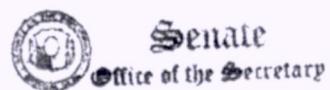


**EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
First Regular Session**



19 SEP 17 P 4:05

**SENATE
S. No. 1056**

RECEIVED BY: J

INTRODUCED BY SENATOR RISA HONTIVEROS

**AN ACT PROVIDING FOR A COMPREHENSIVE AND RESPONSIVE CIVIL
REGISTRATION AND VITAL STATISTICS SYSTEM, PROVIDING FUNDS
THEREOF, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

A 2014 case study of the Philippines' current Civil Registration and Vital Statistics System (CRVS) revealed that there are approximately 7.5 million Filipinos whose births are still not registered. The majority of those unregistered belong to some of the most vulnerable sectors of our society, namely: indigenous and Muslim population groups.¹ The lack of a formal civil registration of a person endangers their safety, nationality, and citizenship.

Civil registration documents, such as a child's birth certificate, establish a person's legal identity and therefore becomes a vital source of information for the country's legislators, policy makers, and implementing agencies. Civil registration documents and vital statistics provide a picture of the country that will be used to rationalize, create, implement, and direct government efforts to improve the well-being of Filipinos. As such, the existence of a highly-developed CRVS is an important national resource and therefore invaluable in facilitating public delivery service among citizens.

The importance of CVRS cannot be understated: the lack of official documents of a child means that their existence is not recognized by the State and could be the reason to be denied access from essential public services like health, education, and social services. To protect children from these circumstances, Article 7 of the Convention on the Rights of the Child states that: "The child shall be registered immediately after birth and shall have the right from birth to a name, the right to acquire a nationality, and, as far as possible, the right to know and be cared for by his or her parents."

This proposed measure addresses the current gaps in our CRVS and seeks to establish a comprehensive and responsive CRVS. In view of the foregoing, the immediate passage of this bill is earnestly sought.

Risa Hontiveros
RISA HONTIVEROS

Senator

¹ https://www.getinthepicture.org/sites/default/files/resources/phl_crvs_case_study_2014.pdf

SENATE

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AN ACT PROVIDING FOR A COMPREHENSIVE AND RESPONSIVE CIVIL REGISTRATION AND VITAL STATISTICS SYSTEM, PROVIDING FUNDS THEREOF, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

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

1 **Sec. 1. Short Title.** This Act shall be known as the "Comprehensive and
2 Responsive Civil Registration and Vital Statistics Act".
3

4 **Sec. 2. Declaration of Policy** – The State shall promote and maintain an
5 efficient, responsive, inclusive, and accessible civil registration and vital statistics
6 system. Towards this end, standardization and modernization of registration
7 procedures is necessary to establish the identity of an individual for
8 administrative and legal purposes. Moreover, efficient and simplified procedures
9 in recording vital events must be applied in civil registration in order to establish
10 the most precise identity of an individual for the benefit of the general public.
11

12 The State declares the registration of all births, deaths, and marriages
13 without discrimination as a national State policy.
14

15 The state seeks to harmonize this policy with national frameworks on civil
16 registration on the principle of inclusivity, accessibility and cultural-sensitivity,
17 covering the Code of Muslim Personal Laws (PD 1083), recognizing children born
18 to parents below the marrying age and out of wedlock (RA 9858) and allowing
19 illegitimate children to use the surname of their father (RA 9255). The national
20 state policy envisions to build an efficient civil registry system, comprising the
21 rectification of errors in terms of name, birthdate, sex without the need of
22 judicial order (RA 1072) , ease in declaring a child legally-available for adoption
23 (RA 9523) and registering children in cases of rectified birth simulation (RA
24 11222). The State concedes through the Philippine Development Plan 2017-2022
25 in promoting the welfare and rights of children, by reducing their vulnerability.
26

27 In the implementation of the policy stated above, the State, in enacting
28 this Civil Registration and Vital Statistics Act, institutionalizes and hereby
29 maintains a legal framework related to the Civil Registration and Vital Statistics
30 (CRVS), ensuring a system that provides equal access that is affordable,
31 available, and that provides protection of the rights of all citizens, especially
32 children. Such system is also ensuring the gathering of statistics and easier
33 retrieval and recording of statistics.
34

1 The enactment of this policy, reaffirms the commitment of the State to
2 the international standards and recommendations, according to the principles of
3 the universal human right to be recognized as a person before the law (UDHR
4 Art.VI), to children's right to nationality, registration after birth (UN CRC Art.
5 VII), the right to identity (UN CRC Art. VIII), the right to be protected from
6 discrimination based on race, sex, color, language, religion, national or social
7 origins (ICCPR Art. XXIV), the right to nationality of persons with disabilities
8 (CRPD Art. XVIII) , the right of adolescents to birth registration (UNCRC GC 20,
9 Art.VIII), the right of children in street situations to be proactively supported to
10 obtain legal identity documents and the right of all children at all ages to free,
11 accessible, simple and expeditious birth registration (UN CRC GC 21, Art. XV),
12 the right of all Filipino migrant workers to be recognized as a person of the law
13 (ICMW, Art. XXIV) on CRVS, and to steadfastly adhere to the Regional Plan of
14 Action on the Elimination of Violence Against Children (RPA-EVAC) in the ASEAN
15 region.

16
17 The State shall endeavor to facilitate the realization of the people's rights
18 and support good governance, health and development through the
19 universal and responsive CRVS system. In this light, the State shall work
20 towards reaching the following goals from the UN Convention on the
21 Rights of the Child and the Declaration of Civil Registration in Southeast
22 Asia:

23
24 Goal 1: Universal civil registration of all births, deaths, marriages, and
25 other vital events based on accurate data;

26
27 Goal 2. Entitlement of all individuals to legal documentation of civil
28 registration of their births, deaths, marriages and other vital events, as
29 necessary, to claim identity, civil status and ensuing rights;

30
31 Goal 3: Production and dissemination of accurate, complete and timely
32 vital statistics (including the cause of death) are produced based on
33 registration records.

34
35 Goal 4: Free, accessible, simple, and free expeditious birth registration is
36 provided to all children at all ages.

37
38 Goal 5: The civil registration documents are used as main tools for child
39 protection in relation to education, health, and other social services,
40 justice, inheritance, and family reunification.

41
42 **Sec. 3. Coverage.** This law shall embrace all acts, events, and judicial and
43 administrative issuances affecting the civil status and vital statistics of persons in
44 the Philippines and all Filipino citizens abroad, including all children with at least
45 one Filipino parent.

