Republic of the Philippines **HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

Ouezon City

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS

First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL No. 2697



Introduced by: REPRESENTATIVE MARISOL C. PANOTES

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Republic Act No. 10627 otherwise known as the "Anti-Bullying Act of 2013" effectively addressed the growing clamour of parents then to put a stop to numerous cases of students bullying another.

It is sad to note however, that there are also cases when teachers and non-teaching personnel have fallen victims to bullying, ironically, by students. Our teachers may be a victim of bullying in many ways, like disruptive classroom behaviour in which students seize power in class and use it to distress a teacher. Another types of bullying are vandalism, causing flat tires, theft of teacher's property, as well as verbal abuse, etc. While teacher bullying of students may pass for school discipline, teachers being bullied by students have no proper avenue to turn to in order to seek redress.

This bill therefore seeks to expand the definition of the "Acts of Bullying" under the law to include bullying made by students to teachers and non-teaching personnel in order to accord them with proper grievance mechanism where they can properly air their grievances or seek redress in case of hostile circumstances.

The foregoing reasons warrant the approval of this bill.

MARISOL C. PANOTES

Representative Second District, Camarines Norte

Republic of the Philippines HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Quezon City

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HOUSE BILL No. 2697

Introduced by: REPRESENTATIVE MARISOL C. PANOTES

AN ACT

EXPANDING THE DEFINITION OF THE "ACTS OF BULLYING" TO INCLUDE BULLYING COMMITTED BY STUDENTS AGAINST TEACHERS OR NON-TEACHING PERSONNEL, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 10627 OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE "ANTI-BULLYING ACT OF 2013"

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

SECTION 1. Sections 2 and 3 (d) of Republic Act No. 10627 otherwise known as the "Anti-Bullying Act of 2013" are hereby amended to read as follows:

"Section 2. – For purposes of this Act, "bullying" shall refer to any severe or repeated use by one or more students of a written, verbal or electronic expression, or a physical act or gesture, or any combination thereof, directed at another student OR TEACHER OR NON-TEACHING PERSONNEL that has the effect of actually causing or placing the latter in reasonable fear of physical or emotional harm or damage to his property; creating a hostile environment at school for the other student; infringing on the rights of the other student at school; or materially and substantially disrupting the education process or the orderly operation of a school; such as, but not limited to, the following:

xxx xxx xxx"

"Section 3. Adoption of Anti-Bullying Policies. - xxx xxx

(a) Prohibit the following acts:

XXX XXX XXX

(d) Enable students OR TEACHER OR NON-TEACHING PERSONNEL to anonymously report bullying or retaliation: *Provided, however,* That no disciplinary administrative action shall be taken against a perpetrator solely on the basis of an anonymous report;

XXX XXX XXX"

- **SEC. 2.** All laws, decrees, executive orders, and rules and regulations which are inconsistent with this Act are hereby amended, repealed or modified accordingly.
- **SEC. 3.** This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,