



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

H. No. 8673

BY REPRESENTATIVES TURABIN-HATAMAN, PANGANIBAN, TAN (S.), ESCUDERO, MENDING, SANGCOPAN, BAG-AO, ACOSTA-ALBA, CATAMCO, SAGARBARRIA, ORTEGA (P.), DUAVIT, DIMAPORO (M.K.), ACHARON, NOEL, YAP (A.), MARQUEZ, LANETE, YAP (M.), DY, SALCEDA, VIOLAGO, ANDAYA, ANTONIO, GONZALES (A.D.), VILLANUEVA, RODRIGUEZ (I.), TUPAS, ALVAREZ (M.), YU, TAN (A.), ESTRELLA, GASATAYA, AUMENTADO, HERNANDEZ (F.), NIETO, LEE, AGARAO, BULUT-BEGTANG, MANALO, SILVERIO, SACDALAN, BAUTISTA-BANDIGAN, TOLENTINO, ALVAREZ (F.), ERIGUEL, KHO, DE VENECIA, SALON, DEFENSOR, MARIÑO, ROCAMORA, MONTORO, ROBES, PINEDA, SALO, BRAVO (M.V.), REVILLA, RAMOS, VERGARA, EUSEBIO, GARCIA (G.), CHIPECO, BATAOIL, BELMONTE (R.), MARCOLETA, BRAVO (A.), PALMA, LOPEZ (M.L.), UY (R.), DAZA, UNABIA, SAMBAR, TY, CHAVEZ, BARBERS, SIAO, RADAZA, HERRERA-DY, SAVELLANO, ORTEGA (V.N.), MERCADO, AGGABAO, ATIENZA, TUGNA, TEJADA, VELOSO, SAHALI, NAVA, CRISOLOGO, BILLONES, DEL MAR, OAMINAL, ADIONG, ALMARIO, ROMAN, RELAMPAGOS, TAMBUNTING, ACOP, CORTES, LOPEZ (B.), ROQUE (H.), TREÑAS, PANOTES, SANDOVAL, AMANTE, BORDADO, CARI, GORRICETA, MANGUDADATU (Z.), SALIMBANGON, NOLASCO, DALIPE, CAGAS, MALAPITAN, JALOSJOS, DELOSO-MONTALLA, ALVAREZ (P.), FARIÑAS, BONDOC, BELMONTE (J.C.), BELARO, CASILAO, LOBREGAT, ABELLANOSA, AMATONG, ARAGONES, CALIXTO-RUBIANO, CASTRO (F.L.), MACAPAGAL-ARROYO, PADUANO, ROQUE (R.), SUANSING (E.), ZUBIRI, ROA-PUNO, HOFER, ESPINA, PIMENTEL, ALONTE, NOGRALES (J.J.), PRIMICIAS-AGABAS, SUAREZ, BERTIZ, CAMPOS, MATUGAS, GARCIA-ALBANO, LEACHON, DURANO, LAOGAN, PAPANDAYAN, GONZAGA, UY (J.), UNICO, YAP (V.), LIMKAICHONG AND ZARATE, PER COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 972

**AN ACT PROHIBITING RACIAL, ETHNIC, AND RELIGIOUS
DISCRIMINATION**

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

1 **SECTION 1. *Short Title.*** – This Act shall be known as the “Anti-Racial,
2 Ethnic and Religious Discrimination Act.”
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4 **SEC. 2. *Declaration of Policy.*** – As enshrined in the Constitution, it is
5 the policy of the State to:

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7 (a) maintain peace and order, protect life, liberty and property, and to
8 promote the general welfare for the enjoyment of the blessings of democracy by
9 all people;

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11 (b) promote a just and dynamic social order that will ensure the
12 prosperity and independence of the nation and free the people from poverty
13 through policies that provide adequate social services, promote full
14 employment, a rising standard of living and an improved quality of life;

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16 (c) recognize and promote the rights of indigenous cultural
17 communities within the framework of national unity and development; and

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19 (d) give the highest priority to the enactment of measures that protect
20 and enhance the right of all people to human dignity; reduce social, economic
21 and political inequalities; and remove cultural inequities by equitably diffusing
22 wealth and political power for the common good.