46
47 **Sec. 4. Definition of Terms.** As used in this Act, the following terms are
48 defined as follows:

49
50 a) **Barangay Civil Registration System (BCRS)** – refers to a scheme to
51 facilitate extensive civil registration at the barangay level involving all
52 barangay officials assisting the Local Civil Registrars (LCR) in civil
53 registration work, as provided in Section 394 (d) (5) RA 7160, otherwise
54 known as the Local Government Code of the Philippines;

- 1
- 2 b) **Birth Attendant** – refer exclusively to persons with midwifery skills such
3 as licensed doctors, midwives, and nurses who have been trained to
4 proficiency in the skills necessary to manage normal deliveries and
5 diagnose, manage, or refer obstetric complications;
- 6
- 7 c) **Child** - any person below 18 years of age or older who is unable to fully
8 take care of himself/herself from abuse, neglect, cruelty, exploitation or
9 discrimination because of a physical or mental disability or condition;
- 10
- 11 d) **Children in Need of Special Protection (CNSP)** - shall refer to all
12 persons below 18 years of age, or those 18 years old and over but are
13 unable to take care of themselves because of physical or mental disability
14 condition; who are vulnerable to or are victims of abuse, neglect,
15 exploitation, cruelty, discrimination and violence (armed conflict, domestic
16 violence and other analogous conditions prejudicial to their development)
- 17
- 18 e) **Circuit Registrar** – refers to the Clerk of Court of a Shari'a Circuit Court
19 performing as Circuit Registrar of Muslim marriages, divorces, revocations
20 of divorces, and conversions with the respective court's jurisdiction, as
21 provided in Title VI, Book Two of Presidential Decree No. 1083 otherwise
22 known as the Code of Muslim Personal Laws;
- 23
- 24 f) **Civil Registration** – refers to the continuous, permanent, universal and
25 compulsory documentation of occurrences and characteristics of vital
26 events in the life of a person, including any modifications thereof during
27 his lifetime and until his death, as provided for by this Act;
- 28
- 29 g) **Civil Register** – refers to the various civil registry books and related
30 certificates and documents where registrable acts, events, and judicial and
31 administrative issuances concerning the civil status of a person are
32 recorded and kept in the archives of the Civil Registrar's Offices, Philippine
33 Consulate Offices, Shari'a District and Circuit Courts, and the Philippine
34 Statistics Authority (PSA);
- 35
- 36 h) **Civil Registrar (CR)** – refers to the head of the Local Civil Registry
37 Office (Civil Registrar's Office), the Consul General (CG) in the Philippine
38 Consulate Offices, or the Clerk of Court in Shari'a District and Circuit;
- 39
- 40 i) **Civil Registrar General (CRG)** – refers to the head of the PSA who is
41 also the National Statistician of the government of the Philippines;
- 42
- 43 j) **Consul General (CG)** – refers to the head of a Philippine Consulate
44 Office acting as Civil Registrar of all civil registry documents involving
45 Filipinos in a foreign country;
- 46
- 47 k) **Civil Registry Document** – refers to a certificate or any document
48 relating to the civil status of a person which is recorded and kept in the
49 archives of the Civil Registrar's Offices, Philippine Consulate Offices,
50 Shari'a District and Circuit courts and the PSA;
- 51
- 52
- 53

- 1 i) **District Recorder (DR)** – refers to the Clerk of Court of the Shari'a
2 District Court performing civil registration-related functions as District
3 Recorder of Muslim marriages, divorces, revocation of divorces, and
4 conversions with the respective court's territorial jurisdiction, as provided
5 in Title VI, Book Two of Presidential Decree No. 1083 otherwise known as
6 the Code of Muslim Personal Laws;
- 7 m) **Foundling** - any person who is abandoned and whose parentage is
8 unknown;
- 9
- 10 n) **Legal Instrument** – refers to any legal documents that would be
11 officially issued pursuant to this act;
- 12 o) **Live Birth** – refers to a complete expulsion or extraction from its mother
13 of a product/s of conception, irrespective of the duration of the
14 pregnancy, which after such separation, breathes or shows any other
15 evidence of life, such as beating of the heart, pulsation of the umbilical
16 cord, or definite movement of voluntary muscles, whether or not the
17 umbilical cord has been cut or the placenta is attached;
- 18 p) **Local Archive Authority (LAA)** – refers to the LCR or his authorized
19 official of the LCRO of each Local Government Unit who has the duty to
20 establish, keep and maintain the local archives, to include its mandatory
21 digitization of all civil registry documents for the herein provided Digital
22 Linkages and Interconnection of All Participating LRCOs.
- 23 q) **Local Civil Registrar (LCR)** – refers to the head of the CIVIL
24 REGISTRAR'S OFFICE;
- 25 r) **National Statistician** – the head of the PSA acting as the CRG for the
26 purpose of this Act;
- 27 s) **Out-of-Town Reporting** – occurs when the certificate of live birth or
28 death is presented to the civil registrar of a city or municipality which is
29 not the place of birth or death, not for registration but to be forwarded to
30 the civil registrar of the city or municipality where the birth or death
31 occurred and where it should be registered; and
- 32 t) **Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA)** – refers to the central statistics
33 authority of the Republic of the Philippines headed by the National
34 Statistician.

35 **Section 5. The Civil Registry System.** The Civil Registry System is composed
36 of the Civil Registrar General (CRG), the City/Municipal Civil Registrar and the
37 Barangay Civil Registration System. The Civil Registry System issues registry
38 instruments, recommends and executes policies related to the civil registration of
39 vital events, from the national and local civil registry structures of the State.

40 **Sec. 6. Duties and Function of the Civil Registrar General (CRG).** - The
41 Office of the Civil Registrar General shall have the following duties and functions:

- 42 (a) Policy-making Functions.

1 (1) The CRG has the following policy-making functions and responsibilities
2 on the Civil Registry System.

3 (2) Prepare and promulgate the implementing rules and regulations
4 pertaining to civil registration laws and all subsequent issuances
5 relative thereto, in close collaboration with the DILG and the PACR;
6 and

7 (3) Issue circulars and memoranda pertaining to civil registration
8 enhancements as part of the functions of the OCRG;

9 (b) Provision of Technical Support to Local Civil Registry Offices.

10 (1) Provide exercise technical supervision over the City/Municipal Civil
11 Registrar (C/MCRs) and other Local Civil Registry Officers; and

12 (2) provide ways and means to assist Civil Registrars for the
13 reconstruction of Local Archives as the need arises.

14 (c) National Civil Registry Depository.

15 (1) Act as the national central depository of all civil registry documents
16 submitted to the OCRG for archiving from all civil registry offices of
17 the Philippines, for back up database and statistical analysis purposes
18 only.

19 **Sec. 7. Duties of the City/Municipal Civil Registrar.** - The appointment of
20 C/MCRs shall be mandatory for city and municipal governments. The C/MCR shall
21 be have the following duties and functions:

22 (a) Primary Authority in Local Civil Registration. The C/MCR is responsible for
23 the civil registration programs in the local government unit concerned,
24 pursuant to this Act, other existing laws, rules and regulations. This
25 includes the following responsibilities:

26 (1) Administer oaths, free of charge, for civil registry purposes;

27 (2) Exercise quasi-judicial functions in cases of clerical or typographical
28 errors and change of first name or nickname, the day and month in
29 the date of birth or sex of a person where it is patently clear that
30 there was a clerical or typographical error or mistake in the entry, or
31 the petitioner for the change of first name or nickname finds the first
32 name or nickname to be ridiculous, tainted with dishonor or extremely
33 difficult to write or pronounce, has been habitually and continuously
34 used by the petitioner and has been publicly known by that first name
35 in the community or the change will avoid the confusion as provided
36 for under existing laws.; and

37 (3) Submit status reports to the CRG on the condition of civil registry
38 documents filed his/her civil registry office whenever there are
39 substantial changes in the status of his files, in case of fire, flood,
40 earthquake and other natural and or manmade calamities.

