



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

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
Second Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 10408



Introduced by Representative **ANTONINO B. ROMAN III**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The safety and welfare of students participating in school-sponsored activities are matters of paramount public concern. Educational tours, athletic competitions, leadership camps, community immersion programs, field-based learning activities, and other experiential learning opportunities play a vital role in student development. These activities promote leadership, teamwork, resilience, civic engagement, and practical learning beyond the classroom.

Recent incidents involving student injuries and fatalities have highlighted the need to strengthen safety planning, emergency preparedness, risk management, and institutional accountability. While the Department of Education (DepEd) and the Commission on Higher Education (CHED) have adopted regulations governing certain activities, there remains a need for a comprehensive statutory framework establishing minimum national standards applicable to school-sponsored activities involving elevated risks.

This measure adopts a prevention-oriented approach. It does not create new criminal offenses, alter existing standards of civil liability, or establish duplicative approval systems. Instead, it seeks to strengthen student safety through risk assessment requirements, emergency preparedness measures, transportation safety standards, accident coverage mechanisms, incident reporting systems, corrective action plans, and continuous safety improvement processes.

The bill also harmonizes existing DepEd and CHED regulations, preserves existing legal remedies, protects whistleblowers, and establishes evidence-based oversight mechanisms to identify recurring risks and prevent future tragedies.

By encouraging proactive safety management while preserving the educational value of experiential learning activities, this measure seeks to reduce preventable injuries and deaths and ensure that students may participate in educational activities under safer conditions.

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

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Antonino B. Roman III', with a stylized flourish at the end.

ANTONINO B. ROMAN III



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AN ACT
ESTABLISHING MINIMUM SAFETY STANDARDS FOR SCHOOL-
SPONSORED ACTIVITIES, STRENGTHENING STUDENT SAFETY, RISK
MANAGEMENT, EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS, INCIDENT REPORTING,
CORRECTIVE ACTION MECHANISMS, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

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

CHAPTER I
GENERAL PROVISIONS

SECTION 1. Short Title. – This Act shall be known as the “Student Safety in School-Sponsored Activities Act.”

SEC. 2. Declaration of Policy. – It is the policy of the State to protect students participating in school-sponsored activities by establishing a prevention-oriented framework for safety management, risk assessment, emergency preparedness, incident reporting, and continuous improvement.

The State recognizes that educational institutions exercising authority and supervision over students bear a corresponding responsibility to adopt reasonable measures to prevent foreseeable injury, illness, disability, and death.

It is further declared that this Act is prevention-oriented and intended to strengthen institutional preparedness, risk management, emergency response, incident reporting, and corrective action mechanisms. Nothing in this Act shall be

construed as creating a new criminal offense or as limiting liabilities arising under existing laws.

SEC. 3. Coverage. – This Act shall apply to all public and private basic and higher educational institutions under the supervision of the Department of Education (DepEd) and the Commission on Higher Education (CHED).

This Act shall primarily govern Level II and Level III Activities as defined herein.

Routine classroom instruction, ordinary campus-based academic activities, and activities involving minimal risk shall not be subject to the enhanced requirements applicable to Level II and Level III Activities unless otherwise designated by DepEd or CHED.

SEC. 4. Covered Activities. – Covered activities shall include, but shall not be limited to:

- (a) Educational tours and field trips;
- (b) Athletic competitions and athletic training activities;
- (c) Team-building activities;
- (d) Leadership camps;
- (e) Student organization activities involving travel or overnight participation;
- (f) National Service Training Program activities;
- (g) Reserve Officers' Training Corps activities;
- (h) Community immersion activities;
- (i) Outdoor education activities;
- (j) Camping activities;
- (k) Water-based activities;
- (l) Mountaineering and trekking activities; and
- (m) Other activities designated by DepEd or CHED.

SEC. 5. Preservation of Existing Remedies. – Nothing in this Act shall diminish rights, liabilities, duties, obligations, or remedies existing under the Civil Code of the Philippines, the Revised Penal Code, child protection laws, labor laws, or other applicable laws.

