

FOURTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC
OF THE PHILIPPINES
Second Regular Session

DEPARTMENT OF LEGISLATION

9 MAR -2 2016

SENATE

RECEIVED BY

P. S. Res. No. 915

INTRODUCED BY SENATOR VILLAR

RESOLUTION

URGING THE SENATE COMMITTEES ON SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, PUBLIC INFORMATION AND MASS MEDIA AND OTHER APPROPRIATE COMMITTEES TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE OCCURRENCE OF CYBER STALKING CASES AND THE MODUS OPERANDI ADOPTED TO PERPETUATE CRIMES IN THE INTERNET WITH THE END IN VIEW OF FORMULATING A POLICY THAT WILL CURB CYBER STALKING AND PROTECT ONLINE USERS IN THE COUNTRY

Whereas, Article II Section 5 of the Philippine Constitution states, “the maintenance of peace and order, the protection of life, liberty, and property, and the promotion of the general welfare are essential for the enjoyment by all people of the blessings of democracy”;

Whereas, cyber stalking does not take on a fixed variety or a predetermined description to illustrate how it is executed, but the act promotes harassment inducing negative feelings such as annoyance, inconvenience, humiliation, worry and fear to the victim;

Whereas, a feature study¹ revealed that women are the most vulnerable in this scheme adding up to cases interpreting stressful experiences by the women who are stalked by ex-boyfriends or ex-husbands;

Whereas, however, recent occurrences attest that it is not only the women who become subjects of cyberstalkers or online stalkers as they may be called, since there is no preference as to who will be victimized by cyberstalkers who execute various forms and strategies similar to what is known about real-life, offline stalkers;

Whereas, a blog site by Jehzeel Laurente called “Jehzlau’s Concepts” (<http://www.jehzlau-concepts.com>) which has won awards such as ranking top 1 in the Philippines Top 100 Blogs for 2008 by the Digital Filipino and Ratified.org and was featured in

¹ Manila Bulletin, September 1, 2007

Manila Bulletin's Blog-o-Rama – TechNews Section on May 5, 2008, revealed that he has had experience on cyberstalkers;

Whereas, the online stalker as he cited, used different proxy sites so it will be hard if not impossible to trace his real identity;

Whereas, the stalker created another e-mail with an address very similar to the genuine e-mail address of Laurente and used the fake e-mail to ask money from other internet users and annoy and pester others by retorting bad words on comments and web pages, pretending to be the real Laurente;

Whereas, in two other instances, a hacker used the real name, e-mail address and blog URL of Laurente to post damaging or offensive comments and one posted comments bearing false claims accusing the genuine Laurente to be stealing the usernames and passwords of other online users to access Friendster, Myspace and Facebook profiles;

Whereas, an episode in Imbestigador aired on a Saturday in January 2008 over GMA 7 featured two students, one 18 year old and another 20 year old graduating student who played on a trick to their former schoolmate by "hacking" the boy's Friendster account;

Whereas, the two lady "hackers" assumed the identity of their victim by sending false messages to the victim's friends which eventually led the hackers to demand Php 6000 with which the victim was willing to settle so as to prevent further damage to his personality;

Whereas, an entrapment operation arranged by the police upon coordination of the victim with Imbestigador caused the arrest of the two hackers who were revealed just to be playing a trip for their own sake in exchange of the reputation of their victim;

Whereas, to complement the provisions of the Electronic Commerce Law of the Philippines, a definitive statute governing and penalizing cyber stalking is needed to protect the online and internet users: NOW THEREFORE BE IT

RESOLVED, as it is hereby resolved, to urge the Senate Committees on Science and Technology, Public Information and Mass Media and other appropriate committees to conduct an inquiry, in aid of legislation, on the increasing occurrence of cyber stalking cases and the modus operandi adopted to perpetuate crimes in the internet with the end in view of formulating a policy that will curb cyber stalking and protect online users in the country.

Adopted,


MANNY VILLAR
Senator