

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 2203



Introduced by: **HON. "KUYA" JOSE ANTONIO R. SY-ALVARADO**

**AN ACT PROHIBITING THE SPREAD OF ONLINE VIRAL CHALLENGE THAT IS
DETRIMENTAL TO THE MORAL, MENTAL AND PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT OF
CHILDREN**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Article XV Section 2 of the 1987 Constitution provides the right of children to assistance including proper care and nutrition, and special protection from all forms of neglect, abuse, cruelty, exploitation and other conditions prejudicial to their development.

According to the news posted by Catalina Racci Madarag in www.interaksyon.com on February 27, 2019, a viral challenge is circulating that persuades children to undertake tasks that could lead to serious physical injuries has alarmed parents from different countries after recorded incidents that lead to child deaths. International reports named it as the Momo challenge wherein a horrific image of woman scared children through Whatsapp, an online messaging platform, and tricks them into inflicting self-harm. In the Philippines, Erwin Tulfo posted the story of a young boy who dranked his father's anti-gout medicine and thereafter died. It was suspected that he was playing either the Momo challenge or the blue Whale challenge.

The state shall provide precautionary measures in order to promote the welfare and health of the youth and prevent factors that will be prejudicial to their development. This bill aims to ban all kinds of suicidal viral challenge in the Philippines that will be harmful and detrimental to the physical, mental, and moral development of the youth.

In view of the forgoing, the approval of this bill earnestly sought.

"KUYA" JOSE ANTONIO R. SY-ALVARADO
Representative
First District of Bulacan

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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 “ANTI-DEADLY ONLINE VIRAL CHALLENGE”

SECTION 2. Policy. - The State shall provide assistance to children including proper care and nutrition, and special from neglect, abuse, cruelty, exploitation and other conditions prejudicial to their development. The State, through the Secretary of Development of Information and Communication and Technology and in collaboration with the Director of the National Bureau of investigation, shall enforce the banning, and prohibiting all forms of suicidal online viral challenge which are detrimental to the physical, mental and moral being of children. This also include the banning of online sites that are considered art of the dark web and providing penal sanctions for making and propagating this information within the territorial jurisdiction of the Philippines.

SECTION 3. Separability Clause. - If any provision or part hereof is held invalid or unconstitutional, the reminder of the law or law or the provision not otherwise affected shall remain valid and subsisting.

SECTION 4. Effectivity Clause. - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in official Gazette or in at least (2) newspaper or general circulation.

Approved,