SEC. 6. Harmonization with Existing Rules. – This Act shall supplement and strengthen existing policies, rules, and regulations issued by DepEd and CHED concerning off-campus activities, educational tours, field trips, athletic activities, student organizations, child protection, and disaster risk reduction and management.

Nothing in this Act shall be construed to repeal, diminish, or impair such policies unless expressly provided by law. In case of conflict, the rule affording greater protection to student safety shall govern.

SEC. 7. Existing Approval Systems. – Nothing in this Act shall be construed as requiring approvals, permits, certifications, authorizations, or documentary requirements separate from those already required under applicable DepEd and CHED regulations governing covered activities.

SEC. 8. Local Government Authority. – Nothing in this Act shall prevent local government units from adopting safety standards that provide greater protection to students than those established under this Act.

CHAPTER II

DEFINITION OF TERMS

SEC. 9. Definition of Terms. – For purposes of this Act:

- (a) *Catastrophic Injury* refers to an injury resulting in death, permanent disability, paralysis, amputation, severe traumatic brain injury, or other life-altering impairment;
- (b) *Covered Activity* refers to any activity covered by Sections 3 and 4 of this Act;
- (c) *Educational Institution* refers to any public or private school, college, or university recognized by DepEd or CHED;
- (d) *Emergency Action Plan* refers to a written plan establishing procedures for emergency response during covered activities;

- (e) *Level II Activity* refers to a moderate-risk activity involving organized travel, competition, field participation, or activities outside routine school operations;
- (f) *Level III Activity* refers to a high-risk activity involving substantial environmental, transportation, aquatic, wilderness, adventure, or similar hazards;
- (g) *Near-Miss Event* refers to an occurrence that could reasonably have resulted in death or serious injury but did not do so because of chance, intervention, or other circumstances;
- (h) *Parent* refers to a parent, legal guardian, or person exercising parental authority;
- (i) *Risk Assessment* refers to a documented process of identifying hazards, evaluating risks, and implementing measures to reduce risks;
- (j) *Safety Management System* refers to a structured process for identifying, assessing, mitigating, monitoring, and reviewing risks associated with covered activities;
- (k) *Safety Officer* refers to an individual designated to oversee compliance with safety requirements during a covered activity; and
- (l) *Student* refers to any learner enrolled in a covered educational institution.

CHAPTER III

RISK-BASED CLASSIFICATION OF ACTIVITIES

SEC. 10. Classification of Activities. – Educational institutions shall classify covered activities according to risk level:

- (a) Level II – Moderate Risk Activities; and
- (b) Level III – High-Risk Activities.

SEC. 11. Level II Activities. – Level II Activities include educational tours, inter-school competitions, cultural exchanges, organized travel, and similar activities presenting moderate risks.

SEC. 12. Level III Activities. – Level III Activities include open-water activities, mountaineering, wilderness expeditions, overnight camps, adventure-based programs, and other activities designated by DepEd or CHED.

SEC. 13. Enhanced Requirements. – Level III Activities shall be subject to enhanced safety requirements under this Act.

CHAPTER IV DUTIES OF EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

SEC. 14. Duty of Care. – Educational institutions shall exercise reasonable care under the circumstances to protect students participating in covered activities.

SEC. 15. Factors for Determining Compliance. – Compliance with the duty of care shall be evaluated in light of:

- (a) The age and maturity of participants;
- (b) The nature of the activity;
- (c) The foreseeability of harm;
- (d) Environmental conditions;
- (e) Available safety resources;
- (f) Applicable regulations;
- (g) Recognized safety practices; and
- (h) Other relevant circumstances.

SEC. 16. Non-Delegation of Responsibility. – Educational institutions shall remain responsible for compliance with this Act notwithstanding the engagement of third-party organizers, transportation providers, camp operators, resorts, consultants, contractors, or other service providers.

SEC. 17. Safety Management Systems. – Educational institutions regularly conducting Level III Activities shall establish Safety Management Systems appropriate to the scale and complexity of their operations.

SEC. 18. Safe Harbor Provision. – Substantial compliance with applicable regulations, approved safety plans, and recognized safety practices shall be considered a mitigating circumstance in administrative proceedings arising under this Act.

