

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City
TWENTIETH CONGRESS
Second Regular Session
HOUSE BILL NO. 10616



Introduced by: **REP. ELMER V. CATULPOS**
(I Tahanan Partylist)

EXPLANATORY NOTE

On June 22, 2026, gunfire broke the morning at San Jose National High School in Tacloban City, Leyte. Three students were killed and twenty others were wounded, in an attack carried out by two minors. In one morning, the oldest promise of Philippine education — that a school is a sanctuary — was broken before the eyes of the nation. The President himself, in his State of the Nation Address, honored the courage of the young lives lost, and the country grieved with their families.

What followed Tacloban is the reason this measure cannot wait. In the weeks since the shooting, threats of bombings and shootings have been reported against schools across the country — in Luzon, the Visayas, and Mindanao — forcing class suspensions, panicked evacuations, and fear in millions of households each school morning. In the Province of Pangasinan alone, seven national high schools — in Rosales, Lingayen, Sto. Tomas, Mangaldan, San Manuel, San Jacinto, and Bayambang — received bomb or shooting threats in a span of just nine days, from July 18 to 26, 2026. According to the Pangasinan Provincial Police Office, nearly all of the identified suspects were minors enrolled in the very schools they threatened — the youngest only twelve years old — children described by the police as troubled, burdened by family problems, having few friends, and spending most of their time on computer games and mobile phones.

That police description deserves this Legislature's closest attention, because it reveals the true nature of the crisis: the threat to our schools is coming, in large part, from within them — from children in crisis. The Republic therefore carries a twin duty that no single-solution measure can discharge: to protect the many children inside the gate, and to reach the one child who is drifting toward becoming the danger. A metal detector answers the first duty. Only a counselor answers the second. This bill is built on the conviction that school safety is achieved by hardware, by trained protectors, and by healing — together, or not at all.

The present state of school security cannot discharge either duty. Data disclosed by officials of the Department of Education and the Philippine National Police at the July 9, 2026 hearing of the Senate Committee on Basic Education show that only about thirty-six percent (36%) of schools have security camera systems, only about one in ten has metal detectors, and fewer than one in three has security guards. These are not marginal gaps; they are the absence of a system.

This measure gratefully recognizes what is already being done. The Department of Education has launched a nationwide School Safety Campaign — deploying handheld metal detectors, conducting security audits, strengthening anti-bullying measures, and expanding confidential reporting channels — moving with urgency because, as the President has consistently emphasized, our schools must strictly remain safe zones for learning. Local governments and private partners have donated equipment. These efforts point in the right direction, and this bill is their ally. But a campaign is not a statute: it can end with a change of administration, a change of priorities, or the exhaustion of donations. And a safety program that depends on the generosity of donors and the wealth of local governments is, by definition, a geographic lottery. A child's safety should not depend on the fortune of the city where that child studies. Only a law, with its own appropriation, can make safety a right in every school rather than a privilege in some.

This bill therefore establishes the BANTAY-PAARALAN framework, standing on three pillars. First, HARDEN THE GATE: a tiered, nationally funded physical-security standard for every basic education school — a guaranteed minimum for all (controlled entry, an accredited trained guard, inspection protocols, and detection equipment), rising by school size and risk to walk-through metal detectors and x-ray baggage scanners for the largest and most exposed campuses — with priority given to schools that today have nothing. Second, GUARD THE GROUNDS: specially trained PNP School Safety Units, safety outposts serving school zones, a response-time standard, emergency preparedness drills, and — the direct answer to the threat wave now sweeping the country — a standardized Threat Response Protocol and a Threat Assessment Team in every school, so that no principal ever again has to improvise the response to a threat, and no child in crisis is met with punishment where intervention can still save both the child and the school. Third, HEAL THE HALLS: accelerated deployment of guidance counselors and School Counselor Associates, enforceable timelines for acting on bullying reports, confidential reporting channels, and the engagement of parents, communities, and barangays.

