

SENATE
S. No. 2426

(In substitution of Senate Bill Nos. 441, 627, 1052, 1077, 1376, 1582, 2133, 2321, and 2390, taking into consideration Senate Resolution Nos. 469, 476, 498, and the privilege speeches of Senator Erwin T. Tulfo, delivered on 10 March 2026, entitled: "School Bullying", and Senator Win T. Gatchalian, delivered on 19 August 2026 and all the manifestations and interventions related thereto on "Strengthening School Safety, Child Protection, and Mental Health Support Following the Ateneo De Zamboanga Shooting")

Prepared and submitted by the Committees on Basic Education, Higher, Technical and Vocational Education, Science and Technology, Civil Service, Government Reorganization and Professional Regulation, Women, Children, Family Relations and Gender Equality, Local Government, Justice and Human Rights, and Finance, with Senators Tulfo (R.), Gatchalian, Estrada, Ejercito, Hontiveros, Villar (M.), Aquino, and Tulfo (E.) as authors thereof

AN ACT
INSTITUTIONALIZING A COMPREHENSIVE SCHOOL SAFETY FRAMEWORK,
ENSURING THE SAFETY AND WELL-BEING OF LEARNERS AND SCHOOL
PERSONNEL, AND PROMOTING A SAFE AND SUPPORTIVE SCHOOL
COMMUNITY

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

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- TITLE I
- GENERAL PROVISIONS
- SECTION 1. *Short Title.* – This Act shall be known as the "*Comprehensive School Safety Act.*"
- SEC. 2. *Declaration of Policy.* – It is hereby declared the policy of the State to protect and promote the right of all learners and school personnel to an enabling, safe, healthy, and supportive learning and working environment where all learners and school personnel are protected and secured from any form of abuse, violence, or harm.

1 The State likewise recognizes that health promotion and healthy learning
2 environments are integral to school safety, and shall therefore promote conditions,
3 policies, practices, and environments that prevent harm, support physical, mental, and
4 social well-being, and enable learners and school personnel to thrive.

5 Towards this end, the State shall:

- 6 a) Adopt a comprehensive school safety framework that fosters a whole-of-society
7 and all-hazards approach in the development, implementation, monitoring, and
8 evaluation of school safety policies, programs and plans;
- 9 b) Institutionalize an integrated school safety system for basic education
10 institutions that ensures prevention from, response to, and recovery from
11 threats and incidents relating to school safety.
- 12 c) Strengthen coordination among the DepEd, national government agencies,
13 LGUs, and other community stakeholders in the implementation of school safety
14 measures;
- 15 d) Ensure the provision of adequate human resources, infrastructure, equipment,
16 technology, financial support, and other resources necessary for the effective
17 implementation of this Act; and
- 18 e) Promote learner-centered, fully inclusive, evidence-based, and developmentally
19 appropriate approaches in the design and implementation of school safety
20 programs and interventions.

21 SEC. 3. *Scope and Coverage.* – This Act shall apply to all public and private
22 basic education institutions, hereinafter referred to as “schools,” including elementary
23 and secondary schools and other basic education institutions as may be covered by
24 the Department of Education (DepEd).

25 The provisions of this Act shall apply to all learners, school personnel, and other
26 members of the school community and shall encompass measures for the prevention
27 of, response to, and recovery from hazards and threats to their safety and well-being
28 within school premises and in other venues related to school activities, whether
29 conducted on or off campus, including those conducted through or involving digital
30 platforms and technologies.

31 Acts such as violence, child abuse, neglect, exploitation, bullying,
32 discrimination, harassment, gender-based violence, corporal punishment, and

1 retaliation committed by students or school personnel against students or school
2 personnel are prohibited.

3 For purposes of this Act, school safety encompasses the protection and
4 promotion of the physical, mental, emotional, psychosocial, and digital safety and well-
5 being of learners, school personnel, and other members of the school community, as
6 well as the prevention and appropriate management of violence, abuse, bullying,
7 discrimination, harassment, exploitation, emergencies, disasters, and other threats to
8 their safety and well-being.

9 TITLE II

10 SCHOOL SAFETY FRAMEWORK AND POLICIES

11 CHAPTER I. SCHOOL SAFETY FRAMEWORK

12 SEC. 4. *Establishment of the National Comprehensive School Safety*
13 *Framework.* – The Department of Education (DepEd), in coordination with the
14 Department of Health (DOH), the Department of Social Welfare and Development
15 (DSWD), the Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG), the Philippine
16 National Police (PNP), Local Government Units (LGUs), National Youth Commission
17 (NYC), and other relevant government stakeholders shall establish, maintain, and
18 periodically update a National Comprehensive School Safety Framework, hereinafter
19 referred to as the "Framework," to guide the implementation of this Act in all schools.

20 The Framework shall, at the minimum, prescribe national standards for the
21 prevention of, response to, and recovery from threats and incidents relating to school
22 safety, including:

- 23 a) The development, implementation, monitoring, and evaluation of School Safety
24 Plans and School Safety Handbooks;
- 25 b) School safety personnel, staffing guidelines, competency standards, and
26 capacity-building;
- 27 c) School safety protocols, infrastructure, facilities, equipment, and security
28 measures;
- 29 d) Learner protection, violence prevention, and anti-bullying mechanisms;
- 30 e) Digital safety, responsible technology use, and cybersecurity;
- 31 f) Learner well-being, mental health promotion, counseling services, and
32 psychosocial support;

- g) Emergency preparedness, disaster risk reduction and management, crisis response, recovery, and business continuity;
- h) Periodic engagement with parents and other community stakeholders;
- i) Meaningful participation and empowerment of learners and the youth in matters affecting school safety and well-being;
- j) Reporting school safety concerns such as those involving school bullying and other acts and forms of violence;
- k) Detection of health and safety concerns, as well as assessment, referral, case management, and inter-agency coordination to address health and safety concerns and mitigate risk;
- l) Monitoring, evaluation, reporting, and continuous improvement; and
- m) Such other standards as may be necessary to effectively implement this Act.

The Framework shall likewise harmonize and integrate existing laws, policies, and mechanisms on school safety, protection, health and well-being into a unified system.

The DepEd, in consultation with other stakeholders, shall develop and periodically update policies, templates, manuals, protocols, reporting forms, training modules, assessment tools, and other implementation resources necessary to assist schools in complying with this Act.

The Framework shall be reviewed at least once every two years to ensure that it remains responsive to new and emerging challenges in school safety.

SEC. 5. *Establishment of School Safety Plans.* – Every school shall develop and annually update a School Safety Plan that localizes and operationalizes the Framework to the school’s unique needs, risks, and resources, emphasizing the safety, protection, and well-being of learners, as well as school personnel.