Substantial compliance shall not create a presumption of non-liability but may be considered evidence of reasonable care.

SEC. 19. No New Private Cause of Action. – Nothing in this Act shall be construed as creating an independent private cause of action or as expanding liabilities beyond those already provided by existing law.

This Act establishes minimum safety standards and administrative obligations and shall not preclude actions otherwise authorized by law.

CHAPTER V RISK ASSESSMENT REQUIREMENTS

SEC. 20. Mandatory Risk Assessment. – No Level III Activity shall be conducted without a written Risk Assessment.

SEC. 21. Contents of Risk Assessment. – The Risk Assessment shall include:

- (a) Description of the activity;
- (b) Identification of hazards;
- (c) Evaluation of risks;
- (d) Proposed control measures;
- (e) Transportation arrangements;
- (f) Emergency response procedures;
- (g) Medical resources available;
- (h) Weather and environmental considerations; and
- (i) Identification of responsible personnel.

SEC. 22. Review and Approval. – Risk Assessments shall be reviewed and approved by the head of institution or an authorized official prior to implementation.

SEC. 23. Confidential Safety Documents. – Risk Assessments and internal safety analyses shall be treated as confidential safety management documents and shall not be disclosed except as authorized by law, court order, lawful governmental investigation, or with the consent of the educational institution.

SEC. 24. Record Retention. – Risk Assessments and supporting safety documentation shall be retained for not less than five (5) years.

CHAPTER VI SAFETY OFFICERS

SEC. 25. Designation of Safety Officers. – Every Level III Activity shall have at least one (1) designated Safety Officer. Educational institutions may designate additional Safety Officers when warranted by the number of participants, nature of the activity, or level of risk involved.

SEC. 26. Qualifications of Safety Officers. – A Safety Officer shall possess training, experience, certification, or competencies appropriate to the risks presented by the covered activity, as may be prescribed by DepEd or CHED.

For aquatic activities, preference shall be given to individuals possessing water safety, rescue, lifeguarding, or equivalent qualifications.

For mountaineering, wilderness, or remote-area activities, preference shall be given to individuals possessing outdoor leadership, wilderness safety, first aid, search and rescue, or equivalent qualifications.

SEC. 27. Duties and Responsibilities. – The Safety Officer shall:

- (a) Monitor compliance with approved safety measures;
- (b) Identify hazards and emerging risks;
- (c) Recommend corrective measures;
- (d) Monitor weather and environmental conditions;
- (e) Verify the availability of emergency resources;

- (f) Coordinate emergency response efforts;
- (g) Maintain safety and incident records; and
- (h) Perform such other duties as may be prescribed by regulations.

SEC. 28. Safety Recommendations. – When continuation of an activity poses unreasonable risks to participants, the Safety Officer shall recommend suspension, modification, postponement, relocation, or termination of the activity.

Any decision to override such recommendation shall:

- (a) Be made in writing;
- (b) State the specific reasons therefor;
- (c) Be signed by the head of institution or authorized official; and
- (d) Form part of the activity records.

CHAPTER VII

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

SEC. 29. Emergency Action Plans. – Educational institutions conducting Level II or Level III Activities shall maintain Emergency Action Plans appropriate to the nature of the activity.

SEC. 30. Contents of Emergency Action Plans. – Emergency Action Plans shall include:

- (a) Communication procedures;
- (b) Emergency contact information;
- (c) Medical response protocols;
- (d) Evacuation procedures;
- (e) Rescue procedures;
- (f) Incident command structure;
- (g) Transportation arrangements;
- (h) Nearest hospitals and medical facilities; and

- (i) Designated emergency personnel.

SEC. 31. Emergency Communications. – Educational institutions shall ensure the availability of communication systems adequate to the location and nature of the activity.

For activities conducted in remote or isolated locations, communication systems shall be reasonably capable of contacting emergency responders and institutional officials.

SEC. 32. Medical Preparedness. – Educational institutions shall ensure the availability of first aid resources, emergency medical arrangements, and appropriately trained personnel commensurate with the risks of the activity.