23
24 It shall also be the policy of the State to uphold human dignity
25 and equality of all persons, regardless of race, age, gender, ethnicity
26 or religion, consistent with its obligations as State Party to various
27 international human rights instruments, particularly the Universal
28 Declaration of Human Rights, the International Covenant on Civil and
29 Political Rights, the International Covenant on Economic, Social and
30 Cultural Rights, the International Convention on the Elimination of
31 Racial Discrimination, the Convention on the Rights of Persons with
32 Disabilities and the Convention on the Elimination of Discrimination Against

1 Women. As such, the State shall not allow the commission of acts which directly or indirectly
2 derogate these fundamental human rights.

3
4 **SEC. 3. Definition of Terms.** – As used in this Act:

5
6 (a) **Discrimination** refers to any distinction, exclusion, restriction or reference
7 made on the basis of race color, descent, national or ethnic origin, religion, or religious
8 affiliation or beliefs which has the effect or purpose of impairing or nullifying the
9 recognition, enjoyment or exercise on an equal footing, of the human rights and fundamental
10 freedoms in the political, economic, social, cultural, civil or any other field of public life of
11 a person. Discrimination includes incitement to discriminate and to harass.

12
13 (b) **Education and Training** refer to all types and levels of education and training,
14 and shall include access, standard and quality of education and training, and the conditions
15 under which these are given.

16
17 (c) **Employment** refers to the condition where an employer-employee
18 relationship exists as determined by existing law and jurisprudence, including those
19 pertaining to terms, conditions and privileges relating to work in public and private
20 institutions, such as recruitment policies, application procedures, training, incentives,
21 compensation, determination of benefits or allowances, promotion, advancement
22 opportunities, transfer and dismissal.

23
24 (d) **Ethnic Origin** refers to the classification of people based on common color,
25 racial, national, tribal, religious, ethno-linguistic or cultural origin or background.

26
27 (e) **Ethno Linguistic Group** refers to a group of people that shares a distinct
28 language, cultural inheritance and history that give them a unique identity and which has
29 racial, ethnic and religious bases.

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31 (f) **Goods and Services** refer to the material and non-material products or things
32 of value offered for sale to satisfy needs and wants for survival, comfort, or pleasure such as
33 those provided by restaurants, resorts, hotels, clubs, stores and shopping malls; or acts or
34 services provided by credit or financial establishments, public utilities and services,
35 professionals, maintenance and repair workers, laborers and similar workers.

36
37 (g) **Housing and other Accommodation** refer to a house, apartment,
38 condominium, townhouse, flat, motel, boarding house, hotel, dormitory, shelter, elderly
39 home, rehabilitation facility, orphanage, health facility including a mental health facility,
40 detention center, camping ground and other analogous places.

41
42 (h) **Indigenous Peoples** refer to a group of people or homogenous societies
43 identified by self-ascription and ascription by others, who have continuously lived as an

1 organized community on communally bounded and defined territory and who have, under
2 claims of ownership since time immemorial, occupied, possessed and utilized such territories,
3 sharing common bonds of language, customs, tradition and other distinctive cultural traits, or
4 who have, through resistance to political, social and cultural inroads of colonization, non-
5 indigenous religions and culture, become historically differentiated from the majority of
6 Filipinos. Indigenous cultural communities and indigenous peoples shall likewise include
7 peoples who are regarded as indigenous on account of their descent from the populations
8 which inhabited the country, at the time of conquest or colonization, or at the time of inroads
9 of non-indigenous religions and cultures, or the establishment of present state boundaries,
10 who retain some or all of their own social, economic, cultural and political institutions, but
11 who may have been displaced from their traditional domains or who may have resettled
12 outside their ancestral domains.

