNP station and
- 32 barangay for rapid response; and
- 33
- 34 f) Where feasible and subject to available funding, closed-circuit television
- 35 (CCTV) coverage of school entrances and common areas such as hallways,
- 36 canteens and libraries.
- 37

38 Private schools are encouraged to adopt the same standards and shall, at

39 minimum, comply with such standards as DepEd may require as a condition for the

40 renewal of their permit to operate. The Local Government Units (LGUs) concerned, in

41 coordination with the PNP, are encouraged to establish a police presence or visibility

42 program, including mobile or stationary police posts, in the vicinity of schools,

1 particularly in areas with a history of violence.

2
3 SEC. 20. *Comprehensive School Safety and Emergency Response Plan.* – Every
4 school shall adopt and regularly update a comprehensive safety and emergency
5 response plan, integrating natural-hazard preparedness under Republic Act No. 10121,
6 and clear protocols for reporting and responding to threats of violence, bullying, and
7 unauthorized firearms on campus. The plan shall be submitted to the appropriate
8 DepEd Schools Division Office for review and shall be made available, in summary
9 form, to parents and guardians.

10
11 ARTICLE V. ANTI-BULLYING, GUIDANCE COUNSELING, AND INTERVENTION
12 PROGRAMS FOR AT-RISK YOUTH
13

14 SEC. 21. *Strengthened Enforcement of the Anti-Bullying Act.* – DepEd shall,
15 within ninety (90) days from the effectivity of this Act, review and strengthen the
16 implementation of Republic Act No. 10627 and its Implementing Rules and
17 Regulations, with particular attention to:

- 18
19 a) Ensuring that every school's Child Protection Committee is functional and
20 meets the frequency of review required by the Implementing Rules and
21 Regulations;
22
23 b) Ensuring that all bullying incidents, whether resolved through the school's
24 own disciplinary process or otherwise, are properly logged, reported to the
25 Schools Division Office, and analyzed for patterns that may signal a risk of
26 escalation to violence;
27
28 c) Ensuring that the victims, alleged perpetrators, and witnesses to bullying
29 incidents are all referred to the school's guidance counselor for appropriate
30 intervention, regardless of the outcome of any disciplinary proceeding.
31

32 SEC. 22. *Guidance and Counseling Services.* – Every public elementary and
33 secondary school shall be provided with access to a duly licensed guidance counselor
34 or guidance counseling associate, consistent with Republic Act No. 9258 (Guidance
35 and Counseling Act of 2004). DepEd shall prioritize the hiring and deployment of
36 additional guidance counselors to schools presently without one, and shall integrate
37 mental health screening, consistent with Republic Act No. 11036 (Mental Health Act),
38 into the regular services offered by school guidance offices.
39

40 SEC. 23. *Intervention Program for Children at Risk.* – Each school shall, in
41 coordination with the Local Social Welfare and Development Office, the Local Council
42 for the Protection of Children, and the PNP Women and Children Protection Desk,

1 establish a referral and intervention program for Children at Risk, providing access to
2 counseling, peer support, family-based intervention, and, where warranted, referral
3 to the Local Social Welfare and Development Office for case management consistent
4 with Republic Act No. 9344, as amended.

5
6 SEC. 24. *Threat Assessment Teams.* – Each school shall organize a multi-
7 disciplinary Threat Assessment Team, composed of representatives from the school
8 administration, guidance office, local social welfare office, and the PNP Women and
9 Children Protection Desk, tasked with evaluating credible reports of a learner's
10 potential for violence and recommending appropriate, child-sensitive intervention,
11 which may range from counseling to referral for more intensive psychosocial or
12 psychiatric support, consistent with the best interest of the child.

13
14 SEC. 25. *Digital Safety and Media Literacy.* – DepEd, in coordination with the
15 National Council for Children's Television and the Department of Information and
16 Communications Technology (DICT), shall integrate digital citizenship, media literacy,
17 and online safety modules into the basic education curriculum, with particular
18 attention to the risks of exposure to violent online content and its potential influence
19 on youth behavior.