41 (b) Issuance and Organization of Local Civil Registry Documents. As much as
42 practicable, assist in the preparation, accept and register all registrable

1 events and documents occurring within his or her jurisdiction affecting the
2 civil status of persons. This function entails the following:

- 3
- 4 (1) Make civil registry forms available at all times in the civil registry
5 office;
- 6
- 7 (2) File registrable certificates and documents presented to him or her for
8 entry;
- 9
- 10 (3) Issue certified transcripts or copies of any certificate or document
11 registered, upon payment of the prescribed fees;
- 12
- 13 (4) Compile copies of every document registered and transmit to CRG
14 within the first ten (10) calendar days of the succeeding month;
- 15
- 16 (5) Receive all registrable documents and transcribe in the corresponding
17 civil register all documents accepted for registration; and
- 18
- 19 (6) Receive applications for the issuance of a marriage license and after
20 determining that the requirements and supporting certificates and
21 publication thereof for the prescribed period have been complied with,
22 shall issue the license upon payment of the authorized fee for the
23 local treasurer.
- 24
- 25

26 (c) Depository of Local Registry. The C/MR shall have the following duties and
27 functions in securing the local registry:

- 28
- 29 (1) File, keep and preserve in a secured place the civil registry books as
30 required by law;
- 31
- 32 (2) Reconstruct destroyed civil registry records upon compliance with the
33 requirements following the procedures established by the CRG; and
- 34
- 35 i. (3) Classify, digitize, index and preserve all registered documents in
36 accordance
37 ii. with the appropriate archiving procedures.

38

39

40 (d) Executory and Planning Functions. The C/MCR shall develop plans and
41 strategies and upon approval thereof by the mayor, implement the same,
42 particularly those which pertains to civil registry programs and projects.

43

44 (e) Provide Civil Registry Education and Technical Support. Conduct
45 community education campaigns on vital registration and assist in the
46 preparation of demographic and other statistics for the local government
47 unit concerned, in particular the Barangay Civil Registration System;

48

49 (f) Recommendatory functions aiding policies on Local Civil Registration.
50 Recommend to the legislative bodies and collaborate with administrative
51 agencies in the formulation of systems, procedures, policies, rules and
52 regulations on civil registration

1 **Sec. 8. Barangay Civil Registration System (BCRS).** There shall be a
2 Barangay Civil Registration System established where elected and appointed
3 barangay officials shall be mandated to assist in the facilitation of civil
4 registration within their area or jurisdiction subject to the provision of this Act.

- 5 a. Structure and Composition. The Barangay Civil Registration System is
6 composed of the Barangay Captain, the Barangay Secretary and the
7 Barangay Civil Registration Assistant.

8 The Barangay Captain shall submit the names of the Barangay Secretary
9 as Ex-Officio Barangay Civil Registration Officer (BCRO) and other
10 deputized barangay officials as Barangay Civil Registration Assistant
11 (BCRA). The BRCA shall assist in the registration of all vital events of
12 every individual within the area of jurisdiction to the Local Civil
13 Registrar's Office.

- 14 b. Mandatory Continuing Education and Training Program for the BCRS.
15 Pursuant to Sec 13. of this policy, members of the Barangay Civil
16 Registration System are required to have regular, updated, culturally
17 sensitive education system.

- 18 c. Relationship to National and Local Civil Registry Systems.

19 i. The Civil Registrar General (CRG) shall adopt a method in order to
20 establish a systematic procedure of recording in the barangay level
21 enabling civil registration procedure a universal right of every Filipino.

22 ii. The Local Civil Registrar's Office shall engage the barangays to support
23 in the implementation of the law, including the provision of fiscal and
24 budgetary support.

25 iii. Proper networking and interconnectedness between the Local Civil
26 Registrar's Office and the barangay shall be ensured in order to attain
27 mandatory civil registration of all born Filipinos. The PSA, LGUs, a
28 national professional organization of local civil registrars duly registered
29 with the Securities and Exchange Commission, and other accredited
30 government or private institutions shall conduct regular trainings and
31 capacity building programs to upgrade the knowledge and skills in civil
32 registration functions of all partners in the Barangay.

33 **Sec. 9. Culturally-Sensitive Registration System** – In collaboration with
34 the National Commission for Indigenous Peoples (NCIP), National Commission on
35 Muslim Filipinos (NCMF), Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao
36 (BARMM), Philippine Association of Civil Registrars, National Commission on
37 Culture and Arts (NCCA), and distinguished anthropologists and selected elders
38 and leaders of IPs shall establish an Indigenous Peoples Civil Registration System
39 (IPCRS) that is sensitive and appropriate to the unique cultural practices and
40 identification systems of IPs: Provided, that the IPCRS shall be harmonized with
41 existing laws and systems on civil registry.

42 In recording the birth of IPs delivered in the traditional customs and
43 practices of the indigenous community, the report as to the circumstances of the
44 birth by any of the parents or by the tribal doctor or tribal midwife who attended

1 to the delivery shall be conclusive upon the Local Civil Registrar (without need
2 for further proof) and PSA.

3
4 The IPCRS shall take into account the various ethnic affiliations of the IPs
5 in the country. For this purpose, the PSA Administrator, acting as the Civil
6 Registrar General, instead of issuing separate forms for the IPCRS, shall cause
7 the amendment of the existing civil registry forms, for uniformity of all civil
8 registry documents to ensure acceptability by end-user agencies or institutions of
9 the facts and information contained in said documents and ease of establishing
10 filial bonds between or among parents or parents and child.

11
12 In the absence of any identifying document, the self-ascription or
13 ascription by any of the parents or tribal leader or elder shall suffice to establish
14 the identity of IPs when applying with the LCR/PSA for recording birth, marriage
15 or death.

16
17 **Sec. 10. Registration of Muslim Filipinos, Indigenous Cultural**
18 **Communities (ICCs) or Indigenous Peoples (IPs) and Children in Need**
19 **of Special Protection (CNSP).** - Muslim Filipinos, ICCs or IPS and CNSP, by
20 reason of their socio-cultural, religious, and indigenous peculiarities, and
21 vulnerabilities, shall be registered as follows:

- 22
23 a) Muslim Filipinos – civil registration of Muslim Filipinos shall be governed by
24 PD 1083, EO 157, and its implementing rules and regulations.
25
26 b) Indigenous Peoples – civil registration of indigenous cultural communities
27 or indigenous peoples shall be governed by RA No. 8371 and its
28 implementing rules and regulations.
29
30 c) CNSP – Civil registration of Children in Need of Special Protection shall be
31 governed by the provisions of this act, special laws, and implementing
32 rules and regulations, in coordination with the Department of Social
33 Welfare and Development and other concerned agencies.