The School Safety Plan shall be harmonized with other school plans related to safety, school improvement, Disaster Risk Reduction and Management (DRRM), child protection, and healthy learning institutions, among others.

The Plan shall include:

- a) School safety standards, including standards for prevention, response, and recovery;

- b) Protocols and manuals for emergencies, including hotlines for reporting, designated hospitals, police stations, safety zones, evacuation areas, referrals for mental health needs, and a fixed-timeline referral pathway for serious threats and abuse;
- c) Clear roles and responsibilities of members of the school community;
- d) Protective safety measures, including security infrastructure and equipment;
- e) Policies on safe, responsible, developmentally appropriate, and healthy use of digital technologies, including gadgets, social media, gaming, artificial intelligence, and other emerging technologies, as well as measures addressing digital safety, cybersecurity, and digital wellness, on and off campus;
- f) Clear mechanisms for recovery, such as intervention and reintegration plans for learners and personnel affected, coordination referrals to government agencies, and post-incident reviews;
- g) Guidelines and protocols for off-campus activities;
- h) Community engagement and partnership strategies to strengthen school safety, including coordination with parents and guardians, LGUs, community organizations, health and mental health service providers, security and emergency response groups, and other relevant stakeholders; and
- i) Monitoring and evaluation mechanisms.

The School Safety Plan shall be developed in consultation with the school community, including school personnel, learners, parents or guardians, and other relevant stakeholders.

The School Head shall be responsible for overseeing the implementation of the School Safety Plan within the school. The School Head shall submit the Plan to the Schools Division Office (SDO) for review and approval at the beginning of each school year. The SDO shall ensure that the Plan is aligned with the Framework and complies with the minimum standards set forth in this Act. Upon approval, the Plan shall be presented to the Local School Board to facilitate coordination with the local government and inform the development and updating of relevant local plans and programs.

SEC. 6. *School Safety Handbook.* – Every school shall prepare, maintain, and regularly update a School Safety Handbook, as part of the school’s Learner Handbook,

1 to communicate essential school safety information to learners, parents or guardians,
2 school personnel, visitors, and other members of the school community.

3 The School Safety Handbook shall present, in a clear, concise, accessible, child-
4 sensitive and user-friendly manner, the school safety policies, procedures, emergency
5 information, and learner support services that members of the school community need
6 to know in order to promote safety and respond appropriately during emergencies and
7 other school safety situations. It shall be made available in Filipino and prevailing
8 regional languages.

9 At a minimum, the School Safety Handbook shall contain:

- 10 a) The school's commitment to safety and learner well-being;
- 11 b) The School Code of Conduct and key school safety policies for learners and
12 school personnel;
- 13 c) Procedures for reporting bullying, violence, abuse, discrimination, harassment,
14 emergencies, and other school safety concerns;
- 15 d) Emergency procedures for fire, earthquakes, severe weather, lockdowns,
16 medical emergencies, evacuations, and other applicable situations;
- 17 e) Emergency contact information for school officials, emergency responders,
18 designated hospitals, and relevant government agencies;
- 19 f) School maps showing evacuation routes, emergency exits, assembly and
20 evacuation areas, clinics, School Care Centers, guidance offices, nearest
21 hospitals, and other important locations;
- 22 g) Visitor management procedures and campus access guidelines;
- 23 h) Learner support services, including counseling, psychosocial support, referral
24 services, and School Care Centers;
- 25 i) Digital safety guidelines and responsible technology use;
- 26 j) Such other practical school safety information as may be prescribed by the
27 DepEd; and
- 28 k) Digital wellness and responsible technology use, including developmentally
29 appropriate use of digital devices, social media, online gaming, artificial
30 intelligence and other emerging technologies; healthy digital habits; prevention
31 of digital harms; and pathways for help-seeking and referral when technology

1 use adversely affects learner health, development, education, relationships, or
2 daily functioning.

3 The School Safety Handbook shall be made readily available in printed and
4 electronic formats, as appropriate, and shall be disseminated to learners, parents or
5 guardians, school personnel, and other members of the school community at the
6 beginning of every school year and whenever significant revisions are made.

7 Schools shall also conduct an annual orientation on the School Safety Handbook
8 to ensure that members of the school community understand their rights,
9 responsibilities, and the procedures for preventing and responding to safety-related
10 concerns.

11 The School Safety Handbook shall be periodically reviewed in consultation with
12 learners, parents or guardians, school personnel, and other relevant stakeholders.

13 **CHAPTER II. SCHOOL SAFETY POLICIES**

14 SEC. 7. *Policy on Safe School Culture.* – Every school shall foster a safe,
15 inclusive, respectful, and supportive school culture that cultivates socioemotional
16 learning, empathy, peer connectedness, and the preservation of human dignity, in
17 accordance with applicable DepEd and DOH standards on the social and physical
18 environment of schools. Schools shall promote positive relationships, mutual respect,
19 responsibility, resilience, and meaningful participation among all members of the
20 school community through preventive, developmentally appropriate, and evidence-
21 based policies, programs, and practices that strengthen positive behavior, respectful
22 conflict resolution, and a shared commitment to maintaining a safe learning
23 environment.

24 SEC. 8. *Policy Against Violence and Harm.* – Every school shall adopt and
25 enforce a policy against all forms of violence and harm, including physical violence,
26 child abuse, exploitation, bullying, discrimination, harassment, sexual and gender-
27 based violence, corporal punishment, retaliation, and other acts that threaten the
28 safety, dignity, or well-being of learners and school personnel, whether occurring in
29 person or through digital or other means. Violence or harmful conduct perpetrated by
30 school personnel against learners shall be subject to applicable child protection laws
31 and appropriate administrative, disciplinary, and legal measures. For incidents
32 involving learners, schools shall ensure that violence and harmful conduct are

promptly addressed and shall implement interventions that are fair, proportionate, developmentally appropriate, trauma-informed, and restorative, where appropriate, with due regard to the safety and rights of all persons involved.

SEC. 9. *Anti-Bullying and Learner Protection Policy.* – Pursuant to Republic Act No. 10627, or the Anti-Bullying Act of 2013, every school shall adopt and implement a comprehensive Anti-Bullying and Learner Protection Policy that promotes the safety, dignity, rights, and well-being of all learners and ensures the prevention, early identification, prompt reporting, timely intervention, and appropriate resolution of incidents involving bullying, cyberbullying, harassment, including technology-facilitated harassment and abuse, violence, child abuse, neglect, exploitation, discrimination, impersonation, non-consensual sharing of personal or intimate content, retaliation, and other acts that threaten the safety or welfare of learners. The Policy shall provide for prompt mental health and psychosocial assessment, support, and appropriate intervention for learners affected by bullying, including both the learner who has been subject to bullying and the learner who has engaged in bullying behavior, in coordination with their respective families and licensed professionals, as appropriate.

