



**DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES  
KAGAWARAN NG KAPALIGIRAN AT LIKAS YAMAN**



**MEMORANDUM**

**FOR :** **The Directors**  
Legal Affairs Service  
Policy and Planning Service  
Climate Change Service

**All Bureau Directors**

**The Administrator**  
National Mapping Resource and Information Authority

**The Executive Directors**  
Manila Bay Coordinating Office  
River Basin Control Office  
Palawan Council for Sustainable Development Staff  
National Water Resource Board

**The Chairman**  
Philippine Mining Development Corporation

**The OIC Director**  
Environmental Law Enforcement and Protection Service

**FROM :** **The Director**  
Legislative Liaison Office

**SUBJECT :** **INVITATION TO THE TECHNICAL WORKING GROUP (TWG) MEETING TO DISCUSS VARIOUS BILLS ON ESTABLISHING THE E-GOVERNMENT ACT FROM THE COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY OF THE SENATE OF THE PHILIPPINES**

**DATE :** 14 November 2023

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In reference to the email received by our Office, the Committee on Science and Technology, joint with the Committees on Civil Service, Government Reorganization and Professional Regulation; Local Government; Public Information and Mass Media; and Finance of the Senate of the Philippines is inviting the Department to a Technical Working Group (TWG) Meeting on **16 November 2023, Thursday, 10:00 AM, Senator Sotto Room, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Senate of the Philippines, Pasay City** or via **Cisco Webex Videoconference**, to discuss the following legislative measures:

1. **Senate Bill No. 67**, "An Act Institutionalizing the Use of 'Mobile Application Para sa Pilipino' otherwise known as 'Mobile A.P.P.' in the Delivery of Basic Government Services and Programs, Providing Funds Therefor, and for Other Purposes" (*Introduced by Sen. Alan Peter Cayetano*)
2. **Senate Bill No. 194**, "An Act Institutionalizing the Transition of the Government to E- Governance in the Digital Age, Appropriating Funds Therefor, and for Other Purposes" (*Introduced by Sen. Christopher Lawrence Go*)
3. **Senate Bill No. 298**, "An Act Establishing a Framework for a Smart Philippines, Ensuring Accessible and Affordable Internet for All, Appropriating Funds Therefor, and for Other Purposes" (*Introduced by Sen. Alan Peter Cayetano*)
4. **Senate Bill No. 318**, "An Act Institutionalizing the Transition of the Government to E-Governance in the Digital Age, Appropriating Funds Therefor, and for Other Purposes" (*Introduced by Sen. Juan Miguel "Migz" Zubiri*)
5. **Senate Bill No. 334**, "An Act Establishing the E-Government, Defining Its Powers and Functions, Appropriating Funds Therefor, and for Other Purposes" (*Introduced by Sen. Grace Poe*)
6. **Senate Bill No. 455**, "An Act Establishing the E-Government, Defining its Powers and Functions, and for Other Purposes" (*Introduced by Sen. Jinggoy Estrada*)
7. **Senate Bill No. 625**, "An Act Establishing a National Digital Transformation Policy and Creating a National Digital Transformation Council for the Development and Implementation Thereof, and for Other Purposes" (*Introduced by Sen. Sonny Angara*)
8. **Senate Bill No. 685**, "An Act Mandating the Full Digital Transformation of All Government Agencies, Offices and Corporations, including Local Government Units, Appropriating Funds Therefor and for Other Purposes" (*Introduced by Sen. Win Gatchalian*)
9. **Senate Bill No. 974**, "An Act Promoting the Digitalization of Frontline Services of All Government Agencies and Appropriating Funds Therefor" (*Introduced by Sen. Manuel "Lito" Lapid*)
10. **Senate Bill No. 982**, "An Act Establishing the E-Government, Defining Its Powers and Functions, and for Other Purposes" (*Introduced by Sen. Ramon Bong Revilla, Jr.*)
11. **Senate Bill No. 1051**, "An Act Establishing an Information Technology Office in Every Province, City and Municipality, and for Other Purposes" (*Introduced by Sen. Win Gatchalian*)
12. **Senate Bill No. 1126**, "An Act Mandating Transition of the Government to E-Governance in the Digital Age, Appropriating Funds Therefor, and for Other Purposes" (*Introduced by Sen. Mark Villar*)
13. **Senate Bill No. 1172**, "An Act Institutionalizing a Masterplan for the Transition of the Government to E-Governance, Appropriating Funds Therefor and for Other Purposes" (*Introduced by Sen. Joseph Victor Ejercito*)

14. **Senate Bill No. 542**, "An Act Institutionalizing the Transition of the Government to E- Governance in the Digital Age, Appropriating Funds Therefor, and for Other Purposes" (*Introduced by Sen. Ramon Bong Revilla, Jr.*)
15. **Senate Bill No. 1574**, "An Act Institutionalizing E-Governance in the Government, Appropriating Funds Therefor, and for Other Purposes" (*Introduced by Sen. Joel Villanueva*)
16. **Senate Bill No. 1867**, "An Act Establishing the E-Government, Defining its Powers and Functions, and for Other Purposes" (*Introduced by Sen. Loren B. Legarda*)
17. **Senate Bill No. 1978**, "An Act Institutionalizing the Transition of the Government to E- Governance in the Digital Age and for Other Purposes" (*Introduced by Sen. Sonny Angara*)
18. **House Bill No. 7327**, "An Act Institutionalizing the Transition of the Government to E-Governance in the Digital Age, Creating for the Purpose the Philippine Infostructure Management Corporation and Appropriating Funds Therefor" (*Introduced by Reps. Romualdez, F., Romualdez, Y., Marcos F., Acidre, J., Tiangco, T., et. al.*)

In this regard, may we respectfully request additional comments/recommendations on the abovementioned bills, as requested by the Committee. Kindly submit your comments via email at [denrlllo@denr.gov.ph](mailto:denrlllo@denr.gov.ph). Further, kindly inform us of the name/s of the representative/s from your office who will participate in the meeting so we may include him/her/them as resource person/s.

Attached herewith are the Letter Invitation and a copy of the bills for your reference.

  
**ROMIROSE B. PADIN**

cc: Undersecretary for Special Concerns and Legislative Affairs  
Undersecretary for Finance, Information Systems and Climate Change



Republic of the Philippines  
CONGRESS OF THE PHILIPPINES

**Senate**  
Pasay City

COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

14 November 2023

**HON. MARIA ANTONIA LOYZAGA**

*Secretary*

Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR)

Dear Secretary Loyzaga:

Please be informed that