34
35 **Sec. 11. Civil Registry Books.** The Civil Registrar shall keep, update as
36 mandated by law, and preserve the following books in their offices:

- 37
38 a) Register of births – the records of birth in the civil registry;
39
40 b) Register of births of person without known parents- the records of
41 abandoned in the civil register;
42
43 c) Register of Deaths – the record of death of a deceased in the civil
44 register;
45
46 d) Register of Marriages – the records of solemnized marriage in the civil
47 register;
48
49 e) Register of Court Decrees or Orders – the records of court decree or order
50 concerning the status of a person in the civil register;
51
52 f) Register of Legal Instruments – the records of legal instruments executed
53 affecting the vital events of a person in the civil register;

- 1 g) Register of Applications for Marriage License – the records of application
2 of marriage license in the civil register;
- 3 h) Register of Conversion to Islam – the records of conversion to Islam
4 religion of a person in the civil register;
- 5 i) Register of Muslim Filipino Marriages – the records of marriage of a
6 Muslim Filipino in the civil register;
- 7 j) Register of Muslim Filipino Divorces – the records of divorce of a Muslim
8 Filipino in the civil register;
- 9 k) Register of Indigenous Cultural Communities/Indigenous Peoples
10 (ICCs/IPs) Marriage Dissolutions – the records of ICCs/IPs dissolution of
11 marriage in the civil register; and Register of ICCs/IPs Revocation of
12 Marriage Dissolutions – the records of ICCs/IPs revocation of marriage
13 dissolutions.

14 **Sec. 12. Registrable Acts and Events.** The following are the Registrable Acts
15 and Events:

- 16 1. Birth;
17 2. Death;
18 3. Application for Marriage License;
19 4. Marriage;
20 5. Court Orders or Decrees; and
21 6. Legal Instruments;

22 The Registrable Orders or Decrees of Courts and other competent authorities are
23 the following:

- 24 1. Adoption;
25 2. Rescission of Adoption;
26 3. Annulment of Marriage;
27 4. Declaration of Nullity of Marriage;
28 5. Declaration of Presumptive Death;
29 6. Compulsory Recognition of Illegitimate Child;
30 7. Voluntary Recognition of Minor Illegitimate Child;
31 8. Appointment of Guardian;
32 9. Termination of Guardianship;
33 10. Judicial Determination of Filiation;
34 11. Naturalization-All forms of naturalization;
35 12. Cancellation of Naturalization;
36 13. Judicial Determination of the Fact of Reappearance, if Disputed;
37 14. Separation of Property;
38 15. Revival of Former Property Regime;
39 16. Foreign Court Orders Decided Abroad; and
40 17. Other orders/decrees that pertain to the civil status and vital statistics
41 of a person.

42 The civil registrar shall properly enter the registrable events and court
43 orders or decrees.

1 **Sec. 13. Free Registration of Vital Civil Registry Events.** - The registration
2 of births, deaths and marriage are hereby declared a national policy. Therefore,
3 no fees shall be imposed and collected in the registration of these events,
4 whether or not these are registered on time. All supporting documents as
5 prerequisite to birth registration shall also be free.
6

7 The first copies of civil registration certificates shall be free. For issuance
8 of succeeding copies of civil registry documents, a minimal fee prescribed by the
9 CRG may be collected.
10

11 For registration of registrable judicial and administrative issuances or
12 orders, and legal instruments, a standard fee shall be collected.
13

14 **Sec. 14. Registration and Certification of Birth.** The declaration of the
15 physician, midwife, nurse, birth attendant, finder or in default thereof, the
16 declaration of either or both parents or any person who has knowledge of the
17 facts of birth of the newborn child shall be sufficient for the registration of birth
18 in the civil register.
19

20 The duly accomplished Certificate of Live Birth containing the above
21 declaration shall be submitted for registration to the CIVIL REGISTRAR'S OFFICE
22 where the birth occurred within thirty (30) calendar days from date of birth by
23 the aforementioned persons, declaring the following when available:
24

- 25 a.) Full name of the child;
- 26 b.) Sex;
- 27 c.) Date of birth;
- 28 d.) Place of birth or where found;
- 29 e.) Name of mother;
- 30 f.) Citizenship of the mother;
- 31 g.) Name of father;
- 32 h.) Citizenship of the father;
- 33 i.) Date and place of marriage of parents; and
- 34 j.) Such other data as may be identified in the implementing rules and
35 regulations of this Act.

36
37
38 Birth and other civil registry records of persons when any or some of the
39 following information is absent/missing: the usual middle initial or middle name,
40 citizenship if stateless, names of parents if unknown, date of marriage if
41 inapplicable, or when an individual has only one birth name or any analogous
42 circumstances, shall have equal acceptability and respect before all government,
43 public, private, commercial, and business transactions where these documents
44 are presented. All regulatory bodies such as, but not limited to the Securities and
45 Exchange Commission, Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas, shall adhere to this law and
46 adopt the necessary rules and regulations to implement this act.
47

1 The fetus is considered born if it is alive at the time it is completely
2 delivered from the mother's womb shall be considered as live birth and shall be
3 registered in the Register of Births.

4
5 The fetus is not deemed born if it dies within twenty-four (24) hours after
6 its delivery from the mother's womb. But for statistical purposes, a COLB shall be
7 prepared in duplicate, where in a copy shall be forwarded to the Office of the
8 Civil Registrar-General and the other for Civil Registrar's file.

9
10 All cases of birth on board a vessel or airplane en route to the Philippines
11 shall be recorded in the civil register of the city or municipality where the mother
12 habitually resides if either of the parent is a citizen of the Philippines or both are.
13 When the parents are both foreigners but not residents of the Philippines, the
14 birth may be recorded in any civil registry office in the Philippines, if they so
15 desire.

16
17 Abandoned children or foundlings whose parents, guardians or relatives
18 are unknown, or children committed to an orphanage or a child-caring institution
19 with unknown facts of birth and parentage, shall be registered by the finder or
20 charitable institution concerned within thirty (30) days from the date of finding or
21 commitment of the child with the C/MCR of the place where such person was
22 born. The CRG shall issue a COLB to these children.

23
24 All LCR/PSAs in partnership with LGUs shall provide mobile birth
25 registration services especially in all Geographically Isolated and Disadvantaged
26 Area (GIDA) under their jurisdiction.

27
28
29 **Sec. 15. Delayed Registration of Birth.** A person who has not been
30 registered with the CIVIL REGISTRAR'S OFFICE at the place of birth or where
31 found shall apply for delayed registration within the prescribed period of thirty
32 (30) calendar days upon discovering that no entry of birth has been recorded in
33 the Register of Births.

34
35 For delayed registration, resort to out-of-town registration of birth may be
36 allowed, where the place of application for registration is other than the place of
37 birth of the person seeking to be registered. The LCR/PSA and PSA shall issue a
38 COLB free of charge regardless of delay. A person who has not been registered
39 before the office of the C/MCR and PSA where he or she was born within the
40 prescribed period of thirty (30) calendar days shall apply on the basis of his or
41 her nearest kin. The informant and affiant must show authentic proof of the
42 identity of the person to be registered, the facts of his birth, his parentage and
43 other relevant data.

44
45 In the implementation of this act, LCR/PSA should conduct regular review
46 to assess the accessibility of registration and design and implement
47 programmatic interventions to address gaps in CRVS, with PSA as the central
48 office for data management and standards.

49
50 The record of a person's birth shall be kept strictly confidential and any
51 treatment thereof shall be fully compliant with the Data Privacy Act.