13
14 (i) **Religious Affiliation or Belief** refers to the profession or non-profession of
15 religion or beliefs of one's choice that may be publicly manifested in worship, practice and
16 teaching.

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18 (j) **Stereotype** refers to a thought adopted about specific kinds of religions or
19 ethnicities, or persons who practice a specific religion or who belong to a specific ethnic
20 background, specifically with reference to their beliefs and ways of doing things, which are
21 based upon oversimplified opinions or intolerant attitudes, regardless of whether such
22 thoughts or beliefs accurately reflect reality.

23
24 (k) **Stereotyping** refers to any act or combination of acts which result in the
25 singling out or profiling of a person or class of persons based on a stereotype as defined in
26 the immediately preceding section, which results in a derogatory attitude towards any person
27 or any derogatory treatment against such person or class of persons.

28
29 (l) **Vehicle** refers to a train, ship, bus, taxi or aircraft, and such other forms of
30 public conveyance.

31
32 **SEC. 4. Acts of Discrimination.** – It is unlawful for any person, natural or juridical,
33 to perform any act involving a distinction, exclusion, restriction or preference based on race,
34 color, descent or national or ethnic origin, religion, or religious affiliation or beliefs which
35 has the purpose or effect of nullifying or impairing the recognition, enjoyment or exercise on
36 an equal footing of any human right or fundamental freedom in the political, economic,
37 social, cultural, civil or any other field of public life.

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39 An act is deemed discriminatory when a person requires another person to comply
40 with a term, condition or requirement which is not reasonable, having regard to the
41 circumstances of the case; or the other person does not or cannot comply with the term,
42 condition or requirement; and the requirement to comply has the purpose or effect of
43 nullifying or impairing the recognition, enjoyment or exercise on an equal footing by persons

1 of the same race, color, descent or national or ethnic origin, religion, or religious affiliation
2 or beliefs.

3
4 **SEC. 5. Prohibited Acts.** –The following acts of discrimination, when committed on
5 the basis of race, color, descent, national or ethnic origin, religion, or religious affiliation or
6 beliefs, of a person or any of one’s relative, representative or assignee of that person, are
7 deemed discriminatory, and shall be prohibited:

8
9 (a) **Discrimination in Political Participation.** – Any person acting as principal or
10 as an agent shall be held liable for the commission of any of the following acts:

- 11
12 (1) Preventing, impeding, prohibiting, obstructing or intervening in the exercise of
13 political rights by another, including but not limited to the right to vote and be
14 voted upon in a national or local election, both regular or special, or in a plebiscite,
15 both initiative or referendum;
- 16 (2) Imposing onerous terms before these political rights are granted, preserved or
17 protected; or
- 18 (3) Subjecting another person who wants to exercise a political right to any act of
19 discrimination.

20 (b) **Discrimination in Employment.** –

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22 (1) Any employer or head of a firm, company or organization shall be held liable
23 for any of the following discriminatory acts:
- 24
25 (i) Refusing or failing to employ another for work of any type or kind which is
26 available and for which the person is qualified, or by imposing on the person
27 onerous terms or conditions;
- 28 (ii) Denying or limiting access of an employee to the same terms and conditions
29 of work, opportunities for training, transfer or promotion, or to other benefits
30 connected with the employment as are made available for other employees
31 having the same qualifications and employed in the same circumstances or
32 work of the same kind or type, or by imposing on the person onerous terms
33 and conditions; or
- 34 (iii) Dismissing an employee, or subjecting an applicant for employment or an
35 employee to any act of discrimination on account of his employment.
- 36 (2) Any person acting as principal or agent in procuring employment for other
37 persons or procuring employees for an employer shall be held liable for treating
38 an applicant seeking employment less favorably than another person in the same
39 circumstances who is likewise seeking employment.