SEC. 33. Rescue Capability. – Level III Activities shall maintain rescue capability proportionate to identified risks.

The adequacy of rescue capability shall be determined based on:

- (a) Nature of hazards;
- (b) Accessibility of the site;
- (c) Number of participants;
- (d) Availability of emergency responders; and
- (e) Other relevant circumstances.

SEC. 34. Emergency Exception. – Activities undertaken in response to emergencies, disasters, evacuations, public safety threats, or similar urgent situations shall be exempt from procedural requirements under this Act only to the extent reasonably necessary to address the emergency and protect life, health, or safety.

SEC. 35. Good Faith Emergency Assistance. – No student, teacher, coach, trainer, volunteer, parent, guardian, employee, or other person who, in good faith, renders emergency assistance during a covered activity shall be liable for damages arising from such assistance except in cases of gross negligence or willful misconduct.

CHAPTER VIII TRANSPORTATION SAFETY

SEC. 36. Accredited Transportation Providers. – Educational institutions shall utilize transportation providers possessing valid franchises, permits, licenses, registrations, and insurance required by law.

SEC. 37. Driver Qualifications. – Drivers engaged for covered activities shall possess valid licenses and qualifications required by law and shall not be under the influence of alcohol, dangerous drugs, or any substance that may impair safe operation.

SEC. 38. Vehicle Safety Inspection. – Educational institutions shall ensure that vehicles used for covered activities are roadworthy and have undergone inspections required by applicable laws and regulations.

SEC. 39. Driver Fitness and Fatigue Management. – Educational institutions shall require transportation providers to adopt reasonable measures to ensure that drivers are physically fit and adequately rested prior to operating vehicles used for covered activities.

SEC. 40. Passenger Manifests. – Educational institutions shall maintain passenger manifests for all covered activities involving transportation.

Passenger manifests shall contain information sufficient to account for all participants and facilitate emergency response.

SEC. 41. Accountability During Transportation. – Educational institutions shall designate responsible personnel to account for participants before departure, during travel, upon arrival, and prior to return travel.

SEC. 42. Transportation Risk Management. – Transportation arrangements shall be incorporated into Risk Assessments and Emergency Action Plans whenever transportation forms part of a covered activity.

CHAPTER IX WEATHER AND ENVIRONMENTAL SAFETY

SEC. 43. Monitoring Requirements. – Educational institutions shall monitor weather advisories and environmental conditions before and during Level II and Level III Activities.

Monitoring shall include advisories, warnings, bulletins, and information issued by:

- (a) The Philippine Atmospheric, Geophysical and Astronomical Services Administration (PAGASA);
- (b) The Office of Civil Defense (OCD);
- (c) Local Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Offices;
- (d) The Philippine Coast Guard (PCG), where applicable; and
- (e) Other competent authorities.

SEC. 44. Mandatory Suspension, Modification, or Termination. – Educational institutions shall suspend, postpone, relocate, modify, or terminate activities whenever conditions create substantial risks to participants, including:

- (a) Severe weather conditions;
- (b) Dangerous water conditions;
- (c) Flood risks;
- (d) Landslide risks;
- (e) Lightning risks;
- (f) Extreme heat conditions;
- (g) Wildfire risks; or
- (h) Other significant environmental hazards.

SEC. 45. Integration with Disaster Risk Reduction Systems. – Educational institutions shall integrate applicable disaster risk reduction and management protocols prescribed by national and local authorities in implementing this Chapter.

SEC. 46. Environmental Hazard Assessment. – Risk Assessments shall consider terrain, water conditions, weather patterns, visibility, wildlife, accessibility, communication limitations, and proximity to emergency services.

CHAPTER X

PROTECTION OF MINORS

SEC. 47. Enhanced Protection of Minors. – Educational institutions shall exercise heightened diligence in the supervision and protection of minors participating in covered activities.

SEC. 48. Informed Consent Requirement. – No minor shall participate in a Level II or Level III Activity without informed written consent from a parent or legal guardian.

