EXPLANATORY NOTE

The disturbing increase in the number of reported sex-related offenses in the country has tremendously caused public panic and alarm, particularly amongst women and children. Indeed, it seems that despite stricter measures implemented by law enforcement agencies, the problem not only continues, but also worsens, with many sex offenders able to consummate their fiendish schemes against unsuspecting individuals.

Studies suggest that many sex offenders, albeit apprehended and convicted previously, continue doing heinous activities and are able to do so by relocating elsewhere so they may not be detected. This is unfortunate. Certainly, the many special penal laws against sex-related offenses so enacted shall be futile, unless ample public protection and warning is provided for.

The proposed measure aims to establish a national sex offender registration database in order to allow the public to obtain relevant information and data on convicted and suspected sex offenders, which may be of use not only to the general public, but particularly to various non-government organizations working for the protection of women and children who more often than not are the target victims of sex-related offenses.

Hence, immediate passage of this bill is earnestly sought.

RUFUS B. RODRIGUEZ
EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
First Regular Session

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Introduced by Representative Rufus B. Rodriguez

House Bill No. 1862

AN ACT

ESTABLISHING A NATIONAL SEX OFFENDER REGISTRATION DATABASE AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

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

SECTION 1. Short Title. - This Act shall be known as the "National Sex Offender Registry Act".

SEC 2. Establishment of Database. - The Secretary of the Department of Justice (hereinafter referred to as the Secretary) shall establish a National Sex Offender Registry that makes publicly available, via the Internet, all information necessary to determine which registered sex offenders are currently residing within a radius, as specified by the user of the registry, of the location indicated by the user of the registry.

SEC 3. Information Gathering. - The Secretary shall, in coordination with the Philippine National Police and other law enforcement agencies and with various courts, through the Supreme Court, shall make a listing of persons convicted of criminal offenses against a victim who is a minor or of sexually violent offenses, as provided for by and defined in the Revised Penal Code and other appropriate special penal laws, which shall contain the following information:

(A) the name and any known aliases of the person;
(B) the date of birth of the person;
(C) the current address of the person and any subsequent changes of that address;
(D) a physical description and current photograph of the person;
(E) the nature of and date of commission of the offense by the person; and
(F) the date on which the person is released from prison, or placed on parole, supervised release, or probation.

SEC 4. Separability Clause. - If any provision or part hereof, is held invalid or unconstitutional, the remainder of the law or the provisions not otherwise affected shall remain valid and subsisting.

SEC 5. Repealing Clause. - Any law, presidential decree or issuance, executive order, letter of instruction, administrative order, rules or regulation contrary to or inconsistent with the provisions of this Act is hereby repealed, modified or amended accordingly.

SEC 6. Effectivity Clause. - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,