Republic of the Philippines HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES Quezon City

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS

First Regular Session

House Bill No. 2266



Introduced by Rep. LAWRENCE LEMUEL H. FORTUN

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill seeks to amend Republic Act No. 9262, otherwise known as the Anti-Violence Against Women and Their Children Act of 2004, in cognizance of the vulnerability of children and women in this present age of remarkably fast-paced information technology and social media.

The utilization of modern information technology to connect peoples of the world via computers, mobile phones and other gadgets has been of enormous contribution to the progress and development of any country today. This technological advancement has made communications and the spread of information expeditious, effortless and literally at anybody's fingertips. Regrettably, however, while it has its exceptionally wide-ranging advantages, the same can also have devastating impact if employed as a means of violence and abuse. The sad fact is it has been conveniently resorted to by unscrupulous individuals and groups in perpetrating abuse of, and violence against, women and children. These nefarious activities using information technology as a tool have become alarmingly prevalent today.

Countless women and children have become victims of perverse recording and photography of private activities or their private parts and the reproduction and distribution of such contents that are sexual, malicious or predatory in character. Violence against women and children has profound and lasting impact on their physical and psychological well-being. It has been found that many develop depression, anxiety and post-traumatic stress disorders as a result of such violence and abuse.

The child is equally, if not most vulnerable, to these forms of violence and abuse. According to a study of the World Health Organization, one single occurrence of sexual aggression is sufficient to create long-lasting negative effects, especially if the child-victim does not subsequently receive immediate intervention and appropriate support. ¹ Like violence against women in the family, child abuse often continues for many years and its disabling effects can carry over into adult life. ² As technology is woven in the fabric of our daily lives, any form of misuse to cause assault, especially against the weak and the vulnerable, should be effectively addressed by dynamic and evolving legislation.

This measure aims to be responsive to the demands of the time in the advent of swift technological developments. The bill seeks to institute concrete policies and mechanisms to prevent the proliferation of any and all forms of electronic violence against women and children and provide legal leverage and protection to victims thereof by clearly defining this form of violence in our legal system and imposing severe penalties therefor.

This bill was approved on Third and Final Reading by the House of Representatives in the 17th Congress. It is prayed that in the 18th Congress, measure finally gets enacted into law.

In view of the foregoing considerations, approval of this bill is most earnestly sought.

REP. LAWRENCE LEMUEL H. FORTUN

1st District of Agusan del Norte

World Health Organization. (n.d.). (Rep.). Retrieved from https://www.who.int/gender/violence/ve.pdf

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EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS

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House	Bill	No.	

Introduced by Rep. LAWRENCE LEMUEL H. FORTUN

AN ACT

DEFINING ELECTRONIC VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND THEIR CHILDREN, PROVIDING PROTECTIVE MEASURES, AND PRESCRIBING PENALITIES FOR VIOLATIONS THEREOF, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9262, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE "ANTI-VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND THEIR CHILDREN ACT OF 2004"

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

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Section 1. Section 1 of Republic Act No. 9262, otherwise known as the "Anti-Violence Against Women and Their Children Act of 2004", is hereby amended to read as follows:

"SECTION 1. Short Title. – This Act shall be known as the "**EXPANDED** Anti-Violence Against Women and Their Children [Act of 2004] (E-VAWC) ACT".

Section 2. Section 3, paragraph (a) of Republic Act No. 9262, otherwise known as the "Anti-Violence Against Women and Their Children Act of 2004" is hereby amended to read as follows:

"SEC. 3. Definition of Terms. - xxx

14 "SEC. 3. 15 "(a) xxx

"(A) xxx

17 "(B) xxx

"(C) "Psychological violence" refers to acts or omissions THAT MAY BE COMMITTED THROUGH PHYSICAL, VERBAL, EMOTIONAL, ELECTRONIC OR INFORMATION COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY (ICT)-RELATED MEANS, OR OTHER MEANS causing or likely to cause mental or emotional suffering of [the victim] A WOMAN AND HER CHILDREN such as [but not limited to] intimidation, harassment, stalking, damage to property, public ridicule or humiliation, [repeated] verbal abuse and marital infidelity. It includes THE ACT OF causing or [allowing the victim] COERCING A WOMAN AND HER CHILDREN to witness the physical, sexual or psychological abuse of a member of the family to which the [victim] WOMAN AND HER CHILDREN belong[s], or to witness pornography in any form or to witness abusive injury to pets or to unlawful deprivation of the right to custody and/or visitation of common children.

