

NINETEENTH CONGRESS OF THE)
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
First Regular Session)



Senate
Office of the Secretary

'22 AUG -3 A11 :29

SENATE
S. B. No. 1008

RECEIVED BY: _____

Introduced by Senator SONNY ANGARA

AN ACT
MANDATING HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS AND TECHNICAL-
VOCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS TO ENSURE THE SAFETY AND SECURITY OF
THE ACADEMIC COMMUNITY FROM INTERNAL AND EXTERNAL THREATS,
THEREBY CREATING A SAFETY AND SECURITY COMMITTEE FOR THIS
PURPOSE

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Section 4(1), Article XIV of the 1987 Constitution mandates the State to exercise reasonable supervision and regulation of all educational institutions. Included in this mandate is the State's responsibility to ensure a safe and secure environment for students to pursue their studies within these institutions without any fear for their physical well-being.

There has been a steady increase in the crime rate in campuses all over the country. Thus, it is necessary for students, their parents and/or their guardians to have access to information with regard to campus crime statistics, as well as crime prevention plans in these campuses to equip them in making an informed choice as to which school to go to or send their children.

At the same time, students currently enrolled in their respective campuses need to know the measures undertaken by their institution, as well as courses of action in cases of emergency to guarantee security and expedient assistance, if need be. To formulate such policies and strategies applicable for each campus, the bill

provides for an establishment of a Safety and Security Committee in every higher education institution and technical-vocational institution.

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



SONNY ANGARA

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MANDATING HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS AND TECHNICAL-VOCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS TO ENSURE THE SAFETY AND SECURITY OF THE ACADEMIC COMMUNITY FROM INTERNAL AND EXTERNAL THREATS, THEREBY CREATING A SAFETY AND SECURITY COMMITTEE FOR THIS PURPOSE

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

1 **Section 1. Short Title.** – This Act shall be known as the "*Campus Safety*
2 *and Security Act.*"

3 **Sec. 2. Declaration of Policies.** – It is the declared responsibility of the
4 State under the Constitution to promote and protect the physical, moral and spiritual
5 intellectual and well-being of the youth. The State shall ensure the safety and
6 security of the academic community, majority of whom are students, in all
7 institutions of higher and technical education in the country.

8 **Sec. 3. Scope.** – This Act shall apply to all higher education institutions
9 (HEIs) and technical-vocational institutions (TVIs).

10 **Sec. 4. Safety and Security Services.** – All HEIs and TVIs shall endeavor
11 to deliver adequate safety and security services to students, which include the
12 provision of safe and secure environment and the conduct of programs and activities
13 that promote safety and security from both internal and external threats.

14 For this purpose, the following shall be provided by HEIs and TVIs:

- 15 a) A safe, accessible and secure environment, buildings and facilities that shall
- 16 comply with government standards. Licensed and competent security
- 17 personnel shall ensure the safety and security of the students, faculty, non-

1 teaching personnel and other members of the academic community and their
2 belongings; and

- 3 b) An established mechanism for students to help in crime prevention, safety
4 and security of the concerned HEI and TVI.

5 **Sec. 5. Creation of a Safety and Security Committee.** – A Safety and
6 Security Committee (SSC) shall be established in every HEI and TVI to formulate
7 policies and strategies that shall help protect the academic community from both
8 internal and external threats to their safety and security, such as theft, robbery, rape
9 and other forms of violence within and outside the area where the HEI or TVI is
10 located. The composition of the SSC shall be determined by the respective governing
11 boards of the HEIs, and the owners/proprietors/administrators of TVIs, as the case
12 may be.

13 **Sec. 6. Duties and Responsibilities of the SSC.** – The SSC shall have the
14 following duties and responsibilities:

15 a) To formulate, in consultation, with the School Head, the Chief of Police
16 where the HEI or TVI is located, the *Punong Barangay*, and other security specialists
17 as may be necessary and appropriate, a Safety and Security Strategy. Such Safety
18 and Security Prevention Strategy shall include the following:

- 19 1. A statement of current campus policies regarding procedures and
20 facilities to be used by students and others to report criminal actions or
21 other emergencies occurring on campus and those concerning the
22 institution's response to such reports;
- 23 2. A statement of current policies concerning security and access to
24 campus facilities, including campus residences, and security
25 considerations used in the maintenance of campus facilities;
- 26 3. A statement of current policies concerning campus law enforcement
27 including the following:
- 28 i) The enforcement authority of security personnel, including their
29 working relationship with national and local police agencies, and
30 ii) Policies which encourage accurate and prompt reporting of all
31 crimes to the campus police and the appropriate police agencies;