52
53
54

1 **Sec. 16. Mandatory Continuing Education and Training Program.** - To
2 ensure that the efficient and effective delivery of civil registration services and
3 meet the demand for quality civil registrars who shall perform civil registration
4 functions, the Civil Register-General together with the LGU, shall conduct
5 continuing education and training program for Civil Registrars, Consul Generals,
6 District Recorders, and Circuit Registrars and their staff, in collaboration with
7 relevant partners in government, academe, industry, and non-governmental
8 organizations. Such training programs shall be initiated, conducted based on
9 Training Needs Analysis, and evaluated regularly throughout the year to ensure
10 constant upgrading of skills of the Civil Registrars, Consul Generals, District
11 Recorders, and Circuit Registrars, and their staff.

12 **Sec. 17. Free Delayed Registration and Certification of Birth.** - Local
13 government units are mandated to implement a free delayed registration
14 program for persons whose births have not been registered and certified due to
15 such factors as poverty, distance, or lack of literacy. The Sangguniang Barangay
16 shall assist in the implementation of the program through the Barangay Civil
17 Registration System.

18 The OCRG, the Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG) and
19 the National Commission on Indigenous Peoples (NCIP) shall jointly prepare a
20 Free Delayed Registration Program for Indigenous Peoples (FDRIP) which shall
21 be implemented by the local government units and the NCIP regional or local
22 offices in the localities concerned.

23 Within ninety (90) days from the effectivity of this Act, the OCRG shall
24 issue implementing rules and regulations for the free delayed registration and
25 certification of birth covering the foregoing.

26 **Sec. 18. Strict Confidentiality of Birth Records.** The record of a person's
27 birth shall be kept confidential and no information relating thereto shall be
28 issued, in accordance to the Data Privacy Act except upon request of the
29 following:

- 30 a) The concerned person herself/himself, or any person authorized by
31 him;
- 32 b) Spouse;
- 33 c) Any or both the parents, direct descendants, or the guardian or
34 institution legally in-charge in case of a minor;
- 35 d) The Court or appropriate public official whenever absolutely necessary
36 in administrative, judicial or other official proceedings to determine
37 the identity of the child's parents or other circumstances surrounding
38 the birth;
- 39 e) The nearest kin in case of a person's death;
- 40 f) In accordance to section 12 of the Data Privacy Act of 2012, personal
41 information shall be released meeting the following conditions (with
42 the
43 consent of the concerned person) :
 - 44 (i) Necessary for compliance with a legal obligation;

- (ii) The personal information is necessary in fulfillment of a contract;
 - (iii) Necessary to protect vitally important interests of the data subjects, including life and death;
 - (iv) Necessary in order to respond to national emergency, to comply with public order and safety; and
 - (v) According to the purposes of legitimate interests by any third party/ies, unless these interests are overridden by fundamental rights and freedoms of the person involved.

Sec. 19. Registration and Certification of Death. No human body shall be buried or cremated unless the proper death certificate has been presented and recorded in the CIVIL REGISTRAR'S OFFICE/PSA.

The physician who attended the deceased, or in his default, the health officer concerned, any member of the family of the deceased or any person having knowledge of the death shall immediately report the same to the local health authorities who shall issue a death certificate and shall order the same to be recorded before the CIVIL REGISTRAR'S OFFICE/PSA at the place of death.

The death certificate which shall be issued by the attending physician of the deceased or, in his default, by the authorized health officer, shall indicate the following data, which shall be furnished by the person reporting the death to the civil registrar:

- a) Full name of the deceased;
 - b) Sex;
 - c) Age;
 - d) Civil status;
 - e) Nationality;
 - F) Date of birth;
 - G) Place of birth;
 - h) Date of death;
 - i) Place of death;
 - j) Full names of the deceased's parents;
 - k) Cause of death; and
 - l) Such other relevant data that may be required.

The surname to be entered in the registry of death and the Death Certificate shall be the surname used prior to his/her death. In case the deceased is a legally married woman, informants shall register the death using the surname she chose as a legally married person.

1 The registration of death shall be made within thirty (30) calendar days
2 from the time and date of death before the CIVIL REGISTRAR'S OFFICE at the
3 place of death, or the Philippine Consulate Office in the foreign country where
4 the death happened.

5 In the absence of the city or municipal health officer or his authorized
6 representative in the place of registration, or when it is a non-working day and
7 the health officer or his authorized representative is not expected to be in the
8 office, the death shall be reported by the nearest kin of the deceased or by any
9 person having knowledge of the death within forty-eight (48) hours after its
10 occurrence, to the mayor or to the vice mayor or any member of the
11 Sangguniang Bayan or to the municipal secretary, who shall issue and sign the
12 medical certification of the Certificate of Death for burial, cremation, and
13 registration purposes.

14
15 When the death is subjected to a medico-legal examination, or the cause of
16 death is under investigation by the National Bureau of Investigation (NBI) or
17 other concerned government office and the body of the deceased is subjected to
18 autopsy or examination of the medico-legal officers and no record of death has
19 been registered, the head of the NBI or other investigative agency or the duly
20 authorized representative shall cause the registration of such death through the
21 City or Municipal Health Officer at the place of death.

22
23 The medico-legal officer shall accomplish and sign the medical certification
24 portion of the certificate of death, subject to the review of the City or Municipal
25 Health Officer.

26
27 **Sec. 20. Delayed Registration of Death.** A deceased person's facts of death
28 that have not been registered within thirty (30) calendar days from the date of
29 death shall be allowed delayed registration before the CIVIL REGISTRAR'S
30 OFFICE at the place of death.

31 In any case, out-of-town registration of death may be allowed.

32
33 **Sec. 21. Registration of the Application for Marriage License.** An
34 application for marriage license shall be filed by the contracting parties before
35 the CR where one of the parties resides. The CR shall enter all applications in the
36 Register of Applications for Marriage License strictly in the order of receipt of
37 applications. The CR shall record in said register the names of the applicants, the
38 date on which the marriage license was issued, and such other data as may be
39 necessary.

40 No application shall be received by the CR unless supporting documents are
41 attached thereto and no application shall be posted unless it is received by the
42 CR. Registration of the application shall only take place after the completion of
43 the posting period.

44 All applications for marriage license shall be governed by the pertinent
45 provisions of EO. No. 209, otherwise known as the Family Code of the
46 Philippines.

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1 **Sec. 22. Registration of Marriage.** All marriages shall be registered by the
2 solemnizing officer before the CIVIL REGISTRAR'S OFFICE of the place where
3 they were solemnized.

4 a) In case of marriages solemnized while in transit:

- 5 i. En route to, or within the Philippines, the marriage shall be registered
6 at the place of residence of either party; or
- 7 ii. Leaving the Philippines, the marriage shall be registered at the
8 consulate of the Philippines in the place of destination of the parties,
9 or in the absence thereof, to the nearest Philippine consulate from the
10 place of destination.

11 b) In cases of registration of traditional marriages and dissolution of
12 marriages among IPs.

13 The report of marriage among and between IPs solemnized in accordance
14 with customary laws, rites, traditions and practices by the person duly
15 authorized to perform the ritual or ceremony and by the parties to the
16 marriage shall be conclusive upon the LCR/PSA without need for further
17 proof. For this purpose, the NCIP shall submit to the PSA a list of IPs
18 recognized by each indigenous community to solemnize marriage
19 according to its customary laws or practices. The PSA shall issue a
20 Certificate of Registration of Authority to Solemnize Marriage (CRASM) to
21 such IPs for free.