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(3) Any person acting as principal or agent of any organization of employers or employees, or any person acting or purporting to act on behalf of such organization, shall be liable for preventing or seeking to prevent a person from offering employment to another or for preventing the continued employment of a person.

(c) ***Discrimination in Education and Training.*** – Any person who heads or owns an educational institution, including any officer, employee or person acting on behalf of the head or owner of such institution shall be liable for any of the following discriminatory acts:

- (1) Refusing or failing to admit a student, or expelling a student from an educational institution on the basis of religious affiliation or belief, without prejudice to the right of educational institutions to determine the academic qualifications and non-academic training requirements of their students;
- (2) Denying or limiting access of a student to any benefit or privilege provided by the institution; or
- (3) Subjecting the student to any other act of discrimination against one's right to relevant education and training.

(d) ***Discrimination in the Delivery of Goods and Services.*** – Any person acting as principal or agent who supplies goods or services to the public or to any section of the public shall be liable for any of the following discriminatory acts:

- (1) Refusing or failing on demand to supply those goods or services to a person;
- (2) Refusing or failing on demand to supply those goods or services to another person except on less favorable terms or conditions than those upon whom they would otherwise supply those goods or services; or
- (3) Subjecting another person to any other act of discrimination in connection with the provision of goods or services.
- (4) Denying access to medical or health services open to the general public, and denying application for a license, clearance, certification or any other document issued by government authorities or other entities, with no lawful, valid or reasonable grounds.

(e) ***Discrimination in the Acquisition, Possession, Utilization, Lease or Disposal of Lands, including Housing and other Accommodations.*** –

- (1) Any person acting as principal or agent for acquiring, possessing, utilizing, leasing or disposing lands or interest thereof, including housing and other accommodations, shall be liable for any of the following discriminatory acts:

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- (iv) Refusing or failing to accept or process the application for any land or interest thereof, including housing and other accommodations;
- (v) Disposing of such land or interest, or housing and other accommodations to another person on less favorable terms or conditions than those which are or would otherwise be offered;
- (vi) Treating another person who is seeking to acquire or has acquired an estate, land or interest thereof, housing and other accommodations less favorably than to others in the same circumstances;
- (vii) Refusing to permit another person to occupy any estate, land, housing and other accommodations;
- (viii) Excluding any estate, land or interest thereof of another person or rejecting the right of another person to occupy any estate, land or housing and other accommodations; or
- (ix) Subjecting an applicant to any other act of discrimination in the acquisition, possession, utilization, lease or disposal of estate, land or interest thereof, housing and other accommodations.

(2) Any person acting as principal or agent shall also be liable by imposing or seeking to impose on another person any term or condition that restricts the persons or class of persons who may be the clients, visitors, or guests of any estate, land, housing and other accommodations.

(f) ***Discrimination in Access to Public Places, Facilities and Public Meetings.***

–Any person acting as principal or agent shall be liable for any of the following discriminatory acts:

- (1) Refusing to allow another person access to or use of any place, vehicle or facilities that the general public or section thereof is entitled or allowed to enter or use;
- (2) Refusing to allow another person access to or use of any such place, vehicle or facilities by providing onerous terms or conditions not similar to others who are allowed access to or use of the place, vehicle or facilities;
- (3) Refusing to allow another person access to a meeting or assembly open to the general public or to a section thereof, or refusing to allow another access to a meeting or assembly by providing onerous terms or conditions not similar to others to which they would otherwise allow access to a meeting or assembly;

1 (4) Requiring another person to leave or cease to use any public place, vehicle or any
2 such facilities; or

3 (5) Subjecting a person to a denial of access to public places, facilities or public
4 meetings.

