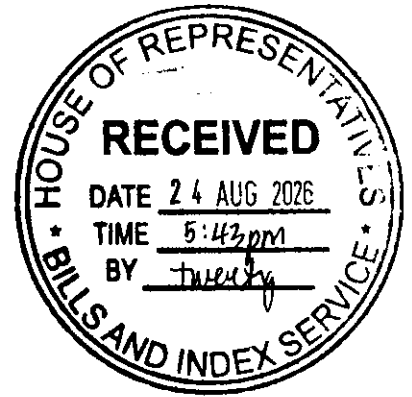


Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
Second Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 10909



Introduced by **Representative ELMER V. CATULPOS**
(I Tahanan Party-List)

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Bais City, Negros Oriental. Miyerkules, ika-19 ng Agosto 2026 — isang araw pagkatapos ng pamamaril sa Ateneo de Zamboanga. Alas-siyete ng umaga. Kakahatid lang ng isang ina sa kanyang anak na Grade 7 sa gate ng Bais National High School; nakabukas pa ang tindahan niya sa palengke nang tumunog ang cellphone. Text message, hindi post: may banta raw ng pamamaril. Pagkatapos, sa Facebook, kaparehong banta mula sa isang account na walang mukha. Bago mag-alas-nuwebe, dalawang paaralan sa lungsod — ang NORSU-Bais campus at ang Bais National High School — ang nag-evacuate ng mga estudyante, guro, at kawani. Nakita niya sa daan ang mga batang naglalakad pauwi na bitbit ang mga bag na hindi pa nabubuksan. Sa gate, mga pulis na recruit pa lamang, walang baril, dahil iyon ang kayang ipadala ng istasyon. Tanghali, bagong kumakalat: may Grade 7 daw na may dalang baril sa loob ng campus. Hinanap ng pulis. Wala — walang baril, walang laruan, wala. Kinagabihan, sa kalapit na Bayawan City, isang private message ang kumalat na nagsasabing huwag pumasok bukas dahil may babaril sa isang senior high school; dalawang tao ang natukoy ng pulis na nagbahagi nito sa publiko, at binalaan. Isang linggo bago nito, sa Dumaguete City National High School, isang post na hindi man lang nagngalan ng paaralan — inisyal lamang — ang nagpa-bag inspection sa gate at nag-iwan sa mga magulang ng Grade 8 ng isang pagpipilian: puwedeng pumasok, puwedeng hindi. Walang natamaan sa alinman sa mga ito. Ngunit sa loob ng apatnapu't walong oras, sa isang probinsya, apat na paaralan ang pinaamo ng mga mensaheng walang pangalan.

Ito ang hindi alam ng karamihan: ang batas na ginagamit ng pulisya laban sa ganitong pananakot ay ang Presidential Decree No. 1727, na isinulat noong 1980 — apatnapu't anim na taon na ang nakalilipas. Sinasaklaw lamang nito ang bomba at pampasabog. Ang banta na babarilin o sasaksakin ang isang buong paaralan ay wala sa batas na iyon. Kaya napipilitan ang pulisya na gamitin ang Article 282 ng Revised Penal Code — grave threats — isang batas para sa pananakot sa isang tao, hindi para sa pananakot na nagpapasara ng isang paaralan. At sa ibang bansa kung saan sinaliksik ito nang mabuti, natuklasan na pitumpung porsyento ng mga banta ng mga estudyante ay "transient" — galit, biro, o sigaw ng isang batang inaapi — at

kayang malaman ng isang sinanay na team kung alin ang totoo at alin ang hindi sa loob ng ilang oras.