SEC. 49. Required Disclosures. – Informed consent forms shall disclose:

- (a) Nature and purpose of the activity;
- (b) Location and duration;
- (c) Significant risks;
- (d) Transportation arrangements;
- (e) Emergency arrangements;
- (f) Available medical resources;
- (g) Accident coverage available under Section 54 of this Act; and
- (h) Contact information of responsible personnel.

SEC. 50. Supervision Standards. – Educational institutions shall establish reasonable participant-to-supervisor ratios taking into consideration:

- (a) Age of participants;
- (b) Nature of the activity;
- (c) Level of risk; and
- (d) Applicable regulations.

SEC. 51. Overnight Activities Involving Minors. – Overnight activities involving minors shall be subject to enhanced supervision, monitoring, and safeguarding measures as may be prescribed by DepEd.

SEC. 52. Relationship to Child Protection Laws. – The safeguards established under this Act shall supplement, and shall not replace, child protection measures prescribed under existing laws, regulations, and DepEd policies.

CHAPTER XI INSURANCE AND ACCIDENT COVERAGE

SEC. 53. Accident Coverage Requirement. – Educational institutions conducting Level II and Level III Activities shall ensure the availability of appropriate accident coverage for participating students through insurance, government programs, self-insurance mechanisms, institutional assistance programs, or other lawful means approved by the implementing agencies.

SEC. 54. Minimum Standards. – The Insurance Commission, in consultation with DepEd and CHED, shall establish minimum standards for accident coverage, including:

- (a) Accidental death benefits;
- (b) Permanent disability benefits;
- (c) Medical expense assistance;
- (d) Hospitalization assistance; and
- (e) Emergency evacuation assistance, where appropriate.

SEC. 55. Disclosure of Coverage. – Educational institutions shall disclose available accident coverage and benefits to participants and, where applicable, to parents or guardians.

CHAPTER XII NATIONAL STUDENT SAFETY REPORTING SYSTEM

SEC. 56. National Student Safety Reporting System. – The Department of Education (DepEd) and the Commission on Higher Education (CHED) shall jointly establish and maintain a National Student Safety Reporting System for the collection, analysis, and monitoring of reportable incidents and Near-Miss Events arising from covered activities.

The System shall support evidence-based policymaking, identification of recurring hazards, development of preventive measures, and continuous improvement of student safety practices.

SEC. 57. Reportable Incidents. – Educational institutions shall report the following incidents arising from covered activities:

- (a) Deaths;
- (b) Catastrophic Injuries;
- (c) Serious injuries requiring hospitalization;
- (d) Life-threatening incidents;
- (e) Missing-person incidents; and
- (f) Such other incidents as may be prescribed by regulations.

SEC. 58. Preliminary Incident Reports. – Educational institutions shall submit a Preliminary Incident Report to the appropriate implementing agency within seventy-two (72) hours from occurrence or discovery of a reportable incident.

SEC. 59. Final Incident Reports. – Educational institutions shall submit a Final Incident Report within thirty (30) days from occurrence of the reportable incident.

The Final Incident Report shall include:

- (a) Relevant facts known at the time of submission;
- (b) Corrective measures undertaken;
- (c) Recommendations for prevention; and
- (d) Other information required by regulations.

SEC. 60. Near-Miss Reporting. – Educational institutions shall report Near-Miss Events involving substantial risks to life or safety in accordance with procedures prescribed by regulations.

SEC. 61. Data Privacy and Confidentiality. – Personal information collected pursuant to this Act shall be processed in accordance with Republic Act No. 10173, otherwise known as the Data Privacy Act of 2012.

Implementing agencies shall adopt measures to protect the confidentiality of students, parents, guardians, educational personnel, and other individuals whose information is collected pursuant to this Act.

CHAPTER XIII

INTER-AGENCY STUDENT ACTIVITY SAFETY REVIEW

SEC. 62. Inter-Agency Student Activity Safety Review Committee. – An Inter-Agency Student Activity Safety Review Committee is hereby established and shall be convened jointly by DepEd and CHED when required under this Chapter.