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6 (g) ***Discrimination in Advertisements/Mass Media.*** –It shall be unlawful for a
7 person to publish or display, or cause or permit to be published or displayed, an advertisement
8 or notice that indicates or could reasonably be understood as an act of discrimination. Any
9 person acting as principal or agent shall be liable for discrimination by:

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11 (1) Portraying certain persons in movies, films, and advertisements on television and
12 other audio-visual forms and other publicly accessible documents as stupid,
13 barbaric, savage, dirty, wild, ignorant, stupid and similar degrading or unrealistic
14 portrayals; or

15 (2) Publishing, displaying, or causing or permitting to be published or displayed an
16 advertisement or notice that indicates or could reasonably be understood as an act
17 of discrimination.

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19 (h) ***Discrimination by Wrongful Portrayal.*** – Any person acting as principal or
20 agent shall be held liable for portraying, imitating, depicting or describing in learning
21 institutions, instructional materials, teaching devices, books and reference materials,
22 especially in Civics and History, certain individuals and/or group/s as inferior religiously,
23 racially or ethnically.

24
25 (i) ***Discrimination through Speech, Utterances, Acts of Hatred and Similar***
26 ***Act.*** - Any person shall be held liable for delivering speeches or making utterances,
27 performing acts of hatred or violence against another person, or mocking or ridiculing another
28 person.

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30 (j) ***Discrimination through Analogous Acts that Result in Impairment of the***
31 ***Enjoyment of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms.*** – Any person acting as principal
32 or agent shall be liable for analogous acts which have the effect or purpose of impairing or
33 nullifying the recognition, enjoyment or exercise of the person's human rights and
34 fundamental freedoms in the political, economic, social, cultural, civil spheres or any other
35 field of public life, and where such rights and freedoms are guaranteed and consistent with
36 relevant international human rights instruments to which the Philippines is a State Party
37 thereof, and where such analogous acts are committed on the basis of race, color, descent,
38 national or ethnic origin, religion, or religious affiliation or beliefs.

39
40 (k) ***Discrimination by Engaging In Profiling.*** -Any person acting as principal or
41 agent, including any member of the military or law enforcement agencies, who subjects a
42 person or group/s of persons to investigatory activities, such as unnecessary, unjustified,

1 illegal and degrading searches and similar acts, which are unlawful, immoral or socially
2 unacceptable.

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4 (l) ***Discrimination through Abuses of State and Non-State Actors.*** - Any
5 government official or employee of any government agency or corporation, local government
6 unit, police, military or any law enforcement agency, including non-state actors, shall be
7 liable if that official or employee commits acts of harassment, verbally or physically, to
8 curtail freedom of movement of any person or group of persons, or to extort a favor from the
9 latter, whether financial or not. This shall include acts of involuntarily detaining or confining
10 a person or group of persons. This shall not include legitimate orders issued by persons in
11 authority or courts of justice.

12
13 **SEC. 6. *Person/s Liable.*** - Any person, natural or juridical, including a government
14 agency or a private corporation, institution or company, who performs a discriminatory act
15 as described in the preceding section shall be liable under this Act.

16
17 Any person who requests, instructs, induces, encourages, authorizes or assists another
18 to commit acts of discrimination shall also be liable under this Act. Any person who is duty-
19 bound to act on complaints or discrimination under this Act but fails or refuses to do so shall
20 be deemed to have sanctioned the discriminatory act, and shall consequently be held equally
21 liable for discrimination.

22
23 **SEC. 7. *Inciting Others to Commit Acts of Discrimination.*** - Any person acting as
24 principal or agent shall be liable for:

- 25
26 (a) inciting the performance of an act that is unlawful by reason of a provision of
27 this Act; or
28
29 (b) assisting or promoting, whether by financial assistance or otherwise, the
performance or perpetration of such an act.

30
31 **SEC. 8. *Creation of Non-discrimination and Equal Opportunity Committee.*** - In
32 order to ensure compliance with this Act, all agencies, corporations, companies and
33 educational institutions, whether private or public, as well as any person providing
34 employment, housing, education and the delivery of basic goods and services shall create a
35 Non-Discrimination and Equal Opportunity Committee, hereinafter referred to as Non-
36 Discrimination Committee, which shall exercise administrative jurisdiction to investigate
acts and practices of discrimination under this Act.

