

SENATE
S.B. No. 2637

Introduced by Senator Paolo Benigno "Bam" Aquino IV

AN ACT DECLARING EVERY 10th OF FEBRUARY OF EACH YEAR AS NATIONAL SAFER INTERNET DAY IN THE PHILIPPINES

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The Internet has been integrated into the daily lives of billions around the world, with the Philippines ranked 16th out of 196 nations in 2014 with over 39 million local Internet users¹.

Thanks to the World Wide Web, families here and abroad stay connected, news is readily available, our disaster preparedness has improved, and the business landscape is forever changed.

This bill calls for the celebration of National Safer Internet Day to acknowledge both the challenges and opportunities brought forth by this technology that has been integrated in the lives of families, communities and the country.

Through the celebration of National Safer Internet Day, the public would be made aware of the importance of creating a safe, secure and favorable online environment.

The Internet exposes the public to a wealth of information and varying perceptions. The lack of safeguards and controls on the web has allowed cyber abuses never before thought of.

What's more, the Internet is constantly growing and changing. We are only beginning to understand its implications and tap into its capabilities.

National Safer Internet Day should be an annual reminder of our responsibilities as patrons of the Internet.

Beyond this, it is also a venue to discuss the constantly changing landscape of the World Wide Web and discover how best to maximize the ever-expanding online realm.

In view of the foregoing, the approval of this bill is earnestly sought.


Senator Paolo Benigno "Bam" A. Aquino IV

¹ Internet Live Stats. *Real Time Stastics Project*. Accessed via <http://www.internetlivestats.com/internet-users/> last 3 February 2015.

MANILA, PHILIPPINES

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

1 **Section 1. *Short Title.*** This Act shall be known as the Safer Internet Day (SID) Act of 2015.

2 **Section 2. *Declaration of Principles.*** The State recognizes the vital role of information and
3 communications technology in nation-building and the importance of providing an environment
4 conducive to the development, acceleration, and rational application and exploitation of these
5 technologies to attain free, easy, and intelligible access to exchange and/or delivery of
6 information. Thus, it is the obligation of the State to promote safer and more responsible use of
7 online technology and mobile phones, especially amongst children and young people across the
8 country.

9 **Section 3. *National Safer Internet Day.*** Every 10th day of February of each year shall
10 hereby be declared as National Safer Internet Day.

11 **Section 4. *Implementing Agency.*** The Department of Transportation and
12 Communications in close coordination with the Department of Social Welfare and Development
13 shall plan, design, and implement programs and activities in celebration of the National Safer
14 Internet Day every year. Other national government agencies, local government units, and other
15 government instrumentalities shall actively participate in the activities of this celebration.

16 **Section 5. *Effectivity.*** This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in two
17 (2) newspapers of general circulation or the Official Gazette.

Approved.