22 In the case of indigenous communities whose traditional marriage
23 ceremony does not require the presence of a solemnizing officer, as
24 determined by the NCIP, the report by the contracting parties shall be
25 conclusive upon the LCR/PSA without the need for further proof except
26 personal confirmation, orally or in writing, by any of the parents or by a
27 tribal leader or elder of the indigenous community to which any of the
28 spouses belong. For this purpose, the NCIP shall furnish the PSA and the
29 LCR/PSAs with a list of indigenous communities falling under this
30 paragraph: Provided, That pending the submission of such list, the oral or
31 written confirmation of the tribal leader or elder shall be conclusive upon
32 the LCR/PSA.

33 The dissolution of marriage of IPs following customary indigenous laws
34 and practices shall be directly recorded with the LCR/PSA without need of
35 court intervention: Provided, That such facts and information shall be
36 confirmed orally or in writing by a tribal leader or elder of the indigenous
37 community to which any of the spouses belongs.

38 All marriages shall be registered within thirty (30) days from the date of
39 the marriage. Marriages registered after the stipulated period shall be
40 considered late registration and an administrative fee shall be imposed on
41 the solemnizing officer. In no case shall double or multiple registration of
42 marriages be allowed, except for cases provided by law.

1 **Sec. 23. Multiple Registration.** In cases of multiple registrations of birth,
2 marriage and death, the first duly registered document shall prevail, unless the
3 Court orders otherwise.

4 For multiple marriages by and between the same parties, the first marriage
5 shall prevail, and not the first registered marriage of such parties.

6
7
8 **Sec. 24. Registration of Solemnizing Officers.** All solemnizing officers shall
9 be registered with the Office of the CRG, except those who are not required to
10 be so registered as provided for by law or existing rules.

11
12 The Mayor, with the assistance of the CIVIL REGISTRAR'S OFFICE, shall
13 determine documents pertaining to the existence of religious sects.

14
15 **Sec. 25. Registration of Court Orders.** In case of court issuance or order
16 concerning the status of a person, the Clerk of Court shall advise the successful
17 petitioner to register such document before the CIVIL REGISTRAR'S OFFICE
18 which has jurisdiction on the issuing court. In cases of legal separation, absolute
19 nullity of void marriages and annulment of voidable marriages, the prevailing
20 party shall cause the registration of the decree in the CIVIL REGISTRAR'S
21 OFFICE where the marriage was registered, the CIVIL REGISTRAR'S OFFICE
22 where the family court is situated, and in the PSA. Such party shall report to the
23 Court compliance with this requirement within thirty (30) days from receipt of
24 the copy of the decree.

25
26 In case a person other than the petitioner shall apply to register a court
27 order before the CIVIL REGISTRAR'S OFFICE, the LCR has the responsibility to
28 verify the veracity of the court issuance or order, otherwise, registration thereof
29 shall be refused.

30
31 The CIVIL REGISTRAR'S OFFICE where the event was registered shall
32 forward a certified true copy of the order to the CIVIL REGISTRAR'S OFFICE
33 where the vital event affected was originally registered. The CIVIL REGISTRAR'S
34 OFFICE where the vital event was originally registered shall make proper
35 annotations in the document and in the applicable registry book. The CIVIL
36 REGISTRAR'S OFFICE which has jurisdiction over the original registry shall send
37 a certified true copy of the annotated document and the registered court order
38 to the CRG.

39
40 Each corrected document shall be reported to the Office of the CRG during
41 the usual reporting month.

42
43 All court order shall be registered within thirty (30) days after its finality,
44 otherwise it shall be considered as delayed registration.

45
46 All court orders shall be effected through annotations in the civil registry
47 document except in an adoption case when the child shall be entitled to the
issuance of an amended COLB

48
49 **Sec. 26. Registration of a Child Born Abroad to at Least One Filipino**
50 **Parent.** The parents shall cause the registration of the birth of their child to the
51 Philippine Consulate which in turn shall issue a Report of Birth within thirty (30)

1 calendar days from date of birth of a Filipino child. Declaring the following when
2 available:

- 3
- 4 a) Full name of the child;
 - 5 b) Sex;
 - 6 c) Date of birth;
 - 7 d) Place of birth or where found;
 - 8 e) Name of mother;
 - 9 f) Citizenship of the mother;
 - 10 g) Name of father;
 - 11 k.) Citizenship of the father;
 - 12 l.) Date and place of marriage of parents; and
 - 13 m.) Such other data as may be required in the implementing rules and
14 regulations of this Act.

15

16 **Sec. 27. Registration of Persons without Known Parents.** All without
17 known parents, guardians or relatives, or a person committed in an orphanage or
18 charitable institution with unknown facts of birth and parentage, shall be
19 reported by the finder to the Barangay Chairperson or any member of the
20 Barangay Council for the Protection of Children (BCPC) of the place where the
21 person was found, or to the Philippine National Police (PNP) Women and
22 Children's Protection Desk (WCPD), whichever is nearer or convenient to the
23 finder, stating the facts and circumstances surrounding the finding of the person.
24 When the report is duly noted, the finder shall bring the child to the nearest
25 Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) office in the region, for
26 proper screening, assessment and evaluation by an authorized social worker
27 within fifteen (15) calendar days from the date of finding or commitment of the
28 child. The finder shall execute a sworn statement before the Barangay Captain
29 stating the facts and circumstances surrounding the finding of the person.

30

31 In case of foundlings found in Philippine Consulates, embassies and
32 territories, the relevant Philippine Consulate shall abide by the eventual State
33 policy (by virtue of this Act) on foundling.

34

35 The finder or charitable institution concerned shall cause the registration
36 before the CIVIL REGISTRAR'S OFFICE where such person was found within
37 thirty (30) calendar days from the date of entrustment to the institution.

38

39 Any report made after the thirty-day period shall be considered late
40 registration, and the concerned party shall be required to state in a sworn
41 statement the circumstances that caused the late reporting to the civil registrar.

42

43 Should the foundling become adopted, the Local Civil Registrar shall stamp
44 the simulated birth record "cancelled" with an annotation of the issuance of a
45 new rectified certificate of birth in its place. The rectified birth certificate bearing
46 the names of the biological parents of the child or the foundling certificate shall
47 then likewise be stamped "cancelled" with the annotation of the issuance of a
48 new birth record in its place, and shall be sealed in the civil registry records.
49 Thereafter, the Local Civil Registrar shall record, register, and issue a new

1 certificate of birth which shall not bear any notation that it is a new or amended
2 issue, as stated in RA 11222, Sec. 12.

3
4 **Sec. 28. Registration of Adoption.** The decree of adoption shall be recorded
5 in the civil register within thirty (30) days after the date of issue of the final
6 judgment of the court.

7
8 After registration of the decree of adoption, the CIVIL REGISTRAR'S OFFICE
9 where the birth of the adopted was registered shall immediately issue an
10 amended COLB.

11
12 Such COLB of an adopted child shall not bear any mark or annotation or
13 any indication of the facts of adoption. It shall have the same entries as those
14 appearing in the original records of birth, except for the following items of
15 information:

16
17 a) Name of the adopted – The first name of the adopted child shall be the
18 same as in the original COLB unless the order of adoption carried an order
19 changing it to another name. The middle name of the adopted child shall
20 be the same as the middle name of the adopter, except when the
21 husband and the wife jointly adopted the child, in which case, the middle
22 name of the adopted shall be the surname of the adopting mother.