37
38 The Non-Discrimination Committee shall, among others, conduct the initial
39 investigation of cases constituting discrimination on the basis of race, ethnic background,
40 religion, religious affiliation or beliefs. The result and findings of such investigation shall be
41 referred to the appropriate government agencies for resolution, settlement or prosecution.

1 Any administrative sanction on the perpetrator of discrimination shall not be a bar to
2 any prosecution in the proper courts on any act of discrimination committed on the basis of
3 race, ethnic background, religion, religious affiliation, religious beliefs, or to any civil claim
4 for damages suffered by the victim of discrimination.
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6 Failure of any juridical entity, whether public or private, to ensure effective
7 implementation of this provision shall be deemed refusal to address discrimination and shall
8 be considered as an act of discrimination subject to the penalty provided for in Section 11
9 hereof.
10

11 **Section 9. Duty of the Commission on Human Rights (CHR).** – It shall be the duty
12 of the Commission on Human Rights (CHR), in coordination with the National Commission
13 on Indigenous Peoples (NCIP) and the National Commission on Muslim Filipinos (NCMF),
14 to prevent or deter the commission on acts of discrimination and to assist, review and
15 recommend procedures for the resolution, settlement or prosecution of acts of discrimination.
16 Towards this end, the CHR shall:
17

- 18 (a) Ensure the creation of a committee on non-discrimination and equal opportunity in
19 all agencies, corporations, companies and educational institutions, whether private or
20 public;
- 21 (b) Monitor the implementation of this Act by agencies, corporations, companies and
22 educational institutions, whether private or public;
23
- 24 (c) Establish guidelines and mechanisms that will facilitate access of discriminated
25 persons to legal remedies under the Act and related laws, and enhance the protection
26 and promotion of the rights of the Filipino people against discrimination;
27
- 28 (d) Coordinate with the Department of Education (DepEd) and the Commission on
29 Higher Education (CHED) for the promotion of understanding and appreciation of
30 cultural diversity in schools and other learning modalities, and ensuring that books,
31 reference materials, and other learning resources used in education programs are free
32 from discriminatory content;
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- 34 (e) Conduct consultations with indigenous peoples, ethno-linguistic groups and religious
35 organizations or religious communities; and
36
- 37 (f) Assist in the filing of cases against individuals, agencies, institutions, or
38 establishments, whether public or private, that violate the provisions of this Act. For
39 this purpose, the CHR shall:
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- 41 (1) Provide legal assistance to victims of discrimination such as through the preparation
42 of necessary pleadings, referral letters, and counseling;

1 (2) Forge Memoranda of Agreement with Bar associations, nongovernmental
2 organizations, law firms and organizations that provide legal aid to victims of
3 discrimination to ensure adequate and competent legal representation for the
4 complainants; and
5

6 (3) Create an efficient system of case referrals to appropriate government department or
7 agencies.
8

9 **SEC. 10. Responsibility to Promote a Non-Discrimination and Equal Opportunity**
10 **Environment.** – It shall be the duty of every person, natural or juridical, public or private, to
11 ensure non-discrimination and equal opportunity to all persons when relating to actual or
12 prospective employees, students, tenants, customers, or clients and that no discriminatory
13 acts, as defined herein, are committed by them or their agents.
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15 All government officers and workers are likewise obliged to be non-discriminatory
16 in the discharge of their duties and responsibilities.
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18 **SEC. 11. Common Penal Provisions.** – Any person liable under this Act shall be
19 penalized by *arresto mayor* or imprisonment for a period of not less than thirty (30) days or
20 not more than six (6) months and/or a fine of not less than Ten thousand pesos (Php
21 10,000.00) nor more than One hundred thousand pesos (Php 100,000.00), taking into
22 consideration the circumstances and gravity of the offense and the following conditions:
23

