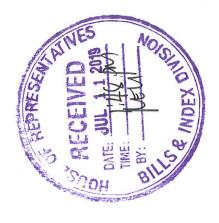
Republic of the Philippines HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Quezon City

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS

6 W

First Regular Session 1993 House Bill No.



Introduced by Honorable FREDERICK W. SIAO

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill seeks to mandate swimming as a subject in the K-12 Basic Education Curriculum and an integral part of the overall strategy to reduce the incidence of death from drowning during natural calamities or recreational aquatic activities.

surrounding the country, different types of natural water forms within the Philippines such as rivers, lakes, bays and waterfalls collectively known as inland waters. Moreover, the country is often visited by typhoons at an average of 20-25 islands Besides the different bodies of water forms within The Philippines is an archipelago consisting of an estimated 7,107 of natural water annually causing floods, flooded areas and flash floods. with a coastline of about 36,289 kilometers. different types

published by the World Health Organization (WHO) that is dedicated exclusively to drowning. It contains information about drowning and drowning prevention and emphasizes that drowning is a serious and neglected public health threat claiming report Killer" is Leading Ø on Drowning: Preventing the lives of 372,000 people a year worldwide. Report "Global

The report says that wherever there is water, there is a threat of drowning. The Philippines as an archipelago with waters within and around and frequently visited by typhoons is indeed a place where there is a high risk of drowning. Hence, drowning prevention measures is a must. Lifesaving Position Statement published by the International Life Saving Federation entitled "Swimming and Water Safety Education," it cited the study made by UNICEF Bangladesh revealing that possessing a basic level of water skill is sufficient to swimming a basic level of with prevent most drowning incidents. safety knowledge coupled On the

The United Nations Children's Fund survey disclosed that drowning is the second leading cause of death among Filipino children aged 14 years and below, and the fourth leading cause of death from injury in the Philippines. Acknowledging these facts, the bill proposes that the K-12 basic education curriculum must include swimming lessons, water safety and safe rescue skills. The global report suggests that all countries must develop a national water the master plan for schools and government agencies in formulating the different This bill seeks to develop a drowning prevention plan that will serve as programs and projects that will help reduce the risk of drowning. safety plan.

programs and policies may only be achieved through understanding the way communities live around water, thus, it is necessary to take into consideration the circumstances in the locality where the programs and policies shall be implemented. In line with this, the bill seeks to develop a community action plan for each local government units.

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

FREDERICK W. SIAO Lone District, Iligan City

Republic of the Philippines HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Quezon City

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS First Regular Session House Bill No.

SIAO

CURRICULUM AND AN INTEGRAL PART OF THE OVERALL STRATEGY TO REDUCE THE INCIDENCE OF DEATH FROM DROWNING DURING NATURAL CALAMITIES OR RECREATIONAL AQUATIC ACTIVITIES **EDUCATION** STRATEGY BASIC Introduced by Honorable FREDERICK W. K-12 AN ACT SUBJECT IN THE K 4 AS **SWIMMING** MANDATING

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

"Drowning the as cited pe Act may This Title. Short Section 1. Prevention Act.

- of The State recognizes the right to life and health of every Filipino and hence it shall protect the life as well as instill health incidence and flash consciousness among them through an overall strategy to reduce the drowning during natural calamities like coastal floods, river floods Declaration of Policy. and recreational aquatic activities Sec. 2
- of and .⊑ basic schools in and part (MAPEH) Department Reduction K-12 The Department of Education shall determine the length as secondary children the Health Risk The .⊑ which grade the swimming lessons must be undertaken by the Arts, Physical Education and lessons and public elementary and Disaster Subject. swimming National Mandatory the include with as education curriculum of all private Management Council (NDRRMC), the core academic area of Music, coordination Swimming their academic requirement. .⊑ mandatory subject. shall, Sec. Education
- A trained instructor σ swimming lessons which shall include conducted in The swimming lessons shall be Skills. Safe Rescue Safety and or certified lifeguard shall conduct the skills. and controlled environment. Water safe rescue 4 Sec. and

of in formulating Republic Act No. 10121, also known as the "*Philippine Disaster Risk Reduction and* school curricula, the NDRRMC shall develop a drowning prevention plan framework guide for all private and public elementary and secondary their programs and projects to reduce the risk of drowning incidents in the country. mandate Management Act of 2010," to integrate disaster risk reduction education into - Pursuant to the agencies, including local government units, Prevention Plan. Drowning σ government shall serve as

The drowning prevention plan shall contain, among others, the drowning risk The drowning prevention plan amount necessary to cover the formulation and publication of the plan shall be shall be issued within one hundred eighty (180) days from the approval of this Act. corresponding preventive measures. The information and charged against the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Fund. contained in the plan must be updated regularly. and the

- existing - In addition to its Additional Mandate of NDRRMC. mandate, the NDRRMC shall exercise the following:
- Formulate and regularly update a comprehensive drowning prevention Ġ. plan;
- Promulgate rules and regulations as may be necessary for the effective on water any existing regulations without prejudice to this Act implementation of safety;
- Monitor and oversee the strict implementation of this Act; ن
- government agencies of all projects and Coordinate the programs effectively prevent drowning; ö
- Conduct information dissemination to prevent drowning; ė.
- Local Assist the LGUs in crafting the community action plan through its Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Office;
- Inspect the premises of any establishment, including condominiums authorized subdivisions, offering water recreational activities through its duly representatives; and
- extent and circumstances of drowning, the risks involved and best practices in Research relevant information on drowning to understand the

of prevent drowning and all other information necessary for the updating the drowning prevention plan; and world to

- Exercise the powers and perform the functions necessary to attain the objectives of this Act.
- Community Action Plan. Each local government unit (LGU) The action plan shall include training on first aid surrounding the drowning in the locality, if any, or the areas in the locality accordance the shall identify plan in basic life support and seminar on drowning prevention. community action plan action The Ø design prevention plan. is a risk of drowning. and shall formulate drowning

The chief executive of each LGU shall ensure that the action plan shall formulated and implemented in the respective locality.

- The NDRRMC shall submit to the President of the Philippines and to Congress an annual report of the policies, programs, activities and projects relative to the implementation of this Act. Reportorial Requirements.
- days from the approval of this Act, the NDRRMC shall promulgate the rules and regulations issued pursuant to this section shall take effect thirty (30) days after its – Within ninety (90) regulations implementing the provisions of this Act. The implementing rules publication in two (2) national newspapers of general circulation. Implementing Rules and Regulations.
- Effectivity.-This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation. Sec. 10.

Approved,