

[PROCLAMATION NO. 417, February 05, 2018]

DECLARING THE SECOND TUESDAY OF FEBRUARY OF EVERY YEAR AS SAFER INTERNET DAY FOR CHILDREN PHILIPPINES

WHEREAS, under Section 13, Article II of the 1987 Constitution, the State recognizes the vital role of the youth in nation-building and shall promote and protect their physical, moral, spiritual, intellectual, and social well-being;

WHEREAS, under Republic Act (RA) No. 9775, otherwise known as the "Anti- Child Pornography Act of 2009," the State guarantees the fundamental rights of every child for protection from all forms of neglect, cruelty, and other conditions prejudicial to his/her development, endeavors to protect every child from all forms of exploitation and abuse, and complies with international treaties to which the Philippines is a signatory or a state party concerning the rights of children;

WHEREAS, RA No. 7610, as amended, otherwise known as the "Special Protection of Children Against Child Abuse, Exploitation and Discrimination Act," declared it a policy of the State to provide special protection to children from all forms of abuse, neglect, cruelty, exploitation and discrimination, and other conditions prejudicial to their development including child labor, child prostitution and child pornography;

WHEREAS, the "Safer Internet Day," which is celebrated annually as a call to action to promote better and safer internet use for everyone, was first introduced in 2004 in various countries in Europe and is currently being observed by more than 100 countries in the world to raise awareness on online issues faced by children;

WHEREAS, RA No. 9775 created the Inter-Agency Council Against Child Pornography (IACACP), which shall serve as a policy-making, coordinating and monitoring body on all issues and matters relative to the elimination of child pornography in the Philippines;

WHEREAS, RA No. 9775 also identified the powers and functions of IACACP, which include conducting and coordinating massive information dissemination campaigns on the provisions of the law and the various issues and problems relative to ending child pornography in the country;

WHEREAS, the IACACP, through Council Resolution No. 2 (s. 2017), favorably endorsed the approval and issuance of a Proclamation declaring the second Tuesday of February of every year as Safer Internet Day for Children Philippines;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, RODRIGO ROA DUTERTE, President of the Republic of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by the Constitution and existing laws, do hereby declare the second Tuesday of February of every year as **"Safer internet Day for Children Philippines."**