SEC. 10. *School Code of Conduct.* – The School Safety Handbook shall include a School Code of Conduct that promotes a culture of respect, responsibility, integrity, inclusivity, and accountability among members of the school community. The Code shall clearly define unacceptable acts, corresponding disciplinary and restorative interventions, and the rights and responsibilities of all members of the school community. In implementing the Code, schools shall ensure that disciplinary measures are fair, proportionate, developmentally appropriate, non-discriminatory, and restorative in nature, with due regard for the best interests of the child, due process, and the rights of school personnel.

SEC. 11. *Learner Participation and Voice.* – Every school shall recognize and promote the right of learners to participate meaningfully in matters affecting their safety, well-being, and school life, consistent with their evolving capacities and the best interests of the child.

Schools shall establish age-appropriate, inclusive, and learner-responsive mechanisms through which learners may express their views, report safety concerns,

1 staffing standards and subject to the availability of funds. Key school safety personnel
2 may be designated from among qualified existing school personnel.

3 a) *School Head.* – The School Head shall serve as the overall lead for the
4 implementation of this Act at the school level, and shall:

- 5 1. Oversee the implementation of the School Safety Plan;
- 6 2. Ensure compliance with national school safety standards;
- 7 3. Provide leadership in fostering a safe, inclusive, and supportive school
8 environment;
- 9 4. Allocate school resources to support school safety initiatives;
- 10 5. Ensure coordination among school personnel, parents, LGUs, concerned
11 agencies, and relevant stakeholders;
- 12 6. Oversee incident management and post-incident recovery; and
- 13 7. Perform such other responsibilities as may be prescribed by the DepEd.

14 b) *School Counselor.* – Pursuant to Republic Act No. 12080, or the Basic Education
15 Mental Health and Well-Being Promotion Act, the School Counselor shall serve
16 as the lead professional responsible for guidance, counseling, learner mental
17 health promotion, and psychosocial support, and shall:

- 18 1. Provide counseling services;
- 19 2. Conduct risk and psychosocial assessments;
- 20 3. Lead mental health promotion initiatives;
- 21 4. Coordinate referrals to appropriate service providers;
- 22 5. Support case management involving learners requiring specialized
23 intervention;
- 24 6. Provide technical guidance to school personnel on learner well-being;
25 and
- 26 7. Perform such other responsibilities as may be prescribed by the
27 Department.

28 c) *School Counselor Associates.* – School Counselor Associates shall assist the
29 School Counselor in implementing learner support programs and shall facilitate
30 access to appropriate guidance and psychosocial services.

31 In cases where a School Counselor is not available, School Counselor
32 Associates may serve as the lead professional for the delivery of school-based

- 1 mental health services, while ensuring appropriate referrals to mental health
2 professionals, pursuant to Republic Act No. 12080.
- 3 d) *Learner Formation Officer.* – Consistent with Republic Act No. 10627, the
4 Learner Formation Officer shall serve as the primary focal person for learner
5 formation and the first responder to reports of bullying and other learner-
6 related incidents. The Learner Formation Officer shall:
- 7 1. Receive, document, and facilitate the appropriate initial response to
8 reports of bullying, peer violence, harassment, and other incidents
9 involving learners;
 - 10 2. Ensure that reported incidents are promptly referred to the School Head,
11 guidance or counseling personnel, School Care Center, Child Protection
12 Committee, or other appropriate authorities, as warranted;
 - 13 3. Coordinate the implementation of preventive and formative programs
14 that promote safe school culture;
 - 15 4. Support the implementation of learner-led and peer-based initiatives,
16 including peer mentoring, buddy systems, bystander and upstander
17 programs, and other learner formation activities;
 - 18 5. Promote learner awareness of their rights and responsibilities, the School
19 Code of Conduct, reporting mechanisms, and available protection and
20 support services;
 - 21 6. Monitor patterns and recurring concerns involving bullying, peer
22 violence, and learner behavior, and recommend appropriate preventive
23 interventions;
 - 24 7. Regularly monitor actions taken on referrals of incidents of bullying, peer
25 violence and other learner-related incidents; and
 - 26 8. Coordinate with classroom advisers, guidance or counseling personnel,
27 parents or guardians, and other appropriate school personnel in
28 addressing learner safety and formation concerns.
- 29 e) *School Safety Officer.* – Every school shall designate a School Safety Officer
30 who shall serve as the principal coordinator for the implementation of school
31 safety programs under this Act. The School Safety Officer shall:
- 32 1. Coordinate implementation of the School Safety Plan;

- 1 2. Monitor compliance with school safety standards;
- 2 3. Coordinate emergency preparedness activities;
- 3 4. Oversee school safety inspections;
- 4 5. Manage a non-threatening reporting system within the school;
- 5 6. Coordinate reporting and documentation;
- 6 7. Facilitate coordination with government agencies and emergency
- 7 responders;
- 8 8. Support school safety training and drills; and
- 9 9. Perform such other responsibilities as may be prescribed by the DepEd.
- 10 f) *School Health Personnel.* – School nurses, school physicians, school dentists,
- 11 and other qualified school health personnel shall provide health services and
- 12 support school health and wellness programs consistent with existing laws and
- 13 DepEd policies. They shall:
- 14 1. Provide appropriate school health services;
- 15 2. Participate in emergency preparedness and response;
- 16 3. Support mental health and psychosocial interventions;
- 17 4. Assist in health promotion and disease prevention activities;
- 18 5. Coordinate referrals to health facilities;
- 19 6. Coordinate and report to the LGUs cases of disease outbreaks in the
- 20 school; and
- 21 7. Perform such other responsibilities as may be prescribed by the DepEd.
- 22 School health personnel should be trained to recognize physical or somatic
- 23 complaints, including recurrent headaches, abdominal pain, sleep difficulties, as well
- 24 as tendencies for violence and self-harm, as possible manifestations of bullying,
- 25 anxiety, or abuse, identify signs of psychological distress, and facilitate referral to the
- 26 School Counselor, other qualified school personnel, or appropriate health or mental
- 27 health professionals.
- 28 Where qualified school health personnel are not available on-site, schools shall
- 29 establish linkages with health and mental health professionals and facilities, including,
- 30 where relevant, through teleconsultation or other consultative arrangements with
- 31 DOH-retained or accredited facilities.

