

SIXTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC)
OF THE PHILIPPINES)
Second Regular Session)



Senate
Office of the Secretary

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SENATE
Senate Bill No. 2793

RECEIVED BY: J

INTRODUCED BY SENATOR SONNY M. ANGARA

**AN ACT
EXPANDING THE COVERAGE OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 10627, OTHERWISE
KNOWN AS THE ANTI-BULLYING ACT OF 2013 AMENDING FOR THIS
PURPOSE SECTIONS 2 AND 6 THEREOF AND PROVIDING
PENALTIES THEREFOR**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

On September 12, 2013, Republic Act No. 10627 or the *Anti-Bullying Act of 2013* was enacted to protect students from bullying and other forms of violence that may be inflicted upon them. However, this law only seeks to protect students from other students and does not include the possibility of bullying committed by their own teachers or other employees of the school.

In a study commissioned by the United Nations Children's Fund, the Council for the Welfare of Children, and Plan International, it was found that most students in the grade school and high school have experienced various forms of abuse either from their peers **or from their teachers.**

Another relevant study by an American psychiatrist titled "*Teachers Who Bully Students: A Hidden Trauma*" showed that teacher bullying receives minimal attention and that this problem "*seems more common than people believe.*" The study's anonymous survey further showed that of 116 teachers, nearly half or 45 percent surprisingly admitted to having bullied a student.

Teachers and other school employees, including the principal, and security, maintenance and administrative personnel, may commit acts of bullying by using humiliating words and giving degrading treatment such as unwarranted corporal punishments against students.

While RA 10627 seeks to protect students from bullying, the law is regrettably confined only to bullying between and among students. Thus, this bill seeks to expand the coverage of the Anti-Bullying Act to include teachers and

other school employees, and provide more severe penalties against school employees who commit acts of bullying towards a student.

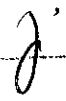
As our children's so-called second parents, it should be the teachers and the school authorities' primary responsibility and promise to parents to ensure the safety of the students. We should provide the Filipino youth the opportunity for maximum learning in a peaceful setting and protect our children from the earliest forms of violence.

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



SENATOR SONNY M. ANGARA

SENATE
Senate Bill No. **2793**

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INTRODUCED BY SENATOR SONNY M. ANGARA

AN ACT
EXPANDING THE COVERAGE OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 10627,
OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE *ANTI-BULLYING ACT OF 2013* AMENDING
FOR THIS PURPOSE SECTIONS 2 AND 6 THEREOF AND PROVIDING
PENALTIES THEREFOR

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

1 **SECTION 1.** Section 2 of Republic Act No. 10627, otherwise known as
2 the *Anti-Bullying Act of 2013*, is hereby amended to read as follows:

3
4 “SEC. 2. *Acts of Bullying.* – For purposes of this Act, “bullying”
5 shall refer to any severe or repeated use by **EITHER ANY STUDENT**
6 **OR SCHOOL EMPLOYEE** [one or more students] of a written, verbal
7 or electronic expression, or a physical act or gesture, or any
8 combination thereof, directed **TOWARDS A** [at another] student that
9 has the effect of actually causing or placing the latter in reasonable fear
10 of physical or emotional harm or damage to his property; creating a
11 hostile environment at school for the [other] student; infringing on the
12 rights of the [other] student at school; or materially and substantially
13 disrupting the education process or the orderly operation of a school;
14 such as, but not limited to, the following:

- 15
16 a. Any unwanted physical contact between the bully and the
17 victim like punching, pushing, shoving, kicking, slapping,
18 tickling, headlocks, inflicting school pranks, teasing, fighting
19 and the use of available objects as weapons;

- 1 b. Any act that causes damage to a victim's psyche and/or
2 emotional well-being;
- 3 c. Any slanderous statement or accusation that causes the
4 victim undue emotional distress like directing foul language
5 or profanity at the target, name-calling, tormenting and
6 commenting negatively on victim's looks, clothes and body;
7 and
- 8 d. Cyber-bullying or any bullying done through the use of
9 technology or any electronic means.

10
11 **FOR PURPOSES OF THIS ACT, SCHOOL EMPLOYEE**
12 **REFERRED TO IN THIS SECTION SHALL INCLUDE BOTH**
13 **TEACHING AND NON-TEACHING PERSONNEL OF A SCHOOL.**

14
15 **SECTION 2.** Section 6 of Republic Act No. 10627, is hereby amended
16 to read as follows:

17 "SEC. 6. *Sanction for Noncompliance AND PENALTIES FOR*
18 *VIOLATIONS.* – In the rules and regulations to be implemented
19 pursuant to this Act, the Secretary of the DepED shall prescribe the
20 appropriate administrative sanctions on school administrators who shall
21 fail to comply with the requirements under this Act. In addition thereto,
22 erring private schools shall likewise suffer the penalty of suspension of
23 their permits to operate.

24
25
26 **ANY SCHOOL EMPLOYEE WHO COMMITS BULLYING AS**
27 **DEFINED IN SECTION 2 OF THIS ACT SHALL BE PUNISHED BY A**
28 **FINE OF NOT LESS THAN FIFTY THOUSAND PESOS (P50,000.00)**
29 **BUT NOT MORE THAN ONE HUNDRED THOUSAND PESOS**
30 **(P100,000.00), OR BY IMPRISONMENT OF SIX (6) MONTHS BUT**
31 **NOT MORE THAN ONE (1) YEAR, OR BOTH FINE AND**
32 **IMPRISONMENT.**

1 IF THE BULLYING COMMITTED BY ANY SCHOOL
2 EMPLOYEE RESULTS IN THE VICTIM ATTEMPTING TO COMMIT
3 SUICIDE, THE PENALTY SHALL BE A FINE OF NOT LESS THAN
4 ONE HUNDRED THOUSAND PESOS (P100,000.00) BUT NOT
5 MORE THAN FIVE HUNDRED THOUSAND PESOS (P500,000.00),
6 OR BY IMPRISONMENT OF ONE (1) YEAR BUT NOT MORE THAN
7 THREE (3) YEARS, OR BOTH FINE AND IMPRISONMENT. IF THE
8 SUICIDE ATTEMPT RESULTS IN THE DEATH OF THE VICTIM, THE
9 PENALTY SHALL BE A FINE OF NOT LESS THAN FIVE HUNDRED
10 THOUSAND PESOS (P500,000.00) BUT NOT MORE THAN ONE
11 MILLION PESOS (P1,000,000.00), OR BY IMPRISONMENT OF
12 THREE (3) YEARS BUT NOT MORE THAN SIX (6) YEARS, OR
13 BOTH FINE AND IMPRISONMENT.
14

15 **SECTION 3. *Repealing Clause.*** – All provisions of existing laws,
16 orders, rules and regulations inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are
17 hereby repealed or modified accordingly.
18

19 **SECTION 4. *Effectivity Clause.*** – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15)
20 days after its publication in the *Official Gazette* or in a newspaper of general
21 circulation.
22

23 Approved,