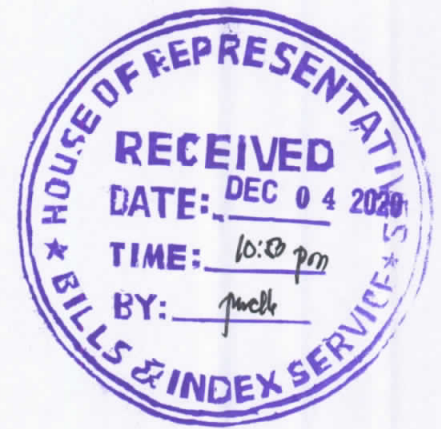


Republic of the Philippines  
**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**  
Quezon City

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS  
**Second Regular Session**

HOUSE BILL NO. 8142



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


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**EXPLANATORY NOTE**

We currently live in a digital era wherein almost everyone can access internet through handheld devices. With the technological advancements in the recent years, there has been an increased sale and distribution of media entertainment such as games, blogs, video blogs, online news and magazines, instructional videos, movies, documentaries, and the like. These advancements have also allowed people to access a vast pool of information within a few clicks. Consequently, the concern of ensuring the safety of children and minors arises. While we recognize that internet aids people in their daily lives, we could not discount the fact that it could also be used for illicit activities and children can easily become targets without appropriate supervision from parents and guardians.

In this regard, this measure provides for the establishment of an internet safety education program, developed by the Department of Education which shall be introduced in the curriculum of elementary and secondary schools, to encourage safe internet use, and inform communities, children and parents on the uses of internet and risks of the internet. This measure is proposed to increase the literacy of people on new media available through internet. The said program shall educate children, parents and communities about how to prevent or respond to problems or dangers related internet use.

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**  
**ESTABLISHING AN INTERNET SAFETY EDUCATION PROGRAM IN THE CURRICULUM**  
**OF ALL ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOLS**

*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 "Internet Safety Education Act".

**Sec. 2. Declaration of Policy.** - For the purposes of this Act, the terms:

- (A) "DepEd" means Department of Education
- (B) "Internet Safety Education Program" means an age appropriate, research-based program that encourages safe, ethical, and responsible use of the internet, promotes an informed, critical understanding of the internet, and educates children and communities about how to prevent or respond to problems or dangers related to the internet or new media;
- (C) "New Media"
  - (1) means emerging digital, computerized, or network informed and communication technologies that often have interactive capacities; and
  - (2) includes e-mail, instant messaging, text messaging web sites, blogs, interactive
- (D) "Secretary" means the Secretary of the Department of Education.

**Sec. 3. Implementing Agency and its duties.** –

- (A) The DepEd shall:
  - (1) Identify, develop, and implement Internet Safety education programs, including educational technology, multimedia and interactive applications, online resources, and lesson plans;

- (2) Provide professional training to elementary and secondary teachers, administrators, and other staff on internet safety and new media literacy;
- (3) Develop online risk prevention programs for children;
- (4) Train and support peer-driven Internet Safety education initiatives;
- (5) Coordinate and fund research initiatives that investigate online risks to children and internet safety education;
- (6) Develop and implement public education campaigns to promote awareness of online risks to children and Internet safety education;
- (7) Educate parents about teaching their children how to use the Internet and new media safely, responsibly, and ethically and help parents identify and protect their children from risks relating to use of the Internet and new media; or
- (8) The DepEd Secretary shall, within sixty (60) days from the effectivity of this Act, promulgate rules and regulations, including those of disciplinary nature, to carry out and enforce provisions of this Act. Further, the DepEd shall be the lead agency in the carrying out the following: The Secretary is hereby authorized and directed to adopt a system to implement and carry out the provisions of this Act.

**Sec. 4. Appropriations.** – To carry out the provisions of this Act, such amount as may be necessary is hereby authorized to be appropriated from the National Treasury. Thereafter, the amount necessary for the continuous operation of this program shall be included in the annual appropriation of the DepEd.

**Sec. 5. Separability Clause.** – If any provision or section of this Act is held invalid or unconstitutional, the other provisions and sections not affected thereby shall remain in full force and effect.

**Sec. 6. Repealing Clause.** – All laws, presidential decrees, executive orders, or issuances, or any part thereof which are inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed, amended, or modified accordingly.

**Sec. 7. Effectivity.** – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or two (2) newspaper of general circulation.

*Approved,*