- 1 g) *Security Personnel.* – Security guards and other authorized security personnel
2 shall help maintain a safe and secure school environment. They shall:
- 3 1. Regulate access to school premises;
 - 4 2. Implement visitor management procedures;
 - 5 3. Assist in emergency response;
 - 6 4. Report security incidents;
 - 7 5. Support the implementation of campus safety measures; and
 - 8 6. Perform such other responsibilities as may be prescribed by the DepEd.
- 9 Schools shall have adequate security guards or trained security personnel,
10 taking into consideration school size, enrollment, operating hours, location, and
11 security risk.
- 12 In accordance with applicable DILG issuances, LGUs may extend auxiliary
13 support through the deployment of barangay tanods or local law enforcement to
14 secure the vicinity and immediate public perimeters of schools, subject to local risk
15 assessment, capacity, and the availability of local funds, including the Special
16 Education Fund (SEF), as may be authorized under applicable laws.
- 17 h) *Classroom Adviser.* – The Classroom Adviser shall promote learner well-being
18 within the classroom and serve as the primary point of contact for learners and
19 parents on routine learner welfare concerns. The Classroom Adviser shall:
- 20 1. Monitor learner well-being and classroom climate;
 - 21 2. Be trained in the identification of signs of psychological distress such as
22 self-harm or violent behavior;
 - 23 3. Identify learners requiring additional support based on indicators such
24 as, but not limited to, chronic or sudden absence, repeated tardiness,
25 withdrawal, and abrupt decline in participation or performance, among
26 others;
 - 27 4. Coordinate with the School Counselor and other school personnel on
28 appropriate interventions;
 - 29 5. Maintain regular and periodic communication with parents or guardians
30 regarding learner welfare;
 - 31 6. Promote positive discipline and learner participation; and
 - 32 7. Perform such other responsibilities as may be prescribed by the DepEd.

1 In recognition of their critical role in safeguarding the safety and well-being of
2 learners, every Classroom Adviser shall be provided with the commensurate teaching
3 loads dedicated exclusively to learner safety and well-being responsibilities, including
4 learner monitoring, parent engagement, case documentation, home visitation, when
5 necessary, participation in case conferences, implementation of interventions, and
6 coordination with other school personnel for student safety.

7 The DepEd shall ensure that the corresponding teaching load reduction, staffing
8 requirements, and funding necessary to implement this provision are reflected in its
9 staffing standards and annual appropriations.

10 i) *Student Leaders.* – Student leaders, including officers of the student council
11 and recognized learner organizations, shall support the promotion of a safe,
12 inclusive, and respectful school environment. They shall:

- 13 1. Assist in raising awareness of school safety policies and reporting
14 mechanisms;
- 15 2. Promote positive behavior, peer support, and responsible bystander
16 action;
- 17 3. Help identify and communicate learner safety concerns to appropriate
18 school personnel;
- 19 4. Be trained to recognize peers experiencing safety or psychosocial
20 concerns, refer them to appropriate school personnel or support
21 services, and encourage them to seek assistance; and
- 22 5. Participate in the planning and implementation of school safety initiatives

23 Student leaders shall not be tasked with investigating incidents, imposing
24 disciplinary measures, or performing functions that are the responsibility of authorized
25 school personnel.

26 SEC. 15. *Responsibilities of Government Agencies.* – For the effective
27 implementation of this Act, the concerned government agencies shall be responsible
28 for the following:

29 a) *DepEd.* – The DepEd shall serve as the lead agency responsible for the
30 implementation of this Act and shall exercise overall policy direction,
31 coordination, supervision, monitoring, and evaluation of the National
32 Comprehensive School Safety Framework.

1 In addition to its responsibilities under other applicable laws, the DepEd
2 shall:

- 3 1. Formulate, harmonize, and periodically update national policies,
4 standards, guidelines, and operational manuals for school safety;
- 5 2. Prescribe minimum standards for school safety infrastructure,
6 equipment, staffing, programs, and services;
- 7 3. Provide schools with technical assistance, capacity-building, and
8 implementation support;
- 9 4. Develop a model School Safety Plan, School Safety Handbooks, reporting
10 systems, and other implementation tools;
- 11 5. Establish national systems for school safety monitoring, reporting, and
12 evaluation;
- 13 6. Provide financial and technical support, to strengthen school safety
14 implementation;
- 15 7. Coordinate with relevant government agencies and stakeholders;
- 16 8. Develop and periodically update, in coordination with relevant
17 government agencies and stakeholders, national standards and
18 operational guidelines on digital safety and responsible technology use
19 in schools; and

20 9. Perform such other functions as may be necessary to carry out this Act.

21 b) *DOH*. – The DOH shall serve as the technical authority for health, health
22 promotion, health services, mental health promotion, disease prevention, and
23 healthy school environments, consistent with its mandate. It shall support the
24 DepEd in the implementation and strengthening of school mental health and
25 psychosocial services, and in supporting emergency medical preparedness. The
26 DOH shall provide guidance in establishing referral mechanisms to DOH-
27 retained hospitals, facilities, and health professionals.

28 c) *DSWD*. – The DSWD shall provide technical assistance and support to schools
29 in handling cases involving children in conflict with the law and victims of abuse.
30 It shall also assist in the provision of psychosocial support and rehabilitation
31 services for affected learners, families, and personnel, and shall coordinate with
32 schools for the proper case management and referral of incidents.

1 d) *DILG*. – The DILG shall facilitate coordination between schools and LGUs and
2 encourage local support for school safety initiatives.

3 e) *PNP*. – The PNP shall assist schools in maintaining campus security and in
4 responding to incidents of violence and other threats. It shall coordinate with
5 schools and LGUs for the deployment of security personnel, the conduct of
6 security audits, and the enforcement of laws on the prohibition of deadly
7 weapons in school premises.

8 f) *LGUs*. – LGUs shall support implementation of school safety programs,
9 encourage schools to participate in local emergency planning, strengthen
10 community partnerships, and assist schools in disaster preparedness and
11 emergency response, consistent with their respective mandates and available
12 resources. They shall also coordinate with the schools in the implementation of
13 community diversion programs relative to children in conflict with the law.

14 LGUs may also provide security personnel or equipment to schools,
15 which may be funded through the school's Special Education Fund (SEF) or
16 other authorized local funds.

17 The DepEd may enter into partnerships with other government agencies,
18 state universities and colleges, civil society organizations, professional
19 organizations, and the private sector to strengthen implementation of this Act.

20 SEC. 16. *Community Engagement*. – Schools shall promote meaningful
21 participation among learners, parents or guardians, families, LGUs, leagues of LGUs,
22 civil society organizations, community organizations, youth organizations, faith-based
23 organizations, and other stakeholders in the planning, implementation, monitoring,
24 and continuous improvement of school safety programs.

25 Community participation shall complement and strengthen school-based efforts
26 to create safe, secure, inclusive, supportive, and resilient learning environments.

27 Schools shall establish appropriate mechanisms to ensure that stakeholders are
28 regularly informed, consulted, and engaged in school safety initiatives.

29 a) *Parents and Guardians*. – Parents and legal guardians shall be recognized as
30 essential partners of schools in promoting the safety, well-being, and holistic
31 development of learners. Schools shall conduct a mandatory orientation session
32 for parents and guardians on the School Safety Plan, safety protocols, and other

1 pertinent information regarding school safety. Parents and guardians shall be
2 encouraged to support the implementation of school safety policies, reinforce
3 positive behavior and learner well-being at home, promptly communicate safety
4 concerns to the school, participate in school safety orientations, consultations,
5 and emergency preparedness activities, and cooperate with school authorities
6 in implementing interventions affecting their children.

7 Schools shall establish mechanisms to ensure meaningful parent and
8 guardian participation in the implementation of the National Comprehensive
9 School Safety Framework through regular communication, consultation, and
10 collaborative interventions.

- 11 b) *Parents-Teachers Association (PTA)*. – The Parents-Teachers Association shall
12 serve as the primary organized partner of the school in promoting school safety
13 and learner well-being.

14 The PTA shall participate in the development, implementation, and
15 periodic review of the School Safety Plan, assist in promoting school safety
16 awareness among parents and families, support school programs on school
17 safety, assist the school in mobilizing community participation and volunteer
18 support for school safety initiatives, and provide feedback on school safety
19 concerns affecting learners and parents, subject to guidelines prescribed by the
20 DepEd.

- 21 c) *Child Protection Committee (CPC)*. – Every school shall establish a Child
22 Protection Committee (CPC), composed of the School Head, School Safety
23 Officer, Learner Formation Officer, and designated representatives of learners,
24 teachers, parents, and the community. The CPC shall support the school in the
25 prevention of and response to child abuse, violence, exploitation,
26 discrimination, bullying, and other child protection concerns. The CPC shall, as
27 may be applicable, assist in the implementation of child protection policies and
28 preventive programs; facilitate the appropriate handling, referral, and follow-
29 up of child protection concerns; coordinate with relevant school personnel,
30 parents or guardians, the Barangay Council for the Protection of Children
31 (BCPC), the City or Municipal Social Welfare and Development Office

1 (C/MSWDO), and other appropriate authorities; and recommend measures to
2 strengthen the school's child protection mechanisms.

3 The establishment or functioning of a CPC shall not relieve the School
4 Head or any other responsible school personnel of their duties and
5 accountability under this Act and other applicable child protection laws, rules,
6 and policies.

7 The DepEd shall encourage and facilitate community partnerships that
8 strengthen the implementation of this Act.

9 **TITLE IV**
10 **PREVENTION**

11 **CHAPTER I. School Safety Infrastructure and Protective Measures**

12 SEC. 17. *Safety Infrastructure and Equipment.* – Schools shall be equipped with
13 appropriate safety infrastructure and security equipment, including, as applicable:

14 a) *Closed-Circuit Television (CCTV).* - CCTV cameras shall be installed in common
15 areas, entrances and exits, perimeter areas, and other locations identified
16 through the school's risk assessment. CCTV shall not be installed in areas where
17 there is a reasonable expectation of privacy. The collection, storage, access,
18 use, and disposal of CCTV footage shall comply with applicable data privacy
19 laws and regulations and shall be used solely for investigating documented
20 bullying or security incidents.

21 b) *Screening Equipment.* – Schools shall have access to appropriate screening
22 equipment, including metal detectors, where warranted by the school's risk
23 profile. Screening shall be conducted by authorized and appropriately trained
24 personnel in a reasonable, proportionate, non-discriminatory, and child-
25 sensitive manner.

26 c) *Visitor Management System.* – Schools shall establish appropriate systems to
27 regulate and monitor visitor entry into and movement within school premises,
28 including visitor identification, registration, verification, and access control.

29 d) *Security Personnel and Protective Presence.* – Schools shall ensure appropriate
30 security and protective presence based on their size, enrollment, location, and
31 risk profile. This may include licensed security guards and coordinated support

from the Philippine National Police (PNP), barangay tanods, safety officers, community volunteers, and other authorized personnel.

- e) *Perimeter and Access Security.* – Schools shall maintain appropriate physical measures to secure school boundaries and regulate access, including, as appropriate, gates, fencing, lighting, locks, barriers, and other protective infrastructure.

SEC. 18. *Emergency, Health, and Life-Safety Equipment.* – Schools shall be equipped with appropriate emergency, health, and life-safety equipment, including, as applicable:

- a) first aid kits and essential emergency medical supplies;
- b) fire extinguishers and other required fire safety equipment;
- c) emergency lighting, flashlights, batteries, emergency power supplies, and other disaster preparedness supplies;
- d) rescue and evacuation equipment appropriate to identified hazards; and
- e) emergency communication and alert systems, including public address systems, alarms, emergency notification systems, two-way radios, and other equipment.

SEC. 19. *Preventive Safety Measures.* – Every school shall implement preventive safety measures appropriate to its circumstances to reduce risks, strengthen preparedness, and promote a safe and secure learning environment. At a minimum, schools shall implement:

- a) *Risk Mapping and Assessment.* – Regularly identify physical, social, behavioral, environmental, and digital risks, including locations and circumstances that may increase the likelihood of violence, bullying, abuse, harassment, accidents, emergencies, digital harm, harmful or unsafe technology use, or other threats to learner safety, health, development, and well-being. Findings shall inform the School Safety Plan and preventive interventions.
- b) *Campus Security Monitoring.* – Maintain appropriate monitoring measures, including security patrols, monitoring of entrances and exits, observation of common and high-risk areas, and review of security camera footage where available, consistent with the school's risk profile and applicable privacy and child protection laws.

- 1 c) *Visitor Screening.* – Establish procedures for visitor identification, registration,
2 verification, issuance of passes where appropriate, and monitoring of visitor
3 access, while ensuring access for emergency responders and other authorized
4 persons.
- 5 d) *Mandatory Screening and Inspection.* – Conduct mandatory screening of
6 persons and belongings, including bag inspections or use of metal detectors,
7 where authorized and warranted by the school's risk assessment and applicable
8 DepEd standards. Screening shall be conducted by authorized personnel in a
9 respectful, non-discriminatory, child-sensitive, and developmentally
10 appropriate manner.
- 11 e) *Confiscation and Disposition of Prohibited Items.* – Establish procedures for the
12 identification, confiscation, documentation, safekeeping, turnover, and lawful
13 disposition of prohibited items, including appropriate due process, notification
14 of parents or guardians when necessary, and coordination with authorities
15 when required by law.
- 16 f) *Emergency Drills.* – Regularly conduct developmentally appropriate, trauma-
17 informed, and inclusive drills for fires, earthquakes, severe weather, medical
18 emergencies, active attacks, other security incidents, and other relevant
19 hazards. Such drills shall be designed to prepare learners and school personnel
20 to respond appropriately to emergencies while minimizing unnecessary fear or
21 distress and shall be conducted with appropriate advance notice and in
22 consultation with relevant professionals.
- 23 g) *Safety Orientation and Awareness.* – Provide developmentally appropriate and
24 role-appropriate safety orientation for learners, school personnel, parents and
25 guardians, and other members of the school community. These orientations
26 shall cover the National Comprehensive School Safety Framework and the
27 School Safety Plan, protocols for prevention from, response to, and recovery
28 from school safety threats and incidents, digital safety, and responsible
29 technology use.
- 30 h) *Safety Audits and Preventive Maintenance.* – Conduct an annual School Safety
31 Audit and regular inspections of infrastructure, facilities, equipment, emergency
32 systems, and other safety measures, and implement corrective and preventive

1 measures based on identified hazards and deficiencies. Findings shall inform
2 the School Safety Plan and resource priorities.

3 SEC. 20. *General Standards for School Safety Measures.* – All school safety
4 policies, infrastructure, equipment, and measures under this Chapter shall be
5 appropriate to the school's size, enrollment, location, risk profile, specific needs, and
6 subject to the availability of funds.

7 The DepEd, in coordination with relevant national government agencies and
8 other stakeholders, shall establish national standards and operational guidelines for
9 the provision, implementation, use, maintenance, and monitoring of infrastructure and
10 equipment under this Chapter, including, where applicable, their installation,
11 inspection, replacement, and data management and disposal.

12 SEC. 21. *Nature- and Climate-Related School Safety Protocols.* – The DepEd, in
13 coordination with the DILG, DOST, DOH, DENR, DPWH and other relevant agencies,
14 shall establish and periodically update national policies for the assessment,
15 management, risk-reduction and recovery from nature- and climate-related hazards
16 affecting schools. These standards shall cover extreme heat conditions, tropical
17 cyclones, flooding, earthquakes, air quality, and other related hazards that may
18 endanger the safety of learners and school personnel.

19 The policy shall include a systemic plan for the construction of disaster-resilient
20 infrastructure, and assessment and prioritization for retrofitting or replacement of
21 unsafe building structures, taking into consideration the natural- and climate-related
22 hazards of the area.

23 **CHAPTER II. Safety During Off-Campus Activities**

24 SEC. 22. *Safety During Off-Campus Activities.* – Schools conducting authorized
25 off-campus activities shall adopt and implement measures to ensure the safety,
26 security, health, and well-being of learners and school personnel participating in such
27 activities. Schools shall take reasonable and appropriate measures to prevent
28 foreseeable harm to learners and school personnel throughout the activity.

29 Prior to any authorized off-campus activity, the school shall conduct an
30 appropriate risk assessment and prepare an activity-specific safety plan, which shall
31 include learner supervision arrangements and designated personnel-in-charge,
32 transportation safety measures, emergency communication and response procedures,

1 emergency contact information for participating learners, and such other safety
2 measures as may be prescribed by DepEd.

3 Schools shall also ensure full disclosure to parents or guardians of information
4 regarding the activity, including the objectives of the itinerary, transport
5 arrangements, accommodations, identified risks, emergency procedures, and contact
6 information of responsible personnel. Schools shall likewise ensure that reasonable
7 safety equipment is made available during the activity, and that appropriate informed
8 consent is secured in accordance with applicable laws and DepEd policies.

9 The DepEd shall prescribe minimum operational standards governing
10 educational tours, work immersion, athletic competitions, cultural activities,
11 community engagement activities, and other authorized off-campus activities.

12 **CHAPTER III. Digital Safety and Responsible Technology Use**

13 SEC. 23. *Digital Safety and Responsible Technology Use.* – Schools shall adopt
14 and implement comprehensive policies and programs to ensure that the use of digital
15 technologies in teaching, learning, communication, and school operations is safe,
16 responsible, ethical, age-appropriate, and consistent with the best interests and
17 developmental needs of learners.

18 Such policies and programs shall promote digital wellness and responsible
19 technology use, including developmentally appropriate use of digital devices, social
20 media, gaming, artificial intelligence, and other emerging technologies.

21 Schools shall establish measures to protect learners and school personnel from
22 cyberbullying, online abuse, cybersecurity risks, and other forms of digital harm. Such
23 measures shall include, as appropriate, the prevention and early identification of
24 digital-related harm and harmful or unsafe technology use, appropriate intervention
25 and referral mechanisms, media and information literacy programs, orientation
26 programs for parents and guardians, procedures for reporting and responding to
27 digital safety incidents, and other digital safety measures as may be prescribed by the
28 DepEd.

29 Schools shall prohibit the use of mobile devices and other electronic gadgets
30 by learners within school premises during class hours, except for learning-related
31 activities, health and well-being-related activities, and purposes related to safety,
32 emergency response, or risk management, including in response to a perceived threat

1 or danger, and during field trips and other school-related activities conducted outside
2 school premises.

3 Implementation of this Section shall be consistent with applicable laws on child
4 protection, data privacy, cybersecurity, and online safety.

5 **CHAPTER IV. LEARNER WELL-BEING**

6 SEC. 24. *Learner Well-Being and Psychosocial Support.* – Schools shall establish
7 and implement a comprehensive, coordinated, and age-appropriate system for
8 promoting learner health and well-being, providing mental health services, and
9 ensuring psychosocial support, consistent with the principles of prevention, early
10 identification, appropriate referral, inclusion, and protection of learners.

11 a) *Health and Well-Being Promotion.* – Schools shall promote the physical, mental,
12 emotional, and social health and well-being of learners through healthy learning
13 environments, health-promoting policies and practices, health education and
14 skills development, and measures that address the conditions and determinants
15 that influence learner health and well-being. Preventive health promotion and
16 the development of healthy learning environments shall be implemented as
17 integral components of school safety and shall be guided by applicable policies
18 of the DepEd and the DOH.

19 b) *Mental Health Services.* – Schools shall facilitate access to appropriate mental
20 health services, including prevention, early identification, assessment,
21 treatment, referral, and other professional interventions, in accordance with
22 Republic Act No. 12080 and other applicable laws, rules, standards, and
23 guidelines. Professional mental health services shall be provided by
24 appropriately qualified and authorized mental health professionals within their
25 respective scopes of practice.

26 c) *Psychosocial Support.* – Schools shall provide or facilitate appropriate
27 psychosocial support to learners experiencing stress, distress, crisis, trauma,
28 loss, violence, abuse, displacement, disasters, or other circumstances affecting
29 their well-being. Such support may include psychological first aid, supportive
30 and responsive school-based interventions, peer and social support, referral
31 and linkage to appropriate services, and other non-clinical measures that
32 strengthen learners' coping, resilience, connectedness, and sense of safety and

1 belonging. Psychosocial support shall complement, and shall not substitute for,
2 professional mental health services when such services are required.