Ang mga numero, pagkatapos ng damdamin. Mula Hunyo 16, 2026 hanggang sa kasalukuyan, naitala ng Philippine National Police ang limampung (50) insidenteng may kinalaman sa mga menor de edad sa mga paaralan: dalawang (2) pamamaril, apat (4) pananaksak, labindalawang (12) banta ng pamamaril, dalawampu't anim (26) banta ng bomba, apat (4) kaso ng iligal na baril, at dalawang (2) banta sa buhay. Tatlumpu't walo sa limampu — pitumpu't anim na porsyento — ay banta, hindi pag-atake. Ayon mismo sa Department of Education, ang pinakamabigat na alalahanin nito ay ang mga banta, dahil sa "copycat" na kababalaghan. Sa Batangas City Integrated High School, isang mensahe sa Facebook page ang nagpasuspende ng klase sa lahat ng antas; ayon sa PNP, nagmula ito sa isang estudyanteng nagsabing siya ay inaapi. Sa Nueva Ecija, inamin ng isang estudyante na nag-post siya ng banta ng bomba upang masuspende ang klase; ilang oras na naghalughog ang Explosive Ordnance Disposal unit. Sa Bais City, isang text message at isang dummy account ang nagpa-evacuate ng dalawang paaralan sa isang umaga; sa Dumaguete, sapat na ang inisyal ng isang paaralan upang mag-deploy ng pulis at ibigay sa mga magulang ang pasanin ng pagpapasya. Sa buong bansa, walang tumitipon kung ilang araw ng klase na ang nawala dahil sa mga banta.

Kinikilala ng Kinatawang ito ang mabilis na aksyon ng Pangulo at ng ating mga ahensiya. Sa kanyang ikalimang State of the Nation Address noong Hulyo 27, 2026, ipinagluksa ng Pangulo ang mga biktima ng pamamaril sa paaralan at binanggit ang panganib ng karahasan at lason sa social media sa ating mga anak. Sa direktiba ng Pangulo, nakaaresto na ang PNP ng hindi bababa sa sampung (10) tao na nagpakalat ng mga hoax na banta, at inilabas ng DepEd ang DepEd Order No. 006, s. 2026 na nag-uuri sa bomb threats bilang third-level offense. Salamat sa mga hakbang na ito. Ngunit may puwang: ang batas na sinusuportahan ng mga arestong iyon ay hindi nakikilala ang banta ng pamamaril; walang batas na nagsasabi kung sino ang makapagpapatanggal ng isang post sa loob ng ilang oras; at walang batas na nagsasabi kung sino ang may kapangyarihang magsabi sa isang ina na ligtas nang pumasok ang kanyang anak.

Hindi ang bata ang kalaban. Hindi ang guro, hindi ang principal, hindi ang pulis. Ang kalaban ay ang sistemang wala: walang pangalan ang nagpadala, walang oras ng pagtanggal, walang team na masasabing "transient ito," kaya ang tanging armas ng paaralan ay ang pagsasara ng pinto. Bawat pagsasara ay panalo ng nagpadala.

Ang orasan ang dapat nating katakutan. Bawat linggong walang batas, may bagong screenshot sa bagong group chat, at natututo ang susunod na nagpapadala na ang isang mensahe ay sapat na upang ipasara ang isang paaralan.

Isang prinsipyo ang buong batas: **Hulihin ang nagpadala, ituloy ang klase.** Apat na artikulo ang nagdadala nito. Una, ginagawang krimen ang maling banta ng malawakang karahasan sa anumang paraan — baril, patalim, sunog, bomba — laban sa paaralan, tanggapan, simbahan, ospital, terminal, at pagtitipon, na may mas mabigat na parusa kapag nagpasuspende ito ng klase, at may tungkulin ang magulang na bayaran ang gastos ng kasinungalingan ng anak. Ikalawa, binibigyan ng kapangyarihan ang isang competent authority na mag-utos sa mga platform at telco na tanggalin ang post, i-restrict ang account, ipreserba ang datos, at ibunyag ang may-ari ng SIM sa loob ng apat na oras — na kinukumpirma ng hukuman sa loob ng

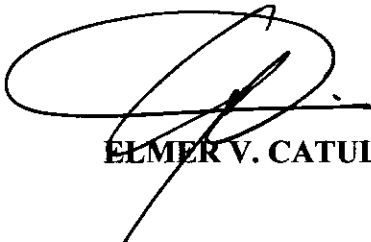
pitumpu't dalawang oras, alinsunod sa Konstitusyon at sa desisyon ng Korte Suprema sa Disini. Ikatlo, nagtatatag ng Threat Assessment Team sa bawat schools division na sinanay na magsabi sa loob ng dalawang oras kung ang isang banta ay transient o totoo, at nagtatakda na ang klase ay nasususpende lamang kapag may natuklasang credible at specific na banta. Ikaapat, isang beripikadong channel ng "all-clear" upang ang unang balitang maririnig ng magulang ay mula sa paaralan at sa pulis, hindi sa screenshot.

Hayaang sabihin muna ng Kinatawang ito ang dapat sabihin: ang may-akda ay tagapagtatag ng isang network ng mahigit limampung istasyon ng radyo na araw-araw tumatanggap ng mga tawag ng mga magulang na nagtatanong kung ligtas ba ang kanilang mga anak, at tagapag-empleyo ng mahigit isang libong Pilipino na may mga anak sa mga pampublikong paaralan. Ang mga kuwentong bumubuo sa batas na ito ay dumaan sa mga mikropono ng mga istasyong iyon. Hindi ito batas ng Kinatawan; batas ito ng mga tumawag.

Hindi pa ito batas. Kapag naipasa, ang unang tanong ng isang ina sa alas-nuwebe ng gabi ay hindi na "Totoo ba?" kundi "Kilala na ba?" — at ang sagot ng paaralan sa alas-singko ng umaga ay "Tuloy ang klase."

Bawat pananakot, may pangalan. Bawat paaralan, may klase.

Dahil dito, hinihiling ang agarang pagsasabatas ng panukalang ito.



ELMER V. CATULPOS

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HOUSE BILL NO. 10909

*Introduced by **Representative ELMER V. CATULPOS***
(I_Tahanan Party-list)

**AN ACT PENALIZING FALSE THREATS OF MASS VIOLENCE, PROVIDING
FOR THE RAPID REMOVAL AND TRACING OF SUCH THREATS,
ESTABLISHING SCHOOL THREAT ASSESSMENT TEAMS AND ENSURING THE
CONTINUITY OF CLASSES, REPEALING FOR THE PURPOSE PRESIDENTIAL
DECREE NO. 1727, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

*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 as the "Tigil-Takot Act" or the "False Threats of Mass Violence Prevention and Continuity of Classes Act of 2026."

SECTION 2. Declaration of Policy. – It is the policy of the State to protect the right to education and public safety by preventing and penalizing false threats of mass violence; ensuring their prompt reporting, assessment, removal, and investigation through lawful and proportionate means; strengthening the capacity of schools to assess and respond to threats; and promoting the timely dissemination of verified information to parents and the public. Nothing in this Act shall be construed to authorize the general monitoring, interception, or pre-transmission screening of private communications, or to restrict speech or access to communications except in accordance with the Constitution and applicable law.

SECTION 3. Definitions. – As used in this Act, the following are defined as follows:

- (a) ***Threat of mass violence*** refers to a communication that, viewed in its full context, objectively and seriously expresses an intent to kill or cause serious physical injury to two or more identified or identifiable persons, or at a specifically identified or reasonably identifiable protected place, event, or group, by firearm, bladed weapon, explosive, incendiary, chemical, vehicle, or other means capable of causing serious physical injury or death.
- (b) ***False threat*** refers to a threat of mass violence made by a person who knows it to be false, or with reckless disregard as to whether the threatened act will be carried out, or who has no intention or means of carrying it out.
- (c) ***Protected place*** refers to a school, learning center, campus, workplace, hospital, health facility, place of worship, transport terminal, station, port, airport, public conveyance, mall,

market, or public event or gathering that is specifically identified in, or reasonably identifiable from, the threat. A private dwelling is not a protected place for purposes of this Act; threats against persons therein remain governed by Article 282 of the Revised Penal Code.

(d) **Online service provider** refers to any social media platform, messaging service, or interactive computer service accessible in the Philippines through which a threat is communicated, including those without physical presence in the Philippines.