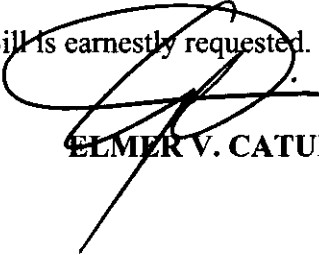
This measure is deliberately drafted to build upon — never to duplicate — existing law. It adds enforcement timelines to Republic Act No. 10627 (the Anti-Bullying Act); it accelerates and funds the implementation of Republic Act No. 12080 (the Basic Education Mental Health and Well-Being Promotion Act), whose counselor positions were given approved qualification standards by the Civil Service Commission only this July; it creates a school-security accreditation tier within the framework of Republic Act No. 5487 governing

security personnel; it routes children in conflict with the law to intervention consistent with Republic Act No. 9344 (the Juvenile Justice and Welfare Act); and it operates alongside Republic Act No. 11036 (the Mental Health Act). It likewise complements House Bill No. 10354, the SHIELD Act, filed by this Representation: that measure guards the child's screen against the online networks that groom our children toward violence; this measure guards the child's gate — and the halls between. They are two halves of a single promise.

In his State of the Nation Address of July 27, 2026, the President declared: “Peace and order are the foundations of security.” Nowhere is that truth more absolute than at the gate of a school. In the same Address, the President reported the deployment of ten thousand School Counsellor Associates to our schools — and the third pillar of this bill exists precisely to give that initiative the force, the funding, and the permanence of law. This measure answers the President's call, and answers the fear in every parent's chest each time a new threat appears on a screen.

Every morning, more than twenty-seven million Filipino learners walk through a school gate. Every one of them is somebody's whole world. This bill is for the parent who waves goodbye at that gate and deserves the certainty of a safe return; and it is equally for the troubled, isolated child on the other side of that gate — the one with few friends and a screen full of darkness — who needs the Republic to arrive not only with a detector, but with help.

In view of the foregoing, the approval of this Bill is earnestly requested.



ELMER V. CATULPOS

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
Second Regular Session

10616
HOUSE BILL NO. _____

Introduced by Representative ELMER V. CATULPOS

**AN ACT ESTABLISHING COMPREHENSIVE PHYSICAL SECURITY,
PROTECTIVE PERSONNEL, AND THREAT-ASSESSMENT STANDARDS
IN ALL BASIC EDUCATION SCHOOLS, ACCELERATING
SCHOOL-BASED GUIDANCE AND COUNSELING SERVICES,
AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR**

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

ARTICLE I – GENERAL PROVISIONS

Section 1. Short Title. – This Act shall be known and cited as the “Bantay-Paaralan Act,” or the “Safe Schools Security Act of 2026.”

Section 2. Declaration of Policy. – It is the policy of the State to protect the life, safety, and dignity of every learner, teacher, and school worker, and to guarantee that every school is a sanctuary for learning. Pursuant to Article II, Section 13 and Article XV, Section 3(2) of the Constitution, the State shall defend the right of children to assistance and special protection from all forms of neglect, abuse, cruelty, and other conditions prejudicial to their development. The State recognizes that the security of schools rests equally upon protective infrastructure, trained protective personnel, and the care of children in crisis – and that no child shall be made safe by hardware alone, nor healed by counsel alone. The State further declares that the physical safety of a learner shall be a guaranteed national standard, and shall never depend upon the wealth of the local government or the generosity of private donors where the learner happens to study.

Section 3. Objectives. – This Act shall have the following objectives:

- (a) To establish and nationally fund a tiered minimum standard of physical security in all basic education schools;
- (b) To professionalize school protection through dedicated School Security Officers, specially accredited security guards, and trained police School Safety Units with defined response standards;
- (c) To institutionalize a uniform, proportionate, and child-sensitive protocol for assessing and responding to threats against schools;
- (d) To accelerate the deployment of school-based guidance and counseling services and strengthen the enforcement of anti-bullying measures, addressing the roots of school violence; and

- (e) To ensure permanent, equitable, and audited funding for school safety nationwide.

Section 4. Scope and Application. — This Act shall apply to all public and private basic education schools in the Philippines, including elementary schools, junior and senior high schools, integrated schools, and community learning centers, without prejudice to the application of existing laws on child protection, education, and public safety.