24 (a) the penalty provided under this Act shall be imposed in its maximum period
25 if the offender has been previously convicted under this Act;

26 (b) when the offender is a corporation, partnership or association, the officer,
27 agent or employee thereof who is responsible for the violation of this Act shall suffer the
28 penalty imposed in its maximum period;

29 (c) the penalty provided herein shall be imposed in its maximum period when the
30 perpetrator is an ascendant, parent, guardian, stepparent or collateral relative within the
31 second degree of consanguinity or affinity of the victim, or is the manager or owner of an
32 establishment which has no license to operate or whose license has expired or has been
33 previously revoked;

34 (d) the offender who is a foreigner shall be deported immediately after service of
35 sentence and shall be perpetually barred entry into the country;

36 (e) the penalty provided for in this Act shall be imposed in its maximum period
37 if the offender is a public official, officer or employee: Provided, that the penalty of
38 suspension shall also be imposed; and

39 (f) a fine to be determined by the court shall be imposed.

1 **SEC. 12. *Administrative Proceedings and Sanctions.*** – Upon finding by the Non-
2 Discrimination Committee that a department, agency, or instrumentality of government,
3 government-owned and controlled corporation, or local government unit has violated any
4 provision of this Act and its implementing rules and regulations, or any private corporation
5 or entity, the sanctions under administrative law, civil service, or other appropriate laws shall
6 be recommended to the Civil Service Commission, or the Department of Interior and Local
7 Government, in the case of government officials or employees, or to the Department of
8 Labor, in the case of officers and employees of private corporations or entities. The person
9 directly responsible for the violation as well as the head of the agency or local chief executive
10 shall be held liable under this Act.

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12 The failure of a head of agency, government official or employee whose duty is to
13 prosecute or otherwise act on a complaint for a violation of this Act shall constitute neglect
14 of duty on the part of such official or employee.

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16 **SEC. 13. *Reparation to Victims.*** – In addition to existing laws and procedural rules
17 or reparation to victims, the following measures shall be undertaken:

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19 (a) the court, administrative agency, or quasi-judicial body shall follow the
20 principles relating to the reparations to, or in respect of, victims, including restitution,
21 compensation and rehabilitation. In their decisions, the court, administrative agency, or
22 quasi-judicial body may, either upon request or on their own volition, in exceptional
23 circumstances, determine the scope and extent of any damage, loss or injury to the victims,
24 stating therein the principles on which they are acting;

25 (b) the court, administrative agency, or quasi-judicial body may make an order
26 directly against a person convicted by a judgement that has become final and executory,
27 specifying appropriate reparation to, or in respect of victims, including restitution,
28 compensation and rehabilitation; and

29 (c) before making an order under this section, the court, administrative agency,
30 or quasi-judicial body shall invite and shall take into account representations from, or on
31 behalf of, the convicted person, victims or other interested persons.

32 Nothing in this section shall be interpreted as prejudicing the rights of victims under
33 national or international law.

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35 **SEC. 14. *Appropriations.*** - The Chairperson of the CHR shall include in the CHR's
36 program the implementation of this Act, the initial funding of which shall be charged against
37 the current appropriation of the Commission. Thereafter, the amount necessary for the
38 continued implementation of this Act, shall be included in the annual General Appropriations
39 Act (GAA).

1 **SEC. 15. *Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR)*.** – The CHR, in consultation
2 with the NCIP, NCMF, and other stakeholders shall, within ninety (90) days from the
3 effectivity of this Act, promulgate the rules and regulations to implement it.
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5 **SEC. 16. *Repealing Clause*.** - Any provision of law or regulation inconsistent
6 herewith is hereby repealed, revoked or modified accordingly.
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8 **SEC. 17. *Separability Clause*.** – If any portion of this Act is declared as
9 unconstitutional or invalid, the remaining portions not affected thereby shall continue to have
10 force and effect.
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12 **SEC. 18. *Effectivity*.** – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication
13 in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved.