[ REPUBLIC ACT NO. 10630, October 03, 2013 ]

AN ACT STRENGTHENING THE JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM IN THE PHILIPPINES, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9344, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE “JUVENILE JUSTICE AND WELFARE ACT OF 2006” AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Republic Act No. 10630 is a law in the Philippines that establishes a comprehensive juvenile justice and welfare system. It creates a Juvenile Justice and Welfare Council and appropriates funds for its implementation. This law also amends the definition of terms, the minimum age of criminal responsibility, and the exemption from criminal liability for children in conflict with the law.

Source: Lawphil Project, Official Gazette of the Republic of the Philippines

IMPORTANCE OF RA 10630

Republic Act No. 10630, also known as the Juvenile Justice and Welfare Act, is important for several reasons:

1. Protection of children: RA 10630 aims to protect the rights and welfare of children in conflict with the law. It recognizes that children are vulnerable and need special care and attention, focusing on their rehabilitation and reintegration into society rather than punishment.

2. Age-appropriate interventions: The law establishes a comprehensive juvenile justice system that promotes age-appropriate interventions for children in conflict with the law. It recognizes that children have different levels of maturity and understanding compared to adults, and therefore require specialized approaches in dealing with their offenses.

3. Restorative justice: RA 10630 promotes the principles of restorative justice, which focuses on repairing the harm caused by the offense and addressing the needs of both the victim and the offender. It encourages the involvement of the community in the rehabilitation process and emphasizes the importance of accountability and responsibility.

4. Rehabilitation and reintegration: The law prioritizes the rehabilitation and reintegration of children in conflict with the law into their families and communities. It provides for the establishment of youth rehabilitation centers and programs that aim to address the underlying factors that contribute to their involvement in offenses.

5. International compliance: RA 10630 aligns with international standards and obligations, particularly the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC). It ensures that the Philippines fulfills its commitment to protect the rights and welfare of children in conflict with the law, in line with international norms.

Overall, RA 10630 plays a crucial role in promoting a fair and just system for children in conflict with the law, focusing on their rehabilitation, reintegration, and protection of their rights.

Source: Lawphil Project, Official Gazette of the Republic of the Philippines