Section 5. Definition of Terms. — As used in this Act, the following terms shall mean:

- (a) *Basic Education School* refers to any public or private educational institution offering kindergarten, elementary, junior high school, or senior high school education, including integrated schools and community learning centers.
- (b) *Controlled Entry Point* refers to a designated gate or entrance through which all persons entering the school premises shall be subject to applicable lawful and non-discriminatory security protocol.
- (c) *School Safety Infrastructure* refers to the physical facilities and equipment, and systems required under this Act and the standards issued pursuant to it, including, where justified by documented risk and feasibility, perimeter fencing or barriers, controlled entry points, closed-circuit television systems, metal detectors, baggage-screening equipment, emergency alarms, communication systems, lighting and accessibility features.
- (d) *School Security Officer (SSO)* refers to the plantilla personnel of the Department of Education (DepEd) designated under Section 12 of this Act as the resident officer responsible for the day-to-day security of a public school.
- (e) *School-Accredited Security Guard* refers to a licensed security guard who has completed the specialized school-security training and accreditation established under Section 13 of this Act, within the framework of applicable laws and regulations.
- (f) *School Safety Unit (SSU)* refers to the unit of the Philippine National Police (PNP) organized under Section 14 of this Act.
- (g) *Threat Against a School* refers to any statement, writing, image, post, or other communication, made through any medium, expressing an intent to cause death, injury, or serious harm within or against a school, its learners, or its personnel, or to bring or detonate any weapon or explosive therein, regardless of whether the maker has the present ability to carry it out.
- (h) *Threat Assessment Team (TAT)* refers to the school-level body established under Section 18 of this Act.
- (i) *Care Center* refers to the school-based mental health facility established under Republic Act No. 12080.
- (j) *Child Protection Committee (CPC)* refers to the school committee organized pursuant to Republic Act No. 10627 and DepEd Order No. 40, s. 2012.
- (k) *School Zone* refers to the school premises and the area within the immediate vicinity of the school as defined by the implementing rules of this Act.

ARTICLE II – PHYSICAL SECURITY OF SCHOOLS (HARDEN THE GATE)

Section 6. National School Safety Infrastructure Standards. — Within one hundred twenty (120) days from the effectivity of this Act, the DepEd, in coordination with the PNP and the Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG), shall promulgate the National School Safety Infrastructure Standards prescribing the design, specifications, deployment, operation, and maintenance of School Safety Infrastructure

for each security tier under Section 7, including protocols for the inspection of persons and bags that are effective, efficient, and respectful of the dignity and privacy of learners.

Section 7. Tiered Security Classification. — All basic education schools shall be classified into three (3) security tiers:

- (a) Tier 1 — All Schools. Every basic education school, regardless of size or location, shall meet the minimum standard under Section 8;
 - (b) Tier 2 — Large Schools. Schools with an enrollment of at least *two thousand (2,000) learners – threshold for confirmation*, or such schools as may be classified as Tier 2 by the DepEd on the basis of documented risk, shall additionally maintain walk-through metal detectors at all controlled entry points and expanded closed-circuit television coverage of the school premises;
 - (c) Tier 3 — Very Large and High-Risk Schools. Schools with an enrollment of at least *five thousand (5,000) learners – threshold for confirmation*, and schools classified as high-risk by the DepEd in consultation with the PNP on the basis of threat history, location, or other documented risk factors, shall additionally maintain x-ray baggage scanning equipment at principal entry points and such augmented guarding complement as the Standards may require.
- Classification shall be reviewed annually and published by the DepEd.

Section 8. Minimum Security Standard for All Schools (Tier 1). — Every basic education school shall maintain, at minimum:

- (a) A secure perimeter and at least one (1) Controlled Entry Point through which all persons entering during school hours shall pass;
- (b) At least one (1) School-Accredited Security Guard, or the School Security Officer, present at every open Controlled Entry Point during school hours;
- (c) Handheld metal detectors and a bag-inspection protocol at every Controlled Entry Point, implemented in accordance with the Standards under Section 6;
- (d) Closed-circuit television coverage of all entry points, with recordings preserved for a period prescribed by the Standards;
- (e) A functional emergency alarm and a means of immediate communication with the nearest PNP unit and the School Safety Unit; and
- (f) Adequate perimeter lighting.

Section 9. Prohibition Against Diminution of Learning Environment. — Security measures under this Act shall be implemented in a manner appropriate to a place of learning and to the age, developmental level, disability, gender, and circumstances of learners. No measure shall humiliate, profile, discriminate against, or unnecessarily traumatize any learner. Inspection shall be conducted swiftly, courteously, privately when appropriate, and by trained personnel. Security measures shall not replace lawful, educational, restorative and child-sensitive school discipline.

Section 10. National Funding and Equity Priority. — The School Safety Infrastructure of all public basic education schools, and the salaries, training, and equipment of their School Security Officers and School-Accredited Security Guards, shall be funded by the National Government through the annual General Appropriations Act.

In the rollout of School Safety Infrastructure, first priority shall be given to public schools that, as of the effectivity of this Act, possess no security equipment or guarding services, and to schools in geographically isolated and disadvantaged areas and in localities with documented threat incidents. Donations from local government units and private partners may supplement, but shall not replace, the National Government's

responsibility to provide the minimum standard. All donations shall be publicly recorded, independently auditable, and accepted only if they do not compromise school autonomy, procurement integrity, privacy, or non-discrimination.

Section 11. Phased Compliance Schedule. — All public basic education schools shall attain the Tier 1 standard within *two (2) years*, Tier 2 schools their additional requirements within *three (3) years*, and Tier 3 schools their additional requirements within *five (5) years* from the effectivity of this Act. The DepEd shall publish an annual compliance scorecard by region and division.

Section 12. School Security Officers. — There is hereby created in the DepEd the plantilla position of School Security Officer. Every public basic education school shall have at least one (1) School Security Officer, who shall: (a) supervise the implementation of this Act within the school; (b) supervise School-Accredited Security Guards assigned to the school; (c) maintain the school's security, incident, and drill records; (d) serve as the school's permanent liaison with the School Safety Unit and local authorities; and (e) sit in the Threat Assessment Team. The DepEd, with the Civil Service Commission and the Department of Budget and Management (DBM), shall establish the qualification standards, compensation, and staffing complement of the position, with larger schools provided additional officers as the Standards may require.

Section 13. School Security Accreditation and Specialized Training of Guards. — Within the framework of Republic Act No. 5487, as amended, and its implementing regulations, the PNP, through its supervisory office for security agencies, together with the DepEd, shall establish a School Security Accreditation — a specialized certification for security guards assigned to basic education schools. The accreditation curriculum shall include, at minimum: child protection and children's rights; age-appropriate and trauma-informed conduct toward learners; de-escalation and non-violent crisis intervention; detection equipment operation and inspection protocols; emergency first aid; active-threat and lockdown response; and coordination with law enforcement. Only School-Accredited Security Guards may be deployed to basic education schools after the transition period provided in the implementing rules. A security agency shall not deploy to a school any person disqualified under applicable law or whose record established a substantiated offence or conduct involving abuse, exploitation, violence, or other serious misconduct against children, subject to due process and applicable employment and privacy laws.

ARTICLE III — PROTECTIVE PRESENCE AND RESPONSE (GUARD THE GROUNDS)

Section 14. PNP School Safety Units. — There shall be organized in every city and municipal police station a School Safety Unit composed of personnel specially trained in school safety, child-sensitive policing, threat assessment support, and active-threat response. The SSU shall: (a) maintain a current security profile of every school within its jurisdiction; (b) conduct regular visibility patrols of School Zones, particularly during entry and dismissal hours; (c) support schools in drills and threat response; and (d) serve as the standing law-enforcement counterpart of every Threat Assessment Team. Members of the SSU shall undergo mandatory training on Republic Act No. 9344 and child-sensitive procedures.

Section 15. School Safety Outposts and Response-Time Standard. — The PNP, in coordination with local government units, shall establish police outposts or standing visibility posts serving School Zones, situated within *five hundred (500) meters – radius for confirmation* of every public basic education school or cluster of schools, prioritizing

Tier 2 and Tier 3 schools and schools with documented threat incidents. The PNP shall adopt and publish a response-time standard of not more than *fifteen (15) minutes – standard for confirmation* from receipt of an emergency call from any school to the arrival of responding personnel, and shall report compliance therewith in the annual report under Section 27. Nothing in this Act shall be construed to authorize the permanent stationing of armed police personnel inside classrooms or the routine performance of school discipline by police.

Section 16. Emergency Preparedness and Drills. – Every basic education school shall adopt an Emergency Preparedness Plan covering lockdown, evacuation, family reunification, and communication protocols, consistent with DepEd issuances, and shall conduct age-appropriate drills at least *twice every school year* in coordination with the School Safety Unit and the barangay. Drills shall be designed and conducted so as to prepare, and not traumatize, learners.

Section 17. Standardized Threat Response Protocol. – Within one hundred twenty (120) days from the effectivity of this Act, the DepEd, the PNP, and the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) shall jointly promulgate a uniform Threat Response Protocol governing the response of every school and law-enforcement unit to any Threat Against a School. The Protocol shall prescribe, at minimum:

- (a) Immediate reporting of every threat to the School Safety Unit and, for threats made online, to the PNP Anti-Cybercrime Group;
- (b) Preservation of evidence, including screenshots, account identifiers, and device information;
- (c) A graduated assessment of the credibility and severity of the threat by the Threat Assessment Team with the School Safety Unit, and criteria for proportionate response, including the decision to suspend classes;
- (d) Safeguards against the public disclosure of unverified threats in a manner that spreads panic, without prejudice to the duty to warn where a threat is assessed as credible;
- (e) Coordination with the national task force or agency charged with combating online violent-extremist networks, for any threat bearing indicators of such networks; and
- (f) The child-sensitive handling of minor respondents under Section 19.

Section 18. School Threat Assessment Teams. – There shall be established in every basic education school a Threat Assessment Team composed of: the school head as chairperson; the school's guidance counselor, School Counselor Associate, or Care Center representative; the School Security Officer or, in private schools, the officer responsible for security; and a representative of the school's Child Protection Committee. The designated contact person of the school for online-radicalization concerns under existing DepEd issuances or subsequent law shall likewise sit in the Team. The Team shall:

- (a) Receive and assess reports of threats and of concerning behavior indicating that a learner may pose, or be at, risk of harm;
- (b) Apply the Threat Response Protocol, in coordination with the School Safety Unit;
- (c) Where the person of concern is a learner, ensure the learner's immediate referral to guidance and counseling services, the Care Center, and, where warranted, the local social welfare and development office – proceeding always from the principle that a child in crisis is to be reached with intervention before, and not merely punished after;

- (d) Maintain strictly confidential records of its assessments, accessible only as provided by the implementing rules and existing law; and
- (e) Undergo annual training on behavioral threat assessment to be developed by the DepEd with the DOH, the DSWD, and the PNP.

No assessment, record, or referral of the Team shall, by itself, be treated as a disciplinary finding against any learner, nor be used to profile, stigmatize, or exclude any learner, including learners who have been victims of bullying.

Section 19. Child-Sensitive Handling of Minor Respondents. – Any minor found to have made a Threat Against a School shall be proceeded against exclusively in accordance with Republic Act No. 9344, as amended, with intervention, diversion, and rehabilitation as the primary response, and with the mandatory involvement of the local social welfare and development office and the school's counseling services. The identity of any such minor shall be strictly protected in accordance with Republic Act No. 9344 and Republic Act No. 10173, and no official, school, or media entity shall publicly identify the minor.

Section 20. Penalties. – Any violation of the provisions of this Act shall be penalized as follows:

- (a) Any person who makes a Threat Against a School shall, upon conviction, suffer the penalty of imprisonment of prision correccional in its maximum period to prision mayor in its minimum period and a fine of not less than One Hundred Thousand Pesos (₱100,000.00) nor more than Five Hundred Thousand Pesos (₱500,000.00), where the threat results in the suspension of classes, evacuation, or the disruption of school operations, without prejudice to prosecution under other applicable laws; where the threat is made through information and communications technologies, the penalty shall be one (1) degree higher, consistent with Republic Act No. 10175;
- (b) Any person who induces, coerces, recruits, or uses a minor to make a Threat Against a School shall suffer the penalty of imprisonment of prision mayor in its medium period and a fine of not less than Five Hundred Thousand Pesos (₱500,000.00) nor more than One Million Pesos (₱1,000,000.00), the minority of the person used being an aggravating circumstance;
- (c) Minors shall be dealt with exclusively under Section 19 of this Act.

ARTICLE IV – GUIDANCE, COUNSELING, AND PREVENTION (HEAL THE HALLS)

Section 21. Accelerated Implementation of Republic Act No. 12080. – The hiring, deployment, and funding of Schools Division Counselors, School Counselors, and School Counselor Associates under Republic Act No. 12080 is hereby declared a national priority. The DepEd and the DBM shall include in each annual budget proposal the positions necessary to attain a ratio of at least one (1) registered guidance counselor or School Counselor Associate for every five hundred (500) learners – ratio and phasing for confirmation within five (5) years from the effectivity of this Act. In deployment, priority shall be given to schools with documented threat incidents, elevated bullying reports, or no existing counseling personnel. Nothing in this Act shall be construed to amend or diminish any provision of Republic Act No. 12080.

Section 22. Enforceable Timelines for Bullying Cases. – To strengthen the implementation of Republic Act No. 10627, every school, through its Child Protection Committee, shall: (a) act upon every report of bullying within three (3) school days

from receipt, including the immediate protection of the reported victim; (b) complete its intervention and resolution within thirty (30) calendar days, subject to extension for justifiable cause duly recorded; (c) document every report, action, and outcome; and (d) submit anonymized statistics to the schools division office, which shall publish division-level bullying statistics annually. Repeated failure of responsible school officials to act within these periods shall constitute a ground for administrative liability under existing civil service or DepEd rules, or, for private schools, for appropriate sanction by the DepEd.

Section 23. Confidential Reporting Channels. — Every basic education school shall maintain accessible and confidential channels — physical and, where feasible, digital — through which any learner, parent, or member of the school community may report bullying, threats, weapons, or concerning behavior, including anonymously. No person shall be subjected to retaliation, discrimination, or disciplinary action for a report made in good faith. Reports received shall be routed to the Child Protection Committee or the Threat Assessment Team, as appropriate.

Section 24. Parent, Community, and Barangay Engagement. — Schools shall conduct regular orientation of parents and guardians — through parent-teacher associations and homeroom meetings — on the school's safety measures, the warning signs that a child may be in crisis or in contact with harmful actors, and the proper channels for reporting and for seeking help. The Local Councils for the Protection of Children and the barangays shall be engaged as community partners in school safety, consistent with Presidential Decree No. 603 and Republic Act No. 9344.

ARTICLE V — IMPLEMENTATION

Section 25. Lead and Cooperating Agencies. — The DepEd shall be the lead implementing agency of this Act. The PNP, the DILG, the DSWD, the Department of Health, the DBM, local government units, and the barangays shall cooperate in its implementation within their respective mandates. The DepEd shall designate a national School Safety Office to oversee, monitor, and report on implementation.

Section 26. Private Basic Education Schools. — Private basic education schools shall comply with the security tier applicable to them under Section 7 at their own expense, within the compliance periods under Section 11, and shall organize the Threat Assessment Team and reporting channels required by this Act. The DepEd may grant reasonable extensions to small private schools upon justified application, and shall include private-school compliance in its annual report. Expenses actually incurred by private schools in complying with this Act shall be treated as allowable deductions in accordance with the National Internal Revenue Code.

Section 27. Annual Report to Congress. — The DepEd, jointly with the PNP, shall submit to both Houses of Congress, within sixty (60) days from the close of every school year, a report on the implementation of this Act, including: tier compliance by region and division; the deployment of School Security Officers, accredited guards, School Safety Units, and counselors; response-time performance; the number and disposition of threats received, without identifying any minor; bullying statistics; and an accounting of funds.

Section 28. Appropriations. — The amount necessary for the initial implementation of this Act shall be charged against the current appropriations of the implementing agencies, augmented by an initial appropriation of Five Billion Pesos

(P5,000,000,000.00) for the first-year rollout of Tier 1 School Safety Infrastructure and the initial complement of School Security Officers. Thereafter, the amounts necessary for the continued implementation of this Act, including the phased attainment of all tiers and the counselor deployment under Section 21, shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

Section 29. Implementing Rules and Regulations. — The DepEd, as lead agency, together with the PNP, the DILG, the DSWD, and the Department of Health, and in consultation with teachers', parents', and learners' organizations and private school associations, shall promulgate the implementing rules and regulations of this Act within ninety (90) days from its effectivity. The failure to promulgate the rules shall not prevent the implementation of the self-executing provisions of this Act.

ARTICLE VI – FINAL PROVISIONS

Section 30. Relationship to Other Laws. — This Act shall be construed to complement, and not to diminish, the protections and programs under Republic Act No. 10627, Republic Act No. 12080, Republic Act No. 11036, Republic Act No. 9344, Republic Act No. 5487, Republic Act No. 10173, Republic Act No. 10175, Presidential Decree No. 603, and other existing laws for the protection of children and schools, and shall operate in coordination with any law enacted against the online grooming and radicalization of children.

Section 31. Separability Clause. — If any provision or part of this Act is declared invalid or unconstitutional, the remaining provisions or parts not affected shall remain in full force and effect.

Section 32. Repealing Clause. — All laws, decrees, orders, rules and regulations, or parts thereof inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

Section 33. Effectivity. — This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved.