

**[ REPUBLIC ACT NO. 11053, June 29, 2018 ]**

**AN ACT PROHIBITING HAZING AND REGULATING OTHER FORMS OF INITIATION RITES OF FRATERNITIES, SORORITIES, AND OTHER ORGANIZATIONS, AND PROVIDING PENALTIES FOR VIOLATIONS THEREOF, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8049, ENTITLED "AN ACT REGULATING HAZING AND OTHER FORMS OF INITIATION RITES IN FRATERNITIES, SORORITIES, AND ORGANIZATIONS AND PROVIDING PENALTIES THEREFORE"**

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

SECTION 1. A new section to be dominated as Section 1 is hereby inserted in Republic Act No. 8049, to read as follows:

"SECTION 1. *Short Title.*- This Act shall be known as the "Anti-Hazing Act of 2018".

SEC. 2. Section 1 of the same Act is hereby amended to read as follows:

"SEC. 2. *Definition of terms.*- As used in this Act:

"(a) *Hazing* refers to any act that results in physical or psychological suffering, harm, or injury inflicted on a recruit, neophyte, applicant, or member as part of an initiation rite or practice made as a prerequisite for admission or a requirement for continuing membership in a fraternity, sorority, or organization including, but not limited to, paddling, whipping, beating, branding, forced calisthenics, exposure to the weather, forced consumption of any food, liquor, beverage, drug or other substance, or any brutal treatment or forced physical activity which is likely to adversely affect the physical and psychological health of such recruit, neophyte, applicant, or member. This shall also include any activity, intentionally made or otherwise, by one person alone or acting with others, that tends to humiliate or embarrass, degrade, abuse, or endanger, by requiring a recruit, neophyte, applicant, or member to do mental, silly, or foolish tasks.

"(b) *Initiation or Initiation Rites* refer to ceremonies, practices, rituals, or other acts, whether formal or informal, that a person must perform or take part in order to be accepted into fraternity, sorority, or organization as full-fledged member. It includes ceremonies, practices, rituals, and other acts in all stages of membership in a fraternity, sorority, or organization.

"(c) *Organization* refers to an organized body of people which includes, but is not limited to, any club, association, group, fraternity, and sorority.

This term shall include the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP), the Philippine National Police (PNP), the Philippine Military Academy (PMA), the Philippine National Police Academy (PNPA), and other similar uniformed service learning institutions.

"(d) *Schools* refer to colleges, universities, and all other educational institutions."

SEC. 3. A new section to be denominated as Section 3 is hereby inserted in the same Act to read as follows:

"SEC. 3. *Prohibition on Hazing*.- All forms of hazing shall be prohibited in fraternities, sororities, and organizations in schools, including citizens military training and citizens' army training. This prohibition shall likewise apply to all other fraternities, sororities, and organizations that are not school-based, such as community-based and other similar fraternities, sororities, and organizations: *Provided*, That the physical, mental, and psychological fitness of prospective regular members of the AFP and the PNP as approved by the Secretary of National Defense and the National Police Commission, duly recommended by the Chief of Staff of the AFP and the Director General of the PNP, shall not be considered as hazing for purpose of this Act: *Provided, further*, That the exception provided herein shall likewise apply to similar procedures and practices approved by the respective heads of other uniformed learning institutions as to their prospective members, nor shall this provisions apply to any customary athletic events or other similar contests or competitions or any activity or conduct that furthers as legal and legitimate objective, subject to prior submission of medical clearance or certificate.

"In no case shall hazing be made a requirement for employment in any business or corporation."

SEC. 4. Section 2 of the same Act is hereby amended to read as follows:

"SEC. 4. *Regulation of School-Based Initiation Rites*.- Only initiation rites or practices that do not constitute hazing shall be allowed: *Provided*, That:

"(a) A written application to conduct initiation rites shall be mae to the proper authorities of the school not later than seven (7) days prior to the scheduled initiation date;

"(b) The written application shall indicate the place and date of the initiation rites and the names of the recruits, neophytes, or applicants to be initiated and the manner by which they will conduct the initiation rites;

"(c) Such written application shall further contain an undertaking that no harm of any kind shall be committed by anybody during the initiation rites;

"(d) The initiation rites shall not last more than three (3) days;

"(e) The application shall contain the names of the incumbent officers of the fraternity, sorority, or organization and any person or persons who

will take charge in the conduct of the initiation rites;

"(f) The application shall be under oath with a declaration that it has been posted in the official school bulletin board, the bulletin board of the office of the fraternity, sorority or organization, and two (2) other conspicuous places in the school or in the premises of the organization; and

"(g) The application shall be posted from the time of submission of the written notice to the school authorities or head of organization and shall only be removed from its posting three (3) days after the conduct of the initiation rites.

"The school, fraternity, sorority, or organization shall provide for their respective bulletin boards for purposes of this section.

"Guidelines for the approval or denial of the application to conduct initiation rites by a registered fraternity, sorority, or organization shall be promulgated by the appropriate school officials not later than sixty (60) days after the approval of this Act. The appropriate school authorities shall have the obligation to disapprove the application to conduct initiation rites that do not conform with any of the requirements of this section, and the reasons thereof shall be stated clearly and in unequivocal terms in a formal advice to the fraternity, sorority, or organization concerned, taking into consideration the safety and security of participants in the activity.

"School officials shall have the authority to impose, after due notice and summary hearing, disciplinary sanctions, in accordance with the school's guidelines and regulations on the matter, which shall include, but shall not be limited to, reprimand, suspension, exclusion, or expulsion, to the head and all other officers of the fraternity, sorority, or organization which conducts an initiation without first securing the necessary approval of the school as required under this section. All members of the fraternity, sorority, or organization, who participated in the unauthorized initiation rites, even if no hazing was conducted, shall also be punished accordingly.

"In case the written application for the conduct of initiation rites contains false or inaccurate information, appropriate disciplinary sanctions in accordance with the school's guidelines and regulations on the matter ranging from reprimand to expulsion shall be imposed, after due notice and summary hearing, against the person who prepared the application or supplied the false and inaccurate information and to the head and other officers of the fraternity, sorority, or organization concerned."

SEC. 5. Section 3 of the same Act is hereby amended to read as follows:

"SEC. 5. *Monitoring of Initiation Rites.*- The head of the school or an authorized representative must assign at least two (2) representatives of the school to be present during the initiation. It is the duty of school representatives to see to it that no hazing is conducted during the initiation rites, and to document the entire proceedings. Thereafter, said representatives who were present during the initiation shall make a

report of the initiation rites to the appropriate officials of the school regarding the conduct of the said initiation: *Provided*, That if hazing is still committed despite their presence, no liability shall attach to them unless it is proven that they failed to perform an overt act to prevent or stop the commission thereof."

SEC. 6. A new section to be denominated as Section 6 is hereby inserted in the same Act to read as follows;

"SEC. 6. *Registration of Fraternities, Sororities, and Other Organizations.*- All existing fraternities, sororities, and other organizations otherwise not created or organized by the school but has existing members who are students or plans to recruit students or plans to recruit students to be its members shall be required to register with the proper school authorities before it conducts activities whether on or off-campus, including recruitment of members.

"A newly established fraternity, sorority, or organization in a school shall immediately register with the proper school authorities during the semester or trimester in which it was established or organized: *Provided*, That the new fraternity, sorority, or organization has complied with the requirements prescribed by the school in establishing a fraternity, sorority, or organization: *Provided, further*, That schools shall promulgate their guidelines in the registration of fraternities, sororities, and organizations within their jurisdiction not later than sixty (60) days from the approval of this Act.

"Upon registration, all fraternities, sororities, and organizations shall submit a comprehensive list of members, which shall be updated not later than thirty (30) days from the start of every semester or trimester, depending on the academic calendar of the school.

"School officials shall have the authority to impose, after due notice and summary hearings, disciplinary penalties in accordance with the school's guidelines and regulations on the matter including suspension to the head and other officers of the fraternity, sorority, or organization who fail to register or update their roster of members as required under this section.

"Failure to comply with any of the requirements in this section shall result in the cancellation of the registration of the fraternity, sorority, or organization."

SEC. 7. A new section to be denominated as Section 7 is hereby inserted in the same Act to read as follows:

"SEC. 7. *Faculty Adviser.*- Schools shall require all fraternities, sororities, and organizations, as a condition to the grant of accreditation or registration, to submit the name or names of their respective faculty advisers who must not be members of the respective fraternity, sorority, or organization. The submission shall also include a written acceptance or consent on the part of the selected faculty adviser or advisers.

"The faculty adviser or advisers shall be responsible for monitoring the activities of the fraternity, sorority, or organization. Each faculty adviser must be a duly recognized active member, in good standing, of the faculty at the school in which the fraternity, sorority, or organization is established or registered.

"In case of violation of any of the provisions of this Act, it is presumed that the faculty adviser has knowledge and consented to the commission of any of the unlawful acts stated therein.

SEC. 8. A new section to be denominated as Section 8 is hereby inserted in the same Act to read as follows:

"SEC. 8. *Role of Educational Institutions.*- The responsibility of schools to exercise reasonable supervision *in loco parentis* over the conduct of its students requires the diligence that prudent parents would employ in the same circumstance when disciplining and protecting their children. To this end, it shall be the duty of schools to take more proactive steps to protect its students from the dangers of participating in activities that involve hazing.

"Schools shall implement an information dissemination campaign at the start of every semester or trimester to provide adequate information to students and parents or guardians regarding the consequences of conducting and participating in hazing.

"An orientation program relating to membership in a fraternity, sorority, or organization shall also be conducted by schools as the start of every semester or trimester.

"Schools shall encourage fraternities, sororities, and organizations to engage in undertakings that foster holistic personal growth and development and activities that contribute to solving relevant and pressing issues of society."

SEC. 9. A new section to be denominated as Section 9 is hereby inserted in the same Act to read as follows:

"SEC. 9. *Registration of Community-Based and Other Similar Fraternities, Sororities, or Organizations.*- All new and existing community-based fraternities, sororities, or organizations, including their respective local chapters, shall register with the barangay, municipality, or city wherein they are primarily based.

"Upon registration, all community-based fraternities, sororities, or organizations, including their respective local chapters, shall submit a comprehensive list of members and officers which shall be updated yearly from the date of registration."

SEC. 10. A new section to be denominated as Section 10 is hereby inserted in the same Act to read as follows:

"SEC. 10. *Regulation of Initiation Rites for Community-Based Fraternities, Sororities, or Organizations.*- Only initiation rites or practices that do not constitute hazing shall be allowed; *Provided, That:*