SEC. 63. Composition. – The Committee shall be composed of representatives from:

- (a) DepEd;
- (b) CHED;
- (c) Department of Health (DOH);
- (d) Office of Civil Defense (OCD);
- (e) Bureau of Fire Protection (BFP);
- (f) Philippine Coast Guard (PCG), where applicable;
- (g) Philippine Sports Commission (PSC), where applicable; and
- (h) Such other agencies as may be appropriate.

SEC. 64. Mandatory Reviews. – The Committee shall conduct a safety review in cases involving:

- (a) Deaths;
- (b) Catastrophic Injuries; or
- (c) Incidents involving multiple victims.

SEC. 65. Discretionary Reviews. – DepEd or CHED may convene the Committee to review other incidents or Near-Miss Events involving significant risks to student safety.

SEC. 66. Functions. – The Committee shall:

- (a) Identify contributing factors;
- (b) Identify systemic deficiencies;
- (c) Recommend corrective actions;
- (d) Recommend policy and regulatory reforms; and
- (e) Promote the dissemination of safety lessons learned.

SEC. 67. Nature of Reviews. – Reviews conducted under this Chapter shall be preventive and advisory in nature and shall not determine civil, criminal, or administrative liability.

Findings and recommendations of the Committee shall be inadmissible as evidence to establish fault, negligence, or liability in any civil, criminal, or administrative proceeding.

SEC. 68. Coordination with Existing Investigations. – The Committee shall avoid unnecessary duplication of investigations being conducted by competent authorities and may coordinate with, adopt, or incorporate findings from such investigations where appropriate.

CHAPTER XIV CORRECTIVE ACTION PLANS

SEC. 69. Corrective Action Plans. – Educational institutions involved in reportable incidents shall submit a Corrective Action Plan within thirty (30) days after occurrence of the incident or receipt of findings from a safety review, whichever is later.

SEC. 70. Contents of Corrective Action Plans. – Corrective Action Plans shall include:

- (a) Deficiencies identified;
- (b) Corrective measures proposed;
- (c) Responsible personnel;
- (d) Implementation dates and deadlines;

- (e) Monitoring mechanisms; and
- (f) Other information required by regulations.

SEC. 71. Monitoring and Compliance. – DepEd or CHED shall monitor implementation of approved Corrective Action Plans.

SEC. 72. Monitoring Through Existing Regulatory Mechanisms. – Monitoring and compliance activities under this Act shall, to the greatest extent practicable, be undertaken through existing DepEd and CHED regulatory mechanisms and shall not create unnecessary duplicative reporting or inspection requirements.

SEC. 73. Failure to Implement. – Failure to implement an approved Corrective Action Plan without justifiable cause shall constitute a separate administrative violation.

CHAPTER XV WHISTLEBLOWER PROTECTION

SEC. 74. Protection Against Retaliation. – No student, employee, parent, guardian, coach, trainer, adviser, volunteer, contractor, or other person shall be subjected to retaliation for:

- (a) Reporting unsafe conditions;
- (b) Reporting violations of this Act;
- (c) Reporting incidents or Near-Miss Events; or
- (d) Cooperating with investigations or safety reviews.

SEC. 75. Prohibited Acts of Retaliation. – Retaliation includes dismissal, suspension, discrimination, harassment, intimidation, academic penalties, denial of opportunities, or any adverse action resulting from protected activities under this Act.

CHAPTER XVI ADMINISTRATIVE ENFORCEMENT

SEC. 76. Administrative Violations. – The following shall constitute administrative violations:

- (a) Failure to conduct required Risk Assessments;
- (b) Failure to maintain Emergency Action Plans;
- (c) Failure to designate required Safety Officers;
- (d) Failure to comply with reporting requirements;
- (e) Failure to implement approved Corrective Action Plans;
- (f) Submission of materially false reports; and
- (g) Other violations prescribed by regulations.

SEC. 77. Administrative Sanctions. – Depending upon the nature, gravity, and frequency of violations, sanctions may include:

- (a) Written warnings;
- (b) Corrective action orders;
- (c) Mandatory retraining;
- (d) Suspension of specific activities;
- (e) Suspension of authority to conduct certain activities; and
- (f) Administrative fines.