(e) **Telecommunications entity** refers to any public telecommunications entity as defined in Republic Act No. 7925 and any entity subject to Republic Act No. 11934 (SIM Registration Act).

(f) **Competent authority** refers to the office designated under Section 10 of this Act.

(g) **Threat Content Direction** refers to the order issued under Section 11 of this Act.

(h) **Threat assessment** refers to the structured, multidisciplinary process of evaluating a threat to determine whether it is transient, substantive, or credible and specific, and of managing the underlying situation.

(i) **Credible and specific threat** refers to a threat which, upon a documented assessment, reasonably identifies or implies a target, time or occasion, and means, and for which there are objective circumstances indicating that its author may possess the intent and capacity to carry it out. This classification shall guide protective action only and shall not by itself establish criminal liability or the falsity of a threat.

(j) **Emergency response and disruption cost** refers to the documented cost of police, bomb disposal, fire, medical, and school personnel deployment occasioned by a false threat, and the documented cost of class suspension or evacuation caused thereby.

(k) **Minor** refers to a person below eighteen (18) years of age.

ARTICLE II OFFENSES

SECTION 4. False Threat of Mass Violence. – Any person who, by any means, including any telecommunications or online service, makes, sends, posts, or causes to be communicated a false threat of mass violence against a protected place or the persons therein shall be punished under Section 24(a) of this Act.

Knowledge that the threat is false, or reckless disregard as to whether it will be carried out, may be established by any evidence, including the absence of any means or preparation to carry out the threatened act, and the admission of the offender that the threat was made in jest, in anger, or to cause a suspension of classes or activities.

SECTION 5. Aggravated False Threat. – The offense under Section 4 shall be punished under Section 24(b) of this Act when any of the following attends its commission:

(a) The protected place is a school, learning center, or campus, or the threat is directed at learners or school personnel;

(b) The threat causes the suspension of classes or work, the evacuation of a protected place, or the deployment of police, bomb disposal, fire, or medical personnel;

(c) The offender uses a fictitious, stolen, or unregistered account, number, or identity to make the threat;

(d) The offender has been previously convicted, or previously subjected to diversion or intervention under Section 8, for an offense under this Act; or

(e) The threat is made in the course of, or to advance, an organized campaign, online group, or scheme to make threats against multiple protected places.

SECTION 6. Amplification for Gain. – Any person who, knowing a threat to be false, republishes, reposts, or broadcasts it through an account, page, or channel that is monetized, sponsored, or operated for commercial gain, in a manner that represents it as a genuine warning, shall be punished under Section 24(c) of this Act.

This section shall not apply to: (a) a parent, guardian, learner, teacher, or member of the public who forwards or shares a threat to alert others or to seek verification; (b) a school, local government, or law enforcement office; or (c) a news organization or journalist reporting on the threat. No person shall be prosecuted under this Act for sharing a threat in good faith.

SECTION 7. Threats Which Are Not False. – Where a threat of mass violence is found to be genuine, the offender shall be prosecuted under Article 282 of the Revised Penal Code, Republic Act No. 10175, Republic Act No. 11479, or other applicable law, and this Act shall not bar such prosecution. Nothing in this Act shall reduce the penalty for a genuine threat.

SECTION 8. Offenders Who Are Minors. – A minor who commits an offense under this Act shall be dealt with in accordance with Republic Act No. 9344, as amended. In every such case, whether or not the minor is exempt from criminal liability, the minor shall be referred to the Schools Division Threat Assessment Team under Article IV and to the local social welfare and development office for a mandatory intervention program, which shall include threat assessment, counseling, and, where bullying or other conflict underlies the threat, resolution of that conflict under Republic Act No. 10627.

The intervention program shall be designed to keep the minor in school wherever safe to do so, and shall not be punitive in character.

SECTION 9. Civil Liability of Parents and Guardians. – The parents or guardians of a minor who commits an offense under this Act shall be solidarily liable with the minor for the emergency response and disruption cost under Section 25, consistent with Article 2180 of the Civil Code. Such liability shall be limited to documented actual cost and shall not exceed *[[Five hundred thousand pesos (P500,000.00)]]* per incident.