23
24 The surname of the adopted child shall be that of the adopter. If the
25 husband and wife jointly adopt the child, the adopted child shall use the
26 surname of the adopting father.

27
28 b) Names of parents – The names of the natural parents of the adopted
29 child shall be substituted by the names of the adopting parents, to be
30 indicated in the appropriate spaces in the COLB as the father or mother,
31 as the case maybe; and

32
33 c) Other information – Other information about the adopting parents such
34 as citizenship and religion shall be indicated in the appropriate spaces of
the amended certificate of live birth.

35 The birth order of the adopted and other information about the adopted
36 shall follow the information given by the adopting parents, unless the
37 court order states otherwise. In cases where legally married husband and
38 wife jointly adopt the child, the date and place of marriage of the adopting
39 parents shall be entered in the appropriate spaces of the amended
40 certificate of live birth of the adopted child.

41
42 In all cases of adoption, no amendment or changes shall be effected in
43 the civil registry books where the original birth records were duly
44 registered, except for the marginal annotation by virtue of the adoption
45 decree.

46
47 In case the adopted child has no known parents, the basis for the
48 issuance of the amended COLB shall be the court order.

49
50
51

1 In cases of the adopted child via administrative adoption or cases of
2 the rectification of simulated birth, pursuant to Article V of the Simulated
3 Birth Rectification Act:

- 4
- 5 a) *On Civil Registry Records for Rectified Simulated Birth, Article V,*
6 *Sec 21, RA 11222.* Upon receipt, the Local Civil Registrar shall
7 stamp the simulated birth record, "cancelled", with annotations of
8 the issuance of the rectified birth record. These applies to birth
9 certificates bearing the name of the biological parents of the child ,
10 foundling certificate and any COLB of the child prior the simulated
11 birth.
- 12
- 13 b) *On Issuance of New Birth Certificate for Rectified Simulated Birth,*
14 *Article V, Sec 22, RA 11222.* New Certificate of Live Birth shall be
15 issued through the Local Civil Registrar for purposes of record, and
16 registration, without bearing any notation that it is new or
17 amended. The new COLB, shall indicate the following information:
18 Place of Registration, Birth Order, Name of Adoptive Parent/s, age,
19 Date and Place of marriage (when applicable), Informant and
20 Person who prepared the new COLB.

21

22 The LCR shall immediately transmit said COLB to the PSA to be
23 included in the registry of adoptions, including the number of
24 cancelled simulated birth registrations.

25

26

27 **Sec. 29. Registration of Presumptive Death.** A judicial order or decree
28 declaring a person presumably dead for purposes of remarriage shall be
29 registered in the office of the local civil registrar of the place where the marriage
30 was solemnized. It shall be annotated and recorded. The registration shall be
31 annotated in the marriage register as well as in the marriage certificate.

32

33 **Sec. 30. Registration of Foreign Court Orders Decided Abroad.** All
34 foreign court orders involving status of persons residing in the Philippines shall
35 be registered before the CIVIL REGISTRAR'S OFFICE where the affected
36 document is registered. These foreign court orders, to be legal and binding in
37 Philippine jurisdiction, must first be recognized by the appropriate embassy of
38 such country in here in the Philippines or Regional Trial Court or which has the
39 lawful jurisdiction over such case.

40

41 The Supreme Court Order (Republic vs. Manalo (G. R. 221029, April 24,
42 2018) on recognizing Foreign Divorce Obtained by a Filipino, consistent to Article
43 26(2) of the Family Code, granting the Filipino spouse the right to remarry shall
44 be upheld by this policy.

45

46 **Sec. 31. Registration of Legal Instruments.** As a general rule, all legal
47 instruments shall be registered in the civil registry of the place where they were
48 executed except for the following:

- 50
- 51 a) Affidavit of Reappearance – where the parties to the subsequent marriage
52 are residing;
- 53 b) Marriage Settlement – where the marriage is recorded;

1 c) Admission of Paternity, Acknowledgment, Legitimation, Voluntary
2 Emancipation of Minor, Artificial Insemination – where the birth of child
3 was recorded.

4
5 **Sec. 32. Registration of Affidavit of Reappearance.** A sworn statement of
6 the facts and circumstances of reappearance of the absentee spouse shall be
7 recorded in the civil registry office where subsequent marriage of the present
8 spouse was recorded, at the instance of any interested person, with due notice
9 to the spouses of the subsequent marriage and without prejudice to the fact of
10 reappearance being judicially determined in cases where such a fact is disputed.

11
12 **Sec. 33. Registration of Affidavit of Acknowledgment or Affidavit of**
13 **Admission of Paternity.** It shall be the duty of parents or parent who executed
14 the affidavit of acknowledgment to send the original copy to the CIVIL
15 REGISTRAR'S OFFICE where the entries on the birth of the child were recorded
16 for registration in the Register of Legal Instruments and for proper annotation in
17 the Register of Births.

18
19 **Sec. 34. Registration of Repatriation.** The instrument of repatriation and the
20 oath of allegiance to the Constitution and the Government of the Philippines,
21 shall be filed in the CIVIL REGISTRAR'S OFFICE of the place where the
22 instrument was executed: Provided, That if the Philippine citizenship is
23 reacquired by naturalization, the order of the court or any mandated (omnibus)
24 authority granting citizenship shall be recorded in the Register of Court Order.

25
26 **Sec. 35. Civil Registry Documents as Public Documents.** The registry
27 books making up the civil register, the office files in hard copies and its
28 corresponding digital files of the CIVIL REGISTRAR'S OFFICES, certifications or
29 certified copies from these files and all other documents relating thereto shall be
30 considered public documents and shall be *prima facie* evidence of the truth of
31 the facts therein contained. These public documents, except those documents
32 which are to be kept strictly confidential as provided for under this act and other
33 applicable laws shall be opened to the public during office hours and shall be
34 kept in a secured place which shall be furnished to civil registrar at the expenses
35 of the funds of the civil registrar's office, Philippine consulate office, or Shari'a
36 court concerned.

37
38 The civil registrar shall not, under any circumstances, permit any document
39 entrusted to his care to be removed from his office, except upon lawful order of
40 the court, in which case the proper receipt shall be secured.

41
42 **Sec. 36. Digital/Electronic Reporting of Births, Death and Marriages.-**
43 There shall be a compulsory reporting of all occurrences of Births, Deaths, and
44 Marriages from all Barangays of the Philippines. As Barangay Registration
45 Agents, all Barangay Secretaries or their authorized representatives are hereby
46 mandated to report these events using appropriate and duly-inspected secure
47 electronic devices to the LCR/PSA and other government agencies mandated by
48 law to monitor the status of registration of vital civil registry events and shall
49 assist the subsequent registration thereof. Continuing skills training relevant to
50 Digital/Electronic Reporting of Births, Death and Marriages of Barangay
51 Registration Agents shall be provided by the PSA, LGU, PACR and other
52 accredited government and private institutions and organizations. This training

1 shall equip Barangay Registration Agents with the knowledge and skills needed
2 to properly implement digital/electronic civil registration.

3

4

5 **Sec. 37. Development of National Civil Registry Database (NCRD)**

6 **Software.**- The National Government thru the National Computer Center in
7 close coordination with the PSA, the PACR, and the DILG shall develop official
8 software responsive to the NCRD implementation. Participation and assistance of
9 international and local private organizations having parallel objectives on the full
10 development of digital civil registration may be sought in the development of this
11 software. Among other features, this software shall include the highest degree of
12 data security to ensure the integrity of its database.

13

14 **Sec. 38. Digitization of all Civil Registry Files.** – All registered documents in
15 the LCR/PSA shall be digitized. In addition to the usual reports and forwarding of
16 the printed hard copy files, digitized files shall also be submitted to the PSA as
17 back up files of the National Civil Registry Database (NCRD), for digital archiving
18 purposes.

19

20

21 **Sec. 39. False Statements.** – Any person who shall knowingly make false
22 statements in the furnished forms and present the same for entry in the civil
23 registers shall be penalized in accordance with law unless it was done for the
24 best interest of the child.

25

26 False statements on the rectification of simulated birth of the child, granted
27 that simulation was made at the best interest of the child, shall be granted
28 amnesty pursuant to the *Simulated Birth Rectification Act*, RA 11222.

29

30 **Sec. 40. Digitization of Linkages and Interconnection of All**
31 **Participating LCR/PSA.** – All capable LCR/PSA shall be interconnected to
32 facilitate retrieval, online certifications, and for local government revenue
33 generation using LGU-linked NCRD digital files. Participating LCR/PSA are hereby
34 authorized to issue certifications from NCRD for and in behalf of other LCR/PSA
35 subject to pertinent laws, rules or regulations on the confidentiality of birth
36 records.

37

38 **Sec. 41. Penal Provisions.** Persons in authority who knowingly fail to perform
39 their duties in relation to this Act shall be held administratively liable in
40 accordance to law.

41

42 Any solemnizing officer without being authorized by the Civil Registrar
43 General or who, upon solemnizing marriage, refuses to exhibit his authority to
44 solemnize marriage when called upon to do so by the parties or parents,
45 grandparents, guardians or persons having charge of the parties; or any bishop
46 or officer, priest, minister, or imam, of any church, religion or sect, the
47 regulations and practices whereof require bans or publication previous to the
48 solemnization of marriage that is subsequently declared illegal, or any
49 solemnizing officer in violation of this Act, shall be punished with imprisonment
50 of not less than six (6) months but not to exceed three (3) years, a fine of not
51 less than Fifty Thousand Pesos (Php 50,000.00) but not more than One Hundred
52 Thousand Pesos (Php 100,000.00), or both, and the revocation of the authority
53 to solemnize marriage, upon the discretion of the Court.

54

1 The attending physician, midwife, nurse, birth attendant, hospital
2 administrator in-charged to cause the registration of live births but knowingly
3 fails or withholds the delivery of copies of the certificate/s of live birth to the city
4 or municipal civil registrar for registration, or any person who caused the failure
5 of delivery, shall be penalized by imprisonment of not more than six (6) months
6 and a fine of not less than Fifty Thousand Pesos (Php 50,000.00), or both, upon
7 the discretion of the Court.

8

9 **Sec. 42. Withholding of documents due to Non-payment of hospital**
10 **fees.** - In no case shall failure to settle hospital bills, in full or in part, be a
11 ground for non-delivery or withholding of the certificate of live birth or certificate
12 of death or documents required in the issuance of the said certificates.

13

14 **Sec. 43. Use of Fees and Income Collected.** All fees that are remitted to the
15 PSA by the National Treasury and all income that the PSA is allowed to retain
16 under law shall, any provision of law to the contrary notwithstanding, be used
17 primarily for operating expenses including capital outlay, upgrading of its current
18 facilities, acquisition of office and space, and establishment of satellite offices in
19 the provinces, and other activities or services the PSA in the performance of its
20 mandate needs.

21

22 **Sec. 44. Transitory Provisions.** – The PSA shall carry out the reorganization
23 of the civil registrars in such a manner that personnel of such office absorbed by
24 the PSA shall continue to perform their respective duties and responsibilities in a
25 holdover capacity so as not to unduly delay the production of statistics from
26 ongoing censuses, surveys and processing of administrative records.

27

28

29 **Sec. 45. Appropriations.** There shall be an initial appropriation of One
30 Hundred Fifty Million Pesos (Php 150,000,000.00) in the General Appropriations
31 Act, which will be included in the PSA's budget for the initial development of
32 software and the digitization of the CIVIL REGISTRAR'S OFFICE files.

33

34 The Local Government Units shall allocate a portion of its Internal Revenue
35 Allocation (IRA) in order to assist the City/Municipal Civil Registry and the
36 staffing of the Barangay Civil Registration System, in particular the Barangay Civil
37 Registration Assistant (BRCA).

38

39 **Sec. 46. Mandatory Review.** This Act shall undergo a mandatory review on its
40 provisions every five (5) years to make the law more responsive to the needs of
41 the times. The review shall be made by Congress, which shall conduct public
42 hearings and record relevant testimonies of functionaries in the civil registration
43 system, which shall be the basis of any amendment or modification of this Act.

44

45 **Sec. 47. Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR).** Within sixty (60)
46 days from the effectivity of this Act, the PSA, shall promulgate the IRR for the
47 effective implementation of this Act. The PSA may consult with the Department
48 of Foreign Affairs, Department of Interior and Local Government, Department of
49 Justice(DOJ), Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD), National
50 Commission of Muslim Filipinos(NCMF), the Office of the Supreme Court
51 Administrator, the University of the Philippines Law Center, a national
52 professional organization of local civil registrars duly registered with the
53 Securities and Exchange Commission, the National Privacy Commission, the
54 Department of Health, the Office of Solicitor General, the National Commission

1 on Indigenous Peoples (NCIP), the Child Rights Network (CRN), the
2 Commission on Human Rights (CHR), the Bureau of Immigration (BIR), the
3 Council for the Welfare of Children (CWC), the National Council of Disability
4 Affairs (NCDA), the Commission on Filipinos Overseas(CFO), the Department of
5 Education (DepEd),the Overseas Workers Welfare Administration (OWWA),
6 related child caring agencies, international agencies, civil society organizations,
7 related ministries of the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (BARMM)
8 and such other agencies in the formulation of the IRR. Other relevant
9 stakeholders may also be consulted in the crafting of the IRR.

10
11 **Sec. 48. Separability Clause.** If any part or provision of this Act which shall
12 be held to be invalid or unconstitutional, other parts or provisions hereof which
13 are not affected thereby shall continue to be in full force and effect.

14
15 **Sec. 49. Repealing Clause.** Act No. 3753 or the Law on Registry of Civil Status
16 is repealed. Sec. 453, 454, and 479 of the RA 7160 or the Local Government
17 Code of 1991 are also hereby repealed: All other laws, rules, regulations, orders,
18 memoranda or circulars inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed and
19 modified accordingly.

20
21 **Sec. 50. Retroactivity.** This Act shall have retroactive effect insofar as it does
22 not prejudice or impair vested or acquired rights.

23
24 **Sec. 51. Effectivity.** This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its
25 publication in the Official Gazette or in any newspapers of general circulation.

26
27 **Sec. 52. Construction.** In the interpretation of this law, the best interest of the
28 child shall prevail.

29
30 Approved