20
21 SEC. 26. *Crisis and Trauma Response.* – DepEd and the Department of Social
22 Welfare and Development (DSWD) shall jointly maintain a roster of trained crisis
23 counselors and psychosocial first responders who may be rapidly deployed to any
24 school that has experienced an incident of armed violence, to provide debriefing,
25 counseling, and continuing psychosocial support to affected learners, families, and
26 personnel.

27 28 ARTICLE VI. IMPLEMENTATION AND COORDINATION 29

30 SEC. 27. *Lead and Coordinating Agencies.* – DepEd shall be the lead agency for
31 the implementation of this Act, in close coordination with the DILG, the PNP through
32 its Firearms and Explosives Office, the DSWD, the Department of Justice (DOJ), and
33 the Juvenile Justice and Welfare Council. Local Government Units shall extend full
34 support and assistance to schools within their jurisdiction in the implementation of this
35 Act.

36
37 SEC. 28. *National School Safety Council.* – There is hereby created a National
38 School Safety Council, attached to DepEd, which shall be chaired by the Secretary of
39 Education or his or her duly authorized representative, and composed of
40 representatives from the DILG, the PNP, the DSWD, the DOJ, the Juvenile Justice and
41 Welfare Council, and one (1) representative each from parent-teacher associations,
42 child rights non-government organizations, and the national Supreme Student Learner

1 Government (SSLG). The Council shall monitor the implementation of this Act, review
2 reported incidents, and recommend policy adjustments to Congress and the concerned
3 agencies.

4
5 SEC. 29. *Reporting Requirement.* – DepEd shall submit an annual report to
6 Congress on the implementation of this Act, including data on reported incidents of
7 firearm possession in schools and the status of compliance by schools with the
8 minimum physical security standards under Section 15 of this Act.

9
10 ARTICLE VII. FINAL PROVISIONS
11

12 SEC. 30. *Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR).* – DepEd, in coordination
13 with the DILG, the PNP, and the DSWD, shall formulate and promulgate the
14 Implementing Rules and Regulations of this Act within ninety (90) days from its
15 effectivity.

16
17 SEC. 31. *Appropriations.* – The amount necessary to carry out the provisions of
18 this Act shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act under the budget
19 of the DepEd and other concerned agencies. Such funds shall be sourced, in part,
20 from the Special Education Fund and the LGUs' Disaster Risk Reduction and
21 Management Fund, in accordance with applicable LGU budgeting rules. Thereafter,
22 such sums as may be necessary for the continued implementation of this Act shall be
23 included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

24
25 SEC. 32. *Rule of Construction.* – Nothing in this Act shall be construed to
26 amend, repeal, lower, or otherwise diminish the age requirement for the ownership,
27 possession, or licensing of firearms under Republic Act No. 10591, which requires a
28 person to be at least twenty-one (21) years of age. The term “minor” as used in this
29 Act refers exclusively to persons below eighteen (18) years of age for purposes of the
30 protective, custodial, and liability provisions herein, and shall not be construed to imply
31 that persons eighteen (18) years of age and above, but below twenty-one (21) years
32 of age, are authorized to own, possess, or carry a firearm.

33
34 SEC. 33. *Separability Clause.* – Should any provision of this Act be declared
35 unconstitutional or invalid, the remaining provisions not affected thereby shall remain
36 in full force and effect.

37
38 SEC. 34. *Repealing Clause.* – All laws, decrees, executive orders, administrative
39 orders, rules and regulations, or parts thereof inconsistent with this Act are hereby
40 repealed, amended, or modified accordingly: Provided, That nothing in this Act shall
41 be construed to repeal, amend, or diminish the rights of children in conflict with the
42 law under Republic Act No. 9344, as amended, or the rights of children under Republic

1 Act No. 7610, as amended.
2

3 SEC. 35. *Effectivity.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days following its
4 complete publication in the Official Gazette or in two (2) newspapers of general
5 circulation.
6

Approved,