3 **TITLE V**
4 **RESPONSE**

5 SEC. 25. *Incident Reporting, Assessment and Immediate Response.* – Every
6 school shall establish and maintain responsive mechanisms and protocols for the
7 reporting, assessment, protection interventions, and immediate response to school
8 safety concerns involving learners, school personnel, and other members of the school
9 community. Such mechanisms shall form part of the School Safety Plan and shall be
10 implemented in accordance with this Act and applicable laws.

11 Schools shall ensure that the implementation of this Section is guided by the
12 principles of child protection and the best interests of the child, confidentiality and
13 respect for privacy, timely intervention, trauma-informed and developmentally
14 appropriate practices, due process, coordinated inter-agency response, and survivor-
15 centered, rights-based, and restorative approaches, where appropriate.

16 Schools shall ensure the availability of multiple reporting channels, which may
17 include in-person reporting, anonymous reporting systems, digital reporting platforms,
18 designated reporting officers, emergency hotlines, and such other reporting
19 mechanisms as may be prescribed by the DepEd.

20 Upon receipt of a report, the school shall:

- 21 a) Immediately record the report;
- 22 b) Conduct an initial risk assessment;
- 23 c) Determine whether immediate protective measures are necessary;
- 24 d) Notify the School Head and appropriate school personnel;
- 25 e) Notify parents or guardians, where appropriate;
- 26 f) Activate emergency response procedures when necessary;
- 27 g) Coordinate with the PNP, LGU, and other relevant local authorities in cases
28 involving violence, imminent threats to safety or security, and other
29 emergencies;
- 30 h) Document actions taken; and
- 31 i) Determine whether referral or case management should be initiated.

1 Where the initial risk assessment identifies indicators of suicide risk, self-harm,
2 active psychosis, or imminent danger to self or others, the school shall immediately
3 activate emergency protocols and refer the learner for same-day psychiatric
4 evaluation, in coordination with parents or guardians and the nearest DOH-accredited
5 mental health facility or service provider.

6 Every school shall ensure that all members of the school community are
7 informed of the reporting mechanisms, available support services, and emergency
8 procedures established under this Act. Schools shall likewise ensure that reporting
9 mechanisms are accessible to learners with disabilities and other learners requiring
10 additional support.

11 Every school shall maintain updated emergency contact information and
12 establish procedures for the immediate notification of parents or guardians,
13 emergency responders, LGUs, and other appropriate authorities during emergencies
14 and critical incidents.

15 SEC. 26. *Referral, Case Management, and Coordination.* – Every school shall
16 establish a formal case management and referral system for learners requiring
17 continuing intervention and support.

18 The system shall provide for:

- 19 a) Designation of case managers, where appropriate;
- 20 b) Multidisciplinary case conferences involving relevant school personnel;
- 21 c) Counseling and psychosocial interventions;
- 22 d) The establishment of a tiered referral pathway to hospitals, mental health and
23 well-being offices, health professionals, psychologists, psychiatrists, social
24 workers, child protection authorities, law enforcement agencies, or other
25 service providers, consistent with Republic Act No. 12080 and other applicable
26 laws and policies;
- 27 e) Development of individualized intervention plans, where appropriate;
- 28 f) Regular monitoring and follow-up;
- 29 g) Coordination with parents or guardians;
- 30 h) Documentation and secure case records; and
- 31 i) Safe reintegration into the school community.

The DepEd shall establish standardized case management forms, referral protocols, documentation procedures, and inter-agency coordination mechanisms to promote consistency across schools.

Schools shall coordinate with the DSWD, the DOJ, the PNP, and LGUs for the proper handling of cases, including children in conflict with the law, and for the provision of medical, legal, and psychosocial support.

TITLE VI
RECOVERY

SEC. 27. *School Recovery.* – Schools shall establish and implement recovery and reintegration measures for learners, school personnel, and other affected members of the school community.

Recovery measures shall aim to restore safety, promote healing, minimize disruption to learning, strengthen resilience, and facilitate the safe return of affected persons to school.

Schools shall, at a minimum:

- a) Provide timely counseling, psychosocial support, psychological first aid, and other appropriate interventions;
- b) Develop individualized intervention and reintegration plans for learners or school personnel requiring continuing support, where appropriate;
- c) Implement academic accommodations and learning continuity measures for affected learners;
- d) Engage parents or guardians in planning and supporting the recovery of affected learners;
- e) Coordinate referrals to appropriate government agencies, health professionals, and community-based service providers;
- f) Monitor the progress of affected learners and school personnel following reintegration;
- g) Implement measures to prevent retaliation, stigmatization, discrimination, or re-traumatization; and
- h) Conduct post-incident reviews to identify lessons learned and improve school safety systems.

1 Recovery and reintegration measures shall be developmentally appropriate,
2 trauma-informed, culturally responsive, and consistent with the best interests of the
3 child.

4 SEC. 28. *National Support for School Recovery and Continuous Improvement.*

5 -- The DepEd shall establish a National School Recovery and Support Program to
6 strengthen the capacity of schools to respond to and recover from incidents affecting
7 school safety and learner well-being. This shall be integrated into the School Safety
8 Plan.

9 The Program shall include:

- 10 a) Technical assistance to affected schools;
- 11 b) Deployment of specialized psychosocial support teams, where appropriate;
- 12 c) Development of standardized recovery and reintegration protocols;
- 13 d) Capacity-building for school personnel on post-incident recovery;
- 14 e) Technical assistance for learning continuity and academic recovery;
- 15 f) Collection and analysis of post-incident data and lessons learned;
- 16 g) Dissemination of good practices and model recovery interventions; and
- 17 h) Such other support measures as may be prescribed by the DepEd.

18 The DepEd shall coordinate with the DOH, the DSWD, LGUs, and other
19 appropriate agencies to strengthen community-based recovery and reintegration
20 services.

21 Subject to the availability of appropriations, the DepEd shall prioritize technical
22 assistance and specialized support for schools significantly affected by major
23 emergencies, disasters, violence, or other critical incidents.

24 The DepEd may organize or designate regional or division-level multidisciplinary
25 support teams to provide technical assistance, psychosocial support, crisis
26 intervention, and other specialized services to schools affected by major incidents,
27 emergencies, or disasters. These shall include or have rapid access to a psychiatrist,
28 alongside psychologists and social workers, for post-incident deployment as needed.

1 **TITLE VII**

2 **PROTECTION OF SCHOOL PERSONNEL**

3 SEC. 29. *Protection and Support for School Personnel.* – All schools shall ensure
4 that school personnel receive appropriate protection, support, and resources
5 necessary to safely and effectively perform their responsibilities under this Act.

6 Such measures shall include:

- 7 a) Access to counseling, psychosocial support, employee wellness, and mental
8 health services, including mental health leave certification, psychological or
9 psychiatric assessments, or fitness-to-return assessments following a critical
10 incident;
- 11 b) Training and continuing professional development on school safety, learner
12 protection, socioemotional learning, emergency preparedness, crisis
13 management, and trauma-informed response;
- 14 c) Appropriate legal assistance and institutional support for school personnel
15 acting in good faith in the performance of official duties;
- 16 d) Protection against retaliation, intimidation, harassment, or threats arising from
17 the implementation of school safety measures;
- 18 e) Provision of appropriate personal protective equipment, emergency equipment,
19 and occupational safety measures where necessary;
- 20 f) Access to post-incident debriefing and recovery support following critical
21 incidents;
- 22 g) Recognition of school safety responsibilities in workload planning and
23 administrative support; and
- 24 h) Such other measures as may be prescribed by the DepEd.

25 Nothing in this Act shall be construed to diminish existing rights, benefits, and
26 protections available to school personnel under existing laws.

27 **TITLE VIII**

28 **MONITORING, EVALUATION, AND ACCOUNTABILITY**

29 SEC. 30. *Monitoring, Evaluation, and Accountability.* – The DepEd shall establish
30 a comprehensive national monitoring and evaluation system to assess compliance with
31 this Act, measure the effectiveness of school safety programs, and support evidence-
32 based planning, policymaking, budgeting, and continuous improvement. These shall

1 be harmonized with existing indicators and assessment, self-appraisal and reporting
2 mechanisms to avoid duplicative reporting requirements.

3 The monitoring and evaluation system shall include:

- 4 a) Monitoring of compliance with the National Comprehensive School Safety
5 Framework and the minimum standards established under this Act;
- 6 b) Periodic review of School Safety Plans and School Safety Handbooks;
- 7 c) Assessment of school safety infrastructure, equipment, personnel, and
8 services;
- 9 d) Monitoring of school safety incidents, trends, response times, recovery
10 outcomes, and implementation of corrective actions;
- 11 e) Collection and analysis of data on learner well-being, school climate, violence
12 prevention, bullying, digital safety, emergency preparedness, and other school
13 safety indicators;
- 14 f) Monitoring of capacity-building activities and competency development of
15 school personnel;
- 16 g) Monitoring of appropriate indicators of digital wellness and emerging digital
17 risks, including learner-reported digital well-being, harmful or unsafe
18 technology use, gaming or social media use, technology-associated sleep
19 disruption, and other digital-related behavioral health concerns, subject to
20 applicable child protection and data privacy laws;
- 21 h) Periodic compliance assessments of public and private schools; and
- 22 i) Such other monitoring mechanisms as may be prescribed by the DepEd.

23 SEC. 31. *National School Safety Information System.* – The DepEd shall
24 establish and maintain a National School Safety Information System, interoperable
25 with existing DepEd information systems, to support planning, monitoring, research,
26 policy development, and resource allocation under this Act.

27 The System shall collect, consolidate, analyze, and report information on:

- 28 a) Incidents involving violence, bullying, abuse, discrimination, harassment,
29 emergencies, disasters, and other school safety concerns;
- 30 b) Learner well-being, school climate, and behavioral trends;
- 31 c) Implementation of school safety programs, infrastructure, equipment, and
32 personnel;

- 1 d) Emergency preparedness and disaster resilience;
- 2 e) Digital safety and technology-related incidents and behavioral health trends,
- 3 including emerging risks associated with digital technologies, subject to
- 4 applicable child protection, confidentiality, and data privacy laws;
- 5 f) Implementation of recovery and reintegration measures;
- 6 g) Capacity-building and professional development activities;
- 7 h) School safety performance indicators; and
- 8 i) Such other information as may be prescribed by the DepEd.

9 Information collected under this Section shall be used to support evidence-
10 based policymaking, strategic planning, budget preparation, program evaluation, and
11 continuous improvement of school safety programs.

12 The collection, processing, storage, sharing, and publication of information
13 under this Section shall comply with applicable laws on child protection, confidentiality,
14 and data privacy.

15 SEC. 32. *Annual School Safety Report.* – Every school shall submit an Annual
16 School Safety Report to the DepEd, through the Schools Division Office, summarizing
17 the implementation of its School Safety Plan, including the status of school safety
18 implementation, significant incidents and trends, actions taken, implementation
19 challenges, resource needs, and such other information as may be prescribed by the
20 DepEd.

21 The Schools Division Office shall review the reports submitted by schools and
22 provide appropriate technical assistance, recommendations, and other support
23 necessary to address identified gaps and strengthen the implementation of School
24 Safety Plans.

25 The DepEd shall prescribe the form, content, submission schedule, and
26 reporting procedures for the Annual School Safety Report.

27 A copy of the Annual School Safety Report shall also be furnished to the Local
28 School Board, barangay LGU, and the Barangay Council for the Protection of Children
29 (BCPC) for coordination purposes and inclusion of community-based safety measures
30 in the local plans.

31 SEC. 33. *National School Safety Report to Congress.* – The DepEd shall submit
32 a National School Safety Report to Congress every two years summarizing the

1 nationwide implementation of this Act and the National Comprehensive School Safety
2 Framework, including national school safety trends, significant findings,
3 implementation status, emerging challenges, and recommendations for policy,
4 programmatic, and budgetary improvements.

5 The National School Safety Report shall be made publicly available, subject to
6 applicable laws on child protection, confidentiality, and data privacy.

7 **TITLE IX**

8 **FINAL PROVISIONS**

9 SEC. 34. *Appropriations.* – The amount necessary for the initial implementation
10 of this Act shall be charged against the current appropriations of the DepEd.
11 Thereafter, such sums as may be necessary for the full implementation of this Act
12 shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act. LGUs shall provide support
13 for the implementation of this Act through their respective local budgets and other
14 available and authorized sources of funds, including the Special Education Fund (SEF)
15 and local disaster risk reduction and management funds, as may be applicable, subject
16 to existing laws, rules and regulations.

17 SEC. 35. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.* – The DepEd, in coordination
18 with the DOH, DSWD, DILG, Leagues of LGUs, and other relevant stakeholders, shall
19 promulgate the implementing rules and regulations of this Act within sixty (60) days
20 from its effectivity.

21 SEC. 36. *Separability Clause.* – If any provision or part hereof is held invalid or
22 unconstitutional, the remainder of the law or the provision not otherwise affected shall
23 remain valid and subsisting.

24 SEC. 37. *Repealing Clause.* – All laws, decrees, orders, rules and regulations or
25 other issuances or parts inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby
26 repealed or modified accordingly.

27 SEC. 38. *Effectivity.* – Notwithstanding the non-issuance of the implementing
28 rules and regulations, this Act shall take effect after fifteen (15) days following its
29 publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,