SEC. 78. Classification of Fines. –

- (a) Minor Violations – Fifty Thousand Pesos (Php50,000.00) to Two Hundred Thousand Pesos (Php200,000.00);
- (b) Serious Violations – Two Hundred Thousand Pesos (Php200,000.00) to One Million Pesos (Php1,000,000.00);
- (c) Grave Violations – One Million Pesos (Php1,000,000.00) to Five Million Pesos (Php5,000,000.00).

SEC. 79. Determination of Fines. – In determining fines, consideration shall be given to:

- (a) Severity of the violation;

- (b) Harm caused;
- (c) Recurrence;
- (d) Enrollment size;
- (e) Institutional resources; and
- (f) Good-faith efforts to comply.

Implementing agencies may calibrate fines based on enrollment size, institutional capacity, and available resources, provided that such calibration remains consistent with the classifications established under this Act.

SEC. 80. Administrative Due Process. – No administrative sanction shall be imposed under this Act without notice and opportunity to be heard in accordance with applicable laws, rules, and regulations.

SEC. 81. Public Educational Institutions. – For public educational institutions, administrative enforcement shall emphasize corrective measures, compliance orders, retraining requirements, and accountability of responsible officials, without prejudice to applicable laws and regulations governing public officers and employees.

SEC. 82. Safe Harbor Consideration. – Demonstrated substantial compliance with approved safety plans, regulations, and recognized safety practices shall be considered a mitigating circumstance in administrative proceedings.

CHAPTER XVII

OVERSIGHT AND FINAL PROVISIONS

SEC. 83. Effect of Compliance or Non-Compliance. – Compliance with this Act shall not create a presumption of non-liability, and non-compliance shall not create a presumption of liability. Liability shall be determined in accordance with applicable law and the facts of each case.

SEC. 84. Triennial Report to Congress. – DepEd and CHED shall jointly submit a report to Congress every three (3) years containing:

- (a) Statistics on fatalities, serious injuries, and Near-Miss Events;

- (b) Identified safety trends;
- (c) Emerging risks affecting educational institutions;
- (d) Assessment of the effectiveness of this Act; and
- (e) Recommendations for legislation, policy, and regulatory reforms.

SEC. 85. Five-Year Congressional Review. – Within five (5) years after effectivity of this Act, DepEd and CHED shall submit a comprehensive evaluation of implementation and recommendations for amendments, if necessary.

SEC. 86. Preservation of Civil Remedies. – Nothing in this Act shall diminish rights and remedies available under the Civil Code of the Philippines.

SEC. 87. Preservation of Criminal Liability. – Nothing in this Act shall affect criminal liability under the Revised Penal Code or other penal laws.

SEC. 88. Preservation of Administrative Remedies. – Existing disciplinary, regulatory, and administrative authority under other laws shall remain unaffected.

SEC. 89. Implementing Rules and Regulations. – Within one hundred eighty (180) days from effectivity of this Act, DepEd, CHED, DOH, OCD, BFP, PCG, PSC, and other relevant agencies shall promulgate the necessary rules and regulations.

The Implementing Rules and Regulations shall harmonize this Act with existing rules governing educational tours, field trips, off-campus activities, athletic activities, child protection, and disaster risk reduction and management and shall avoid unnecessary duplication of documentary and administrative requirements.

The Implementing Rules and Regulations shall be promulgated after consultation with educational institutions, student organizations, parent groups, athletic associations, child safety experts, and other stakeholders.

SEC. 90. Appropriations. – The amount necessary for the initial implementation of this Act shall be charged against the current appropriations of the implementing agencies. Thereafter, such sums as may be necessary shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

SEC. 91. Separability Clause. – If any provision of this Act is declared unconstitutional or invalid, the remaining provisions not affected thereby shall continue to be in full force and effect.

SEC. 92. Repealing Clause. – All laws, executive orders, administrative orders, rules and regulations, or portions thereof inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed, amended, or modified accordingly.

SEC. 93. Effectivity. – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,