

Republic of the Philippines  
**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**  
Quezon City

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS  
**Second Regular Session**

HOUSE BILL NO. 7825



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Introduced by **HON. JOY MYRA S. TAMBUNTING**

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### **EXPLANATORY NOTE**

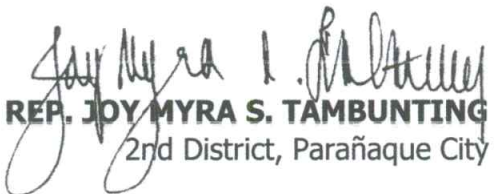
During the recent years, the government has been continuously working to increase and upgrade information and communications technology (ICT) infrastructures across the country to provide every Filipino access to the internet. Presently, there are numerous proposals and legislative measure which aim to advance the Philippine ICT Infrastructure to allow for massive flow of information through the internet.

Truly, our nation has progressed in the ICT arena, and with all these advancements people can now easily access all kinds of information through the internet—even obscene and pornographic entertainment. With easier access to internet, the youth easily have access to mature entertainment that are not appropriate for their ages and all kinds of obscene shows and materials.

While the State ultimately has the responsibility to create and sustain an enabling environment for adolescents to enable them to achieve their development aspirations and potentials as well as mobilize them to positively contribute to the development of the nation; we, as responsible parents and citizens must aid the government in achieving this.

This proposed measure seeks to control the access of adolescents to pornographic materials and obscene shows by enjoining business establishments restrict or prohibit minors from accessing pornographic websites by setting-up filters or parental control programs to block or filter-out pornographic internet contents in all their computer units and by posting a signage prohibiting minors from access pornographic materials. This measure seeks to penalize persons or business establishments who will sell, distribute and/or allow adolescents access to pornographic printed materials, videos, and the like.

On behalf of the people of Parañaque City's Second District, and for the common good of the Filipino people, the approval of the said measure is earnestly sought.

  
**REP. JOY MYRA S. TAMBUNTING**  
2nd District, Parañaque City

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**AN ACT**  
**REGULATING ACCESS OF MINORS TO PORNOGRAPHIC MATERIALS AND OBSCENE**  
**SHOWS, PROVIDING PENALTIES THEREFOR 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 “Restricted Access of Minors to Obscene and Pornographic Materials Act.”

**Section 2. Regulating Access of Minors to Pornographic Materials and Obscene Shows.** Existing laws penalizing pornography and obscenity in the country shall be strengthened by the following regulatory provisions:

- (a) All business establishments providing computer and internet services shall strictly restrict or prohibit minors from accessing pornographic websites by setting-up filters or parental control programs to block or filter-out pornographic internet contents in all their computer units and by posting a signage prohibiting minors from access pornographic materials. Non-compliance to this provision shall cause the cancellation of the business permit of the said establishment.
- (b) Selling and distribution of pornographic printed materials and videos in any format to minors shall be prohibited and penalized under existing laws and this Act.
- (c) Persons within the age of majority who shall encourage or exert influence on minors to access pornographic products and contents shall be penalized under this Act.
- (d) Any business establishment that causes the participation and access of minors in obscene shows shall be penalized and shall be ground for the cancellation of the business permit of such establishment.

The SK at the barangay and municipal/ city level shall organize and mobilize group of youth volunteers in collaboration with barangay officials and peace officers to monitor compliance of computer shops and business establishments selling and distributing videos and printed materials in restricting minors from accessing pornographic products.

**Section 3. Preventing Adolescents' Involvement in other Risky Behaviors that are Facilitative of Engagement in Sexual Activities.** All barangays shall implement legal measures to prevent adolescents from engaging in risky behaviors particularly drinking alcoholic beverages, illegal drug use, hanging-out in very late at night doing risky behaviors and other behaviors that can lead them to sexual activities or engaging in sexual assault or violence. The barangays shall also strictly prohibit the access of minors to videoke bars, beer houses/ pubs, clubs, and other similar facilities that can encourage adolescents to engage in sexual activities or sex-related violence and crimes.

**Section 4. Punishable Acts.** The following acts are prohibited and punishable:

- (a) Owners, managers, and staff of computer shops or establishments providing access to internet services who shall allow minors to access pornographic materials from their facility.
- (b) Any person who shall sell and distribute pornographic materials to minors.
- (c) Any person of legal age who shall seduce a minor which shall be accorded with higher penalty than those provided by the Revised Penal Code of the Philippines.
- (d) Owners, managers, and staff of motels who shall allow wash-up rates or short-time or abbreviated stay in motels involving minors with clear or at least indicative intention to conduct sexual activities.
- (e) Any person who shall be in violation of the provisions of this Act.

**Section 5. Annual Allocations.** All concerned government agencies including the LGUs shall include in their annual budget the necessary funds for strategies and activities within their mandates that are contributory to the implementation of this Act.

**Section 6. Separability Clause.** If any part, section, or provisions of this Act is held invalid or unconstitutional, other provisions not affected thereby shall remain in full force and effect.

**Section 7. Repealing Clause.** All other statutes, executive orders, and administrative issuances or rules and regulations contrary to or inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed, amended or modified accordingly.

**Section 8. Effectivity Clause.** This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

*Approved,*