- 1 4. A description of the type and frequency of programs designed to
2 inform students and employees about campus security procedures and
3 practices and to encourage students and employees to be responsible
4 for their own security and security of others;
- 5 5. A description of programs designed to inform students and employees
6 about the prevention of crimes;
- 7 6. A statement of policy concerning the monitoring and recording through
8 local police agencies of criminal activities committed by off-campus
9 student organizations which are recognized by the institution and that
10 are engaged in by students attending the institution, including those
11 student organizations with off-campus housing facilities; and
- 12 7. A statement of policy regarding the possession, use, and sale of
13 alcoholic beverages and enforcement of laws against underage
14 drinking; a statement of policy against the possession, use and sale of
15 illegal drugs; the enforcement of drug laws; and a description of any
16 drug or alcohol abuse education programs;
- 17 b) To formulate crime prevention programs for the implementation of the
18 SSC;
- 19 c) To coordinate with HEI/TVI administrators or deans, or other officials as
20 the case may be, in the maintenance of peace and order within the HEI/TVI
21 premises;
- 22 d) To recommend to the HEI/TVI the conduct of seminars or trainings on
23 crime and drug prevention and control in coordination with the National Police
24 Commission (NAPOLCOM) regional office, local police station or Department of the
25 Interior and Local Government (DILG);
- 26 e) To conduct intensive information drive on the Safety and Security Strategy
27 which includes the semestral distribution of copies and orientation thereon; and
- 28 f) To submit to Commission on Higher Education (CHED) or to the Technical
29 Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA), through their respective
30 regional offices, the composition of SSC and the Safety and Security Strategy, as
31 well as its program of activities and projects for the academic year two (2) months
32 after the closing of enrolment in the first semester and accomplishment report within

1 two (2) months after finishing the second semester or trimester of the academic
2 year.

3 **Sec. 7. Approval and Review of the Safety and Security Strategy. –**

4 The Safety and Security Strategy, after approval of the Board of Trustees/Regents of
5 the HEIs or the owners/proprietors/administrators of the TVIs, shall be submitted to
6 the CHED or TESDA and shall be subject to its review. If found unsatisfactory by the
7 CHED or TESDA, taking into consideration the circumstances of each HEI/TVI, it
8 shall be returned to the Board or the owners/proprietors/administrators for
9 appropriate action: *Provided*, That pending its review, the Plan shall be implemented
10 by the HEI/TVI concerned.

11 The Safety and Security Strategy shall be subject to review or reassessment
12 by the Board or the owners/proprietors/administrators, as the case may be, either
13 annually or as often as required by circumstances.

14 **Sec. 8. Duties of the CHED Regional Offices and the TESDA Regional**

15 **Offices.** – The CHED Regional Offices and the TESDA Regional Offices shall
16 coordinate, supervise and monitor the implementation of the Safety and Security
17 Strategy, as approved, and projects of SSCs, jointly with the National Police
18 Commission (NAPOLCOM) in the region.

19 The CHED and TESDA shall consolidate regional accomplishment reports as
20 required under Section 6 hereof, and shall submit them to the Office of the CHED
21 Chairperson and the Office of the TESDA Director-General, respectively.

22 **Sec. 9. Administrative Sanctions.** – Any HEI or its Board of Trustees or

23 Regents or any TVI or its owners/proprietors/administrators, and other
24 officers/persons responsible for the failure to comply with the provisions of this Act
25 shall be subject to administrative sanctions to be imposed by the CHED and the
26 TESDA, respectively.

27 **Sec. 10. Implementing Rules and Regulations.** – Within ninety (90)

28 days upon the effectivity of this Act, the CHED and TESDA, in coordination with the
29 Department of Education (DepEd), Philippine Association of State Universities and
30 Colleges (PASUC), the Coordinating Council of Private Educational Associations
31 (COCOPEA), and the Association of Local Colleges and Universities (ALCU), shall

1 issue the necessary rules and regulations for the effective implementation of this
2 Act.

3 **Sec. 11. *Separability Clause.*** – If any portion or provision of this Act is
4 subsequently declared invalid or unconstitutional, other provisions hereof which are
5 not affected thereby shall remain in full force and effect.

6 **Sec. 12. *Repealing Clause.*** – All other laws, acts, presidential decrees,
7 executive orders, presidential proclamations, issuances, rules and regulations, or
8 parts thereof which are contrary to or inconsistent with any of the provisions of this
9 Act are hereby repealed, amended, or modified accordingly.

10 **Sec. 13. *Effectivity.*** – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its
11 publication in the *Official Gazette* or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,