Where the parents or guardians are indigent as certified by the local social welfare and development office, the court shall in lieu of payment order community service by the parents or guardians in a school or barangay of the court's choosing, and the minor's participation in the intervention program under Section 8, and no further amount shall be collected.

ARTICLE III RAPID REMOVAL AND TRACING

SECTION 10. Competent Authority. – The PNP Anti-Cybercrime Group shall be the primary law-enforcement office responsible for receiving reports, conducting criminal investigation, and applying for judicial orders under this Act. The Cybercrime Investigation and Coordinating Center (CICC) of the Department of Information and Communications Technology shall provide technical coordination, incident-response support, and liaison services. The competent authority shall maintain a twenty-four-hour point of contact and shall designate trained officers of the rank of *Police Lieutenant Colonel* or higher authorized to issue Threat Content Directions.

SECTION 11. Threat Content Direction. – Upon reasonable suspicion that an offense under Article II has been committed, an authorized officer of the competent authority may issue a written Threat Content Direction to an online service provider or telecommunications entity,

requiring it, within four (4) hours from receipt, to do any or all of the following in relation to the specific content and account identified in the Direction:

- (a) Disable access to the specified content from users in the Philippines;
- (b) Restrict, suspend, or terminate the specified account's ability to communicate with users in the Philippines;
- (c) Preserve all data relating to the specified content and account, including subscriber, registration, device, and traffic data, for a period of not less than ninety (90) days; and
- (d) In the case of a telecommunications entity, disclose to the competent authority the subscriber registration information of the number or SIM used, pursuant to Section 11 of Republic Act No. 11934, in relation to this Act.

A Direction shall identify the content and account with particularity, state the offense suspected and the facts supporting the suspicion, and be limited to what is necessary to remove the threat from circulation and identify its author. No Direction shall require the monitoring of communications generally, the screening of messages before transmission, the disclosure of the content of any communication other than the threat itself, or the disabling of an entire service.

SECTION 12. Judicial Confirmation. – Within seventy-two (72) hours from issuance, the competent authority shall file an application for confirmation of every Threat Content Direction before the Regional Trial Court designated as a cybercrime court having jurisdiction over the protected place. The court shall, within forty-eight (48) hours from filing, confirm, modify, or set aside the Direction. A Direction not confirmed within the period shall lapse, and any data disclosed thereunder shall be inadmissible except in proceedings for offenses under this Act already commenced. The account holder may appear and be heard in the confirmation proceedings, and may move for the lifting of a Direction at any time.

The Supreme Court shall promulgate rules for the expeditious disposition of applications under this section, which shall be consistent with the Rule on Cybercrime Warrants (A.M. No. 17-11-03-SC) and other applicable laws.

SECTION 13. Safe Harbor. – An online service provider or telecommunications entity that complies in good faith with a Threat Content Direction shall not be liable, civilly, criminally, or administratively, to any person for such compliance, including under Republic Act No. 10173 and any contractual duty of confidentiality.

SECTION 14. Non-Compliance. – An online service provider or telecommunications entity that, without reasonable excuse, fails to comply with a Threat Content Direction within the period stated therein shall be liable to an administrative fine of *One million pesos (P1,000,000.00)* for each day of non-compliance, to be imposed by the National Telecommunications Commission, without prejudice to liability under Republic Act No. 10175. Where an online service provider has no presence in the Philippines, the competent authority may, upon Judicial Confirmation under Section 12, order telecommunications entities and internet service providers to restrict access to the specified content.

SECTION 15. Privacy Safeguards. – Data obtained under this Article shall be used solely for the investigation and prosecution of offenses under this Act and related offenses, shall be handled in accordance with Republic Act No. 10173, and shall be destroyed upon the final disposition of the case unless otherwise ordered by the court. The competent authority shall submit to the Congressional Oversight Committee under Section 23 and to the National Privacy

Commission a quarterly report of all Directions issued, confirmed, modified, set aside, or lapsed.