"(D) xxx

"(E) "ELECTRONIC OR ICT-RELATED VIOLENCE" REFERS TO ANY ACT OR OMISSION INVOLVING THE USE OR EXPLOITATION OF DATA OR ANY FORM OF INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY WHICH CAUSES OR IS LIKELY TO CAUSE MENTAL, EMOTIONAL, OR PSYCHOLOGICAL DISTRESS OR SUFFERING TO THE WOMAN AND HER CHILDREN, TO INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING:

"(1) UNAUTHORIZED RECORDING, REPRODUCTION, DISTRIBUTION, USE, SHARING OR UPLOADING OF ANY PHOTOGRAPH,

- VIDEO, OR OTHER FORM OF ELECTRONIC AND/OR ARTISTIC PRESENTATION SHOWING OR DEPICTING IN ANY FORM OF ELECTRONIC AND/OR ARTISTIC PRESENTATION SHOWING OR DEPICTING IN ANY FORM OR MANNER THE GENITALIA OF A WOMAN AND THOSE OF HER CHILDREN'S GENITALIA, PUBIC AREA, BUTTOCKS, BREASTS. EXCRETORY BODY PART OR FUNCTION, NUDITY, SCENES WITH SEXUAL CONTEXT OR POTRAYAL OF SEXUAL CONDUCT SUCH AS SEXUAL INTERCOURSE, MASTURBATION, KISSING, CARESSING, HUGGING, AND PETTING;
 - "(2) UNAUTHORIZED RECORDING, REPRODUCTION, DISTRIBUTION, USE, SHARING OR UPLOADING OF ANY PHOTOGRAPH, VIDEO, OR ANY OTHER FORM OF ELECTRONIC AND/OR ARTISTIC PRESENTATION EXHIBITING ANY SEXUALLY-RELATED VERBAL OR NONVERBAL EXPRESSION OR GESTURE OF THE WOMAN AND HER CHILDREN WHICH MAY BE CONSTRUED AS LEWD, INDECENT OR OBSCENE;
 - "(3) UNAUTHORIZED RECORDING, REPRODUCTION, DISTRIBUTION, USE, SHARING OR UPLOADING OF ANY PHOTOGRAPH, VIDEO, OR ANY OTHER FORM OF ELECTRONIC OR ARTISTIC PRESENTATION DEPICTING ANY PURPORTED VIOLENT OR ERRANT BEHAVIOUR OF THE WOMAN AND HER CHILDREN, OR THE USE OF INTOXICATING OR PROHIBITED SUBSTANCES OR DRUGS;
 - "(4) ANY SIMILAR RECORDING, REPRODUCTION, DISTRIBUTION, USE, SHARING OR UPLOADING OF ANY AUDIO PRESENTATION AND DATA, INCLUDING SOUND CLIPS OF THE SAME NATURE AS THOSE ENUMERATED IN SUBSECTION (a) E. 1-3;
 - "(5) UNATHORIZED USE OF A PHOTOGRAPH, VIDEO, VOICE RECORDING, NAME OR ANY MARK, REFERENCE OR CHARACTER IDENTIFIABLE WITH A WOMAN AND HER CHILDREN AND SUGGESTIVE OF A WRONGDOING, CONDUCT OR ATTRIBUTE THAT TENDS TO BESMIRCH THE REPUTATION OF THE WOAMN AND HER CHILDREN;
 - "(6) HARASSING, INTIMIDATING, COERCING, THREATENING OR VILLIFYING THE WOMAN AND HER CHILDREN THROUGH TEXT MESSAGING OR OTHER CYBER, ELECTRONIC, OR MULTIMEDIA TECHNOLOGY;
 - "(7) STALKING, INCLUDING THE HACKING OF PERSONAL ACCOUNTS ON SOCIAL NETWORKING SITES AND THE USE OF LOCATION DATA FROM ELECTRONIC DEVICES;
 - "(8) FABRICATION OF FAKE INFORMATION OR NEWS THROUGH TEXT MESSAGING OR OTHER CYBER, ELECTRONIC, OR MULTIMEDIA TECHNOLOGY; AND
 - "(9) CREATION OF FAKE SOCIAL MEDIA ACCOUNTS USING AN ALIAS OR A DIFFERENT INDIVIDUAL'S PERSONAL INFORMATION WITH ILL INTENT AND MALICE, TO SOW INTRIGUE OR INFLICT HARM."

Section 3. Section 5 of Republic Act No. 9262 is hereby amended to read as follows: "SEC. 5. Acts of Violence Against women and Their Children. – xxx

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             "(a) xxx
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             "(b) xxx
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             "(c) xxx
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             "(d) xxx
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             "(e) xxx
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             "(f) xxx
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             "(g) xxx
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             "(h) xxx
             "(i) xxx
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98 "(1) xxx 99 "(2) xxx "(3) xxx 100 "(4) Destroying the property and personal belongings or inflicting harm to animals 101 or pets of the woman [or] AND her child; [and] 102 103 "(5) xxx 104 UNAUTHORIZED RECORDING, REPRODUCING OR 105 "(6) DISTRIBUTING OF VIDEOS WHICH ARE SHOWING THE WOMAN AND HER 106 CHILDREN'S NAKED OR IN THEIR UNDERGARMENT CLAD GENITALS, 107 PUBIC AREA, BUTTOCKS OR BREASTS; 108 "(7) SHARING WITHOUT THE CONSENT OF A WOMAN AND HER 109 CHILDREN, ANY MEDIA THAT CONTAIN PICTURES, VOICE RECORDING 110 OR VIDEO FO THE WOMAN AND HER CHILDREN WHICH MAY BE 111 CONSTRUED AS LEWD, INDECENT OR OF SEXUAL CONTENT; AND 112 "(8) USING THE PICTURE, VIDEO, VOICE NAME OR ANY OTHER 113 ASPECT OF THE IDENTITY OF A WOMAN AND HER CHILDREN WITHOUT 114 PERMISSION AND FOR MALICIOUS PURPOSES INCLUDING BUT NOT 115 LIMTED TO PORNOGRAPHY, AND OTHER VIOLATIONS STIPULATED IN 116 REPUBLIC ACT NO. 10175, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE "CYBER CRIME 117 PREVENTION ACT OF 2012". 118 119 "(i) xxx (J) INFLICTING ELECTRONIC VIOLENCE AGAINST A WOMAN AND 120 HER CHILDREN; AND 121 "(K) THREATENING TO CAUSE ELECTRONIC VIOLENCE AGAINST A 122 WOMAN AND HER CHILDREN." 123 124 Section 4. Section 6 of Republic Act No. 9262 is hereby amended to read as 125 126 follows: 127 "SEC. 6. Penalties. - xxx "(a) xxx 128 "(b) xxx 129 "(c) xxx 130 "(d) xxx 131 132 "(e) xxx "(f) xxx 133 "(G) ACTS FALLING UNDER SECTION 5(J) AND 5(K) SHALL BE 134 PUNISHED BY PRISION MAYOR. 135 "If the acts committed while the woman or child is pregnant or committed in the 136 presence of her child, the penalty to be applied shall be maximum period of penalty 137 138 prescribed in this section. "In addition to imprisonment, the perpetrator shall (a) pay a fine in the amount of 139 not less than [One] THREE hundred thousand pesos ([P100,000.00] P300,000.00) but not 140 more than [Three] FIVE hundred thousand pesos ([P300,000.00]P500,000.00) but 141 PROVIDED, THAT, IN CASES INVOLVING ELECTRONIC OR ICT-RELATED 142 VIOLENCE, THE FINE THAT MAY BE IMPOSED SHALL NOT BE LESS THAN 143 THREE HUNDRED THOUSAND PESOS (P300,000.00) BUT NOT MORE THAN 144 FIVE HUNDRED THSOUAND PESOS (P500,000.00); AND (b) undergo mandatory 145 psychological counseling or psychiatric treatment and shall report compliance to the court." 146 147 Section 5. Section 7 of Republic Act No. 9262 is hereby amended to read as 148 149 follows: "SEC. 7 Venue. - The Regional Trial Court designated as a Family Court shall have 150 original and exclusive jurisdiction over cases of violence against women and their children 151 under this law. In the absence of such court in the place where the offense was committed, 152 the case shall be filed in the Regional Trial Court where the crime or any of its elements 153 was committed at the option of the complainant. IN CASES OF ELECTRONIC OR

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ICT-RELATED VIOLENCE, THE CASE MAY BE FILED IN THE PLACE
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     WHERE THE COMPLAINANT RESIDED AT THE TIME THE WOMAN AND
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     HER CHILDREN LEARNED OF THE COMISSION OF THE OFFENSE."
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           Section 6. Section 8 of Republic Act No. 9262 is hereby amended to read as
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160
     follows:
           "SEC. 8. Protection Orders. - xxx
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           "(a) xxx
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           "(b) xxx
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           "(c) xxx
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           "(d) xxx
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           "(e) xxx
           "(f) xxx
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           "(g) xxx
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           "(h) xxx
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           "(i) xxx
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           "(j) xxx; [and]
           "(k) xxx [.]; AND
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           "(L) FOR E-VAWC CASES, ORDERING THE IMMEDIATE BLOCKING,
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     BLACKLISTING, REMOVAL, OR SHUTDOWN OF ANY UPLOAD, PROGRAM,
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     OR APPLICATION THAT CAUSES OR TENDS TO CAUSE VIOLENCE
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      AGAINST A WOMAN AND HER CHILDREN. FAILURE OF THE INTERNET
     SERVICE PROVIDERS TO COOPERATE WITH LAW ENFORCEMENT
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     AGENICES CONSTITUTES THE CRIME OF OBSTRUCTION OF JUSTICE.
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     THE DUTIES OF THE INTERNET SERVICE PROVIDERS AS PROVIDED FOR
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      UNDER SECTION 9 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9775, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS
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     THE 'ANTI-CHILD PORNOGRAPHY ACT OF 2009' SHALL BE APPLICABLE.
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           "xxx"
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           Section 7. Section 24 of Republic Act No. 9262 is hereby amended to read as
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      follows:
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           "SEC. 24. Prescriptive Period. - Acts falling under Sections 5(a) to 5(f) shall
     prescribe in twenty (20) years. Acts falling under Section 5(g) to 5(i) shall prescribe in ten
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                 ACTS FALLING UNDER SECTION 5(J) AND 5(K) SHALL
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      PRESCRIBE IN FIFTEEN (15) YEARS."
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           Section 8. Section 39 of Republic Act No. 9262 is hereby amended to read as
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            "SEC. 39. Inter-Agency Council on Violence Against Women and Their Children
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      (IAC-VAWC.)- xxx
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           "(a) xxx
           "(b) [National Commission on the Role of Filipino Women (NCRFW)]
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      PHILIPPINE COMMISSION ON WOMEN (PCW);
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           "(c) xxx
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           "(d) xxx
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           "(e) xxx
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           "(f) xxx
            "(g) xxx
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           "(h) xxx
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            "(i) xxx
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           "(j) xxx
            "(k) xxx; and
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            "(1) xxx[.];
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            "(M) MOVIE AND TELEVISION REVIEW AND CLASSIFICATION
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      BOARD (MTRCB);
            "(N) DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DOST);
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            "(O) NATIONAL TELCOMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION (NTC);
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212 "(P) DEPARTMENT OF INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION 213 TECHNOLOGY (DICT);

"(Q) DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS (DFA);

"(R) COMMISSION ON FILIPINOS OVERSEAS (CFO); AND

"(S) TWO (2) REPRESENTATIVES FROM CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANIZATIONS (CSOs) WITH PROVEN TRACK RECORD OF INVOLVEMENT IN THE PREVENTION AND ELIMINATION OF VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND THEIR CHILDREN (VAWC) WHO SHALL BE CHOSEN BY THE GOVERNMENT AGENCY REPRESENTATIVE OF THE COUNCIL TO SERVE A TERM OF THREE (3) YEARS.

"xxx."

Section 9. Section 40 of Republic Act No. 9262 is hereby amended to read as follows:

"SEC. 40. Mandatory Programs and Services for [Victims] WOMEN AND THEIR CHILDREN. - The DSWD, and LGUs shall provide the [victims] WOMEN AND THEIR CHILDREN temporary shelters, provide counseling, psycho-social services and/or[.] recovery, rehabilitation programs, and livelihood assistance.

"The DOH shall provide medical assistance to [victims] **WOMEN AND THEIR** CHILDREN.

"THE DSWD, LGUS AND DOH SHALL ENSURE THAT ALL RECORDS OF A WOMAN AND HER CHILDREN OBTAINED IN CONNECTION WITH THE PROVISIONING OF SUCH SERVICES BY THE AGENCIES SHALL BE HELD CONFIDENTIAL UNLESS THERE IS A COURT ORDER AUTHORIZING THE RELEASE OF ANY INFORMATION OR DATA.

"THE DOJ SHALL ESTABLISH AND ADMINISTER AN IDENTITY AND LOCATION CONFIDENTIALITY PROGRAM TO BE REFERRED TO AS THE 'PROGRAM', WHICH SHALL ENSURE THE PROTECTION AND SAFETY OF WOMEN AND THEIR CHILDREN BY PROVIDING THEM WITH A SUBSTITUTE ADDRESS TO BE USED WHEN INTERACTING WITH GOVERNMENT AGENCIES AND A NEW MAILING ADDRESS TO KEEP THEIR ACTUAL WHEREABOUTS CONFIDENTIAL AND FREE FROM THE RISK OF DISCOVERY BY THIRD PARTIES. THE PROGRAM SHALL CATER TO WOMEN AND THEIR CHILDREN WHO INTEND TO ESTABLISH A NEW RESIDENCE OR THOSE WHO HAVE ALREADY RELOCATED TO ANOTHER PLACE UNKNOWN TO THEIR ASSAILANTS OR ABUSERS WHO MAY USE PUBLIC RECORDS TO FIND THEM.

" IN THIS REGARD, THE APPLICATION FOR INCLUSION IN THE PROGRAM AS WELL AS OTHER SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS SUBMITTED BY WOMEN AND THEIR CHILDREN SHALL NOT BE CONSIDERED AS PUBLIC REOCRD AND SHALL BE KEPT CONFIDENTIAL BY THE DOJ AND SHALL ONLY BE RELEASED UPON THE ORDER OF THE COURT.

"ANY OFFICIAL OR EMPLOYEE WHO WILLFULLY BREACHES THE CONFIDENTIALLY OF THESE RECORDS OR WILLFULLY DISCLOSES THE NAME, RESIDENTIAL OR MAILING ADDRESS OF A WOMAN AND HER CHILDREN IN VIOLATION OF THIS PROVISION, SHALL SUFFER THE PENALTY OF ONE (1) YEAR IMPRISONMENT AND A FINE OF NOT LESS THAN THREE HUNDRED THOUSAND PESOS (P300,000.00) BUT NOT MORE THAN FIVE HUNDRED THOUSAND PESOS (P500,000.00)."

Section 10. Section 43 of Republic Act NO. 9262 is hereby amended to read as follows:

"SEC. 43. [Entitlement to Leave. – Victims under this Act shall be entitled to take a paid leave of absence up to ten (10) days in addition to the paid leaves under the Labor Code and Civil Service Rules and Regulations extendible when the necessity arises as specified in the protection order.

"Any employer who shall prejudice the right of the person under this section shall be penalized in accordance with the provisions of the Labor code and the Civil Service Rules and Regulations. Likewise, and employer who shall prejudice any person for assisting a co-employee who is a victim under this Act shall likewise be liable for discrimination.] TEN (10)-DAY PAID LEAVE IN ADDITION TO OTHER LEAVE BENEFITS. - DURING THE APPLICATION OF ANY PROTECTION ORDER, INVESTIGATION, PROSECUTION, AND/OR TRIAL OF THE CRIMINAL CASE, A VICTIM OF E-VAWC WHO IS EMPLOYED SHALL BE ENTITLED TO PAID LEAVE OF UP TO TEN (10) DAYS IN ADDITION TO OTHER PAID LEAVES UNDER THE LABOR CODE, CIVIL SERVICE RULES AND REGULATIONS AND OTHER EXISTING LAWS AND COMPANY POLICIES, EXTENDIBLE WHEN THE NECESSITY ARISES AS SPECIFIED IN THE THE PUNONG BARANGAY/KAGAWAD, PNP PROTECTION ORDER. WOMEN'S AND CHILDREN'S DESKS OR PROSECUTOR OR THE CLERK OF COURT, PHSYICIANS, SOCIAL WORKERS, AND LICENSED COUNSELORS AS THE CASE MAY BE, SHALL ISSUE A CERTIFICATION, AT NO COST TO THE WOMAN, THAT SUCH IS PENDING UNDER THEIR JURISDICTION. THIS CERTIFICATION SHALL BE THE ONLY REQUIREMENT FOR THE EMPLOYER TO GRANT THE TEN (10)-DAY PAID LEAVE APPLICATION. IN GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES, ADDITION TO AFOREMENTIONED CERTIFICATION, THE EMPLOYEE CONCERNED MUST FILE AN APPLICATION FOR LEAVE, CITING THIS ACT. ADMINSTRATIVE ENFORCEMENT OF THIS SHALL BE CONSIDERED WITHIN THE JURISDICTION OF THE REGIONAL DIRECTOR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT (DOLE) UNDER ARTICLE 129 OF THE LABOR CODE OF THE PHILIPPINES, AS AMENDED, FOR EMPLOYEES IN THE PRIVATE SECTOR, AND THE CIVIL SERVICE COMMSSION (CSC), FOR GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES.

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322 323 "THE AVAILMENT OF THE TEN (10)-DAY LEAVE OF ABSENCE SHALL BE AT THE OPTION OF THE WOMAN EMPLOYEE, AND IT SHALL COVER THE DAYS THAT SHE HAS TO ATTEND TO MEDICAL, LEGAL AND OTHER VALID CONCERNS RELATED TO THE PENDING CASE. LEAVES NOT AVAILED ARE NONCUMULATIVE AND NOT COVERTIBLETO CASH.

"THE IMMEDIATE SUPERIOR OF THE PERSON APPLYING FOR A TEN (10) DAY PAID LEAVE MUST APPROVE THE APPLICATION ON THE SAME OF APPLICATION. IF THE IMMEDIATE SUPERIOR IS UNAVAILABLE TO ACT ON THE APPLICATION SHALL BE ACTED UPON BY ANY AVAILABLE SENIOR OFFICIAL OF THE PRIVATE COMPANY OR GOVERNMENT AGENCY.

"ALL PRIVATE COMPANIES AND GOVERNMENT AGENCIES SHALL RECORD ALL APPLICATIONS FOR LEAVE IN A LOGBOOK SPECIFICALLY FOR CASES OF VAWC. THEY SHALL SUBMIT A QUARTERLY REPORT ON ALL APPLICATION FILED TO THE REGIONAL DIRECTOR OF THE DOLE FOR EMPLOYEES OF THE PRIVATE SECTOR, AND THE CSC, FOR GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES.

"FAILURE TO ACT ON AN APPLICATION FOR A TEN (10)-DAY PAID LEAVE OF ABSENCE WITHIN THE GIVEN PERIOD WITHOUT JUSTIFIABLE CAUSE SHALL RENDER THE IMMEDIATE SUPERIOR OR SENIOR OFFICIAL ADMINISTRATIVELY LIABLE, AND THE PENALTY OF SUSPENSION FOR FIFTEEN (15) DAYS SHALL BE IMPOSED UPON THE OFFICIAL. AN ADMINISTRATIVE COMPLAINT AGAINST THE IMMEDIATE SUPERIOR OR SENIOR OFFICIAL FOR FAILURE TO PERFORM ONE'S DUTIES CAN BE FILED BY A VICTIM-SURVIVOR WITH THE REGIONAL DIRECTOR OF THE DOLE FOR EMPLOYEES OF THE PRIVATE SECTOR, AND THE CSC, FOR GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES, FOR GROSS NEGLECT OF DUTY OR MALFEASANCE.

324	"THE IMMEDIATE SUPERIOR OR SENIOR OFFICIAL WHO DENIES
325	THE APPLICATION FOR LEAVE, AND WHO SHALL PREJUDICE THE
326	VICTIM-SURVIVOR OR ANY PERSON FOR ASSISTING A CO-EMPLOYEE
327	WHO IS A VICTIM-SURVIVOR UNDER THIS ACT SHALL BE LIABLE FOR A
328	FINE NOT EXCEEDING TEN THOUSAND PESOS (P10,000.00) AND
329	SUSPENSION FOR THIRTY (30) DAYS FOR DISCRIMINATION AND
330	VIOLATION OF THIS ACT.
331	"ANY SENIOR OFFICIAL, INCLUDING THE HEAD OF THE AGENCY,
332	WHO HAS KNOWLEDGE OF, BUT FAILS TO ACT ON, OR HAS IN ANY WAY
333	INFLUENCED THE DENIAL OF THE IMMEDIATE SUPERIOR TO GRANT
221	LEAVE TO A VICTIM-SUDVIVOR SHALL RE HELD ADMINSTRATIVELY

LIABLE AND SHALL BE SUSPENDED FOR FIFTEEN (15) DAYS."

Section 11. Separability Clause. - If any portion or provision of this Act is held unconstitutional or invalid, the remaining portions or provisions shall not be affected.

Section 12. Repealing Clause. – All laws, decrees, executive orders and rules and regulations, or parts thereof, inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

Section 13. Effectivity.- This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication after its publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,