The Prevention and Solution of the Adolescent Pregnancy Problem Act, B.E. 2559 (2016)

A law that focuses on adolescents’ rights and an integrated approach to prevent and alleviate adolescent pregnancies

Five Main Ministries are responsible for issuing ministerial orders and regulations for the execution of the Act:

- Ministry of Public Health
- Ministry of Labour
- Ministry of Social Development and Human Security
- Ministry of Interior
- Ministry of Education

Definition and Rights of Adolescents under the Act

- Any individuals aged above 10 but not over 20

Adolescents’ Rights:

- Right to make informed decisions
- Right to receive social welfare services
- Right to have access to education and information
- Right to be treated equally and without discrimination
- Right to receive reproductive health services
- Right to enjoy confidentiality and privacy

Key Mechanism under the Act

The Prevention and Solution of the Adolescent Pregnancy Problem Committee

The Prime Minister of Thailand, Chairman

The Committee includes 8 high-level government officials, 5 experts, and 2 youth representatives from the Children and Youth Council of Thailand. Director General of the Department of Health is a member and Secretary of the Committee.

Functions of the Committee:

- Propose adolescent pregnancy prevention and alleviation policies and strategies to the cabinet
- Provide guidelines for implementation by state agencies and the private sector
- Propose amendments of relevant laws and offer advice on the issuance of ministerial orders
- Submit a report on adolescent pregnancy prevention and alleviation to the cabinet at least once a year
- Provide recommendations and solutions to address the implementation bottlenecks faced by state agencies and the private sector
Key Measures to Prevent and Alleviate Adolescent Pregnancies

**Educational Institutions**
- Provide age-appropriate sexuality education to students, and provide and train teachers.
- Provide counselling, support, and protection for pregnant students so that they are able to continue their education.
- Establish a referral system for reproductive health and social welfare services.

**Workplaces**
- Provide accurate and adequate information to adolescent employees to help them prevent adolescent pregnancies.
- Support adolescent employees’ access to reproductive health counselling and services.
- Establish a referral system for social welfare services.

**Public Health Facilities**
- Provide accurate and adequate information to adolescent clients to help them prevent adolescent pregnancies.
- Provide quality reproductive health counselling and services based on adolescents’ rights.
- Establish a referral system for social welfare services.

**Social Welfare Organizations**
- Provide occupational training and employment opportunities to pregnant adolescents.
- Provide alternative families for adolescent who are not capable of raising their own children.
- Set up youth networks at the provincial and district levels to monitor and take action to prevent and alleviate problems associated with adolescent pregnancies.
- Encourage state agencies and the private sector to provide support to pregnant adolescents and their families.

**Local Administrative Organizations**
- Issue local regulations to ensure that adolescents can exercise their rights in accordance with this Act.

The full content of the Act can be viewed at rh.anamai.moph.go.th