ARTICLE IV

SCHOOL THREAT ASSESSMENT AND CONTINUITY OF CLASSES

SECTION 16. Schools Division Threat Assessment Teams. – Within one hundred eighty (180) days from the effectivity of this Act, every schools division of the Department of Education (DepEd) shall constitute a Threat Assessment Team composed of: (a) the Schools Division Superintendent or a designated Assistant Superintendent, as chairperson; (b) at least one guidance counselor or School Counselor Associate; (c) a representative of the PNP, preferably from the Women and Children Protection Desk or the Anti-Cybercrime Group; (d) a representative of the local social welfare and development office; (e) a representative of the provincial or city government; and (f) a representative of the federated parent-teacher association. Private schools and higher education institutions may constitute their own teams under the same standards, or access the division team.

Each school head shall designate a school-level threat response group of not less than three (3) personnel trained under Section 21, which shall conduct the initial assessment and refer to the division team. All members of a threat assessment team shall observe confidentiality, data-minimization, child-protection, and due-process requirements. Assessment records shall be maintained separately from ordinary student disciplinary records, unless inclusion is required by law or necessary for an authorized safety measure.

SECTION 17. Assessment Protocol. – Upon receipt of any threat of mass violence against a school, the school-level group shall, within two (2) hours, conduct an initial assessment and classify the threat as: (a) transient — an expression of anger, humor, or frustration with no sustained intent; (b) substantive — a threat that cannot be resolved as transient and requires protective action and monitoring; or (c) credible and specific as defined in Section 3(i). The school head shall immediately report the threat and the classification to the division team and to the competent authority through the point of contact under Section 10.

The division team shall review every substantive or credible and specific classification within twelve (12) hours and shall, in every case, develop a management plan addressing the safety of potential targets and the circumstances of the author, including referral for counseling and the resolution of any bullying or conflict underlying the threat.

DepEd, in coordination with the PNP and the Department of Social Welfare and Development, shall issue a single national threat assessment protocol within ninety (90) days from the effectivity of this Act, which shall be evidence-based and consistent with this section.

SECTION 18. Suspension of Classes. – Classes in a school may be suspended on account of a threat of mass violence only upon a finding by the school head, in consultation with the school-level group and the division team, that the threat is credible and specific, or upon the written advice of the PNP that the safety of learners requires it. No regional or division office shall order the blanket suspension of classes in multiple schools on account of a threat unless each school covered has been so assessed or the PNP has so advised.

Every suspension under this section shall be reported within twenty-four (24) hours to the division team and the competent authority, stating the basis for the finding. Where a threat is classified as transient or substantive but not credible and specific, classes shall continue, with such protective measures as the team may direct.

SECTION 19. Verified Alert and All-Clear. – Every schools division, in coordination with the PNP and the local government, shall maintain a verified official channel for the communication of threat alerts, assessment results, class suspensions, and all-clear notices to parents and the public. Telecommunications entities shall, upon request of the competent authority and without charge, transmit all-clear and suspension notices issued under this Act through cell broadcast or similar facility to the affected locality, in the manner provided under Republic Act No. 10639.

SECTION 20. School Record Consequence. – The making of a false threat of mass violence by a learner shall be a Serious Offense under DepEd's child protection and discipline policies, and shall carry the administrative consequences provided under DepEd policies, subject to due process and to the intervention program under Section 8.

SECTION 21. Training. – DepEd, with the PNP and the Department of Health, shall train all members of division teams and school-level groups in threat assessment within one (1) year from the effectivity of this Act, and annually thereafter. The School Counselor Associates deployed under the current national program shall be prioritized for such training.

SECTION 22. Reporting. – DepEd shall publish, not later than March 31 of each year, a report of the number of threats received, their classification, the number of class suspensions ordered under Section 18, the number of class-days lost, and the outcomes of intervention programs, disaggregated by region and division.

SECTION 23. Congressional Oversight. – A Congressional Oversight Committee composed of the Chairpersons and two (2) members of the House Committees on Basic Education and Culture and on Justice, and the Chairpersons and two (2) members of the Senate Committees on Basic Education and on Justice and Human Rights, which shall oversee and review the implementation of this Act, including the reports required under Sections 15 and 22.

ARTICLE V PENALTIES AND RESTITUTION

SECTION 24. Penalties. – The following penalties shall be imposed for violations of this Act:

(a) For the offense under Section 4: imprisonment of prision correccional in its medium and maximum periods, or two (2) years, four (4) months and one (1) day to six (6) years, and a fine of not less than One hundred thousand pesos (P100,000.00) nor more than Five hundred thousand pesos (P500,000.00);

(b) For the offense under Section 5: imprisonment of prision mayor, or six (6) years and one (1) day to twelve (12) years, and a fine of not less than Five hundred thousand pesos (P500,000.00) nor more than Two million pesos (P2,000,000.00); where two or more aggravating circumstances concur, the penalty shall be imposed in its maximum period;

(c) For the offense under Section 6: imprisonment of arresto mayor in its maximum period to prision correccional in its minimum period, or four (4) months and one (1) day to two (2) years and four (4) months, and a fine of not less than Two hundred thousand pesos (P200,000.00) nor more than One million pesos (P1,000,000.00), and the forfeiture of all revenue derived from the amplified content.

The penalties under this section shall apply in lieu of, and not in addition to, the one-degree-higher rule under Section 6 of Republic Act No. 10175 for the same act.

If the offender is a public officer or employee, or school personnel, the penalty shall be imposed in its maximum period, with perpetual disqualification from public office.

SECTION 25. Restitution. – In addition to the penalties under Section 24, the court shall order the offender to pay, as restitution, the emergency response and disruption cost, upon proof by the responding agencies and the school, which shall be paid into the general fund of the local government unit and the school's maintenance and other operating expenses account, respectively, in proportion to the costs each incurred. Restitution shall be imposed without prejudice to civil indemnity to any person injured.

SECTION 26. Venue and Prosecution. – Offenses under this Act may be prosecuted in the place where the threat was made, received, or where the protected place is located. The cybercrime courts designated by the Supreme Court shall have jurisdiction. The offenses under this Act shall prescribe in accordance with the periods provided by the applicable law governing the penalty imposed.

ARTICLE VI FINAL PROVISIONS

SECTION 27. Relationship to Other Laws. – This Act supplements and shall be construed in harmony with Article 282 of the Revised Penal Code; Republic Act No. 10175; Republic Act No. 11934; Republic Act No. 9344, as amended; Republic Act No. 10627; Republic Act No. 10173; Republic Act No. 10639; and Republic Act No. 11479. Where this Act and any measure providing for the physical security of schools, including the measure known as the "Bantay-Paaralan Act" or "Safe Schools Security Act of 2026", are both enacted, Article IV of this Act and the corresponding provisions of that measure shall be implemented as a single school safety framework, and DepEd shall issue harmonized rules.

SECTION 28. Appropriations. – The amount necessary for the initial implementation of this Act shall be charged against the current appropriations of DepEd, the PNP, and the DICT. Thereafter, such sums as may be necessary shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act. Restitution collected under Section 25 and fines under Section 14 shall accrue as provided therein.

SECTION 29. Implementing Rules and Regulations. – DepEd, the Department of the Interior and Local Government, the DICT, the Department of Justice, and the Department of Social Welfare and Development shall jointly promulgate the implementing rules and regulations within ninety (90) days from the effectivity of this Act. Articles II and V, and Sections 11 to 14, shall be self-executing and shall not be dependent on the issuance of such rules.

SECTION 30. Separability Clause. – If any provision of this Act is declared unconstitutional or invalid, the remaining provisions not affected thereby shall remain in full force and effect.

SECTION 31. Repealing Clause. – Presidential Decree No. 1727 is hereby repealed. All other laws, decrees, orders, rules, and regulations inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly. Acts committed under Presidential Decree No. 1727 before the effectivity of this Act shall continue to be prosecuted thereunder.

SECTION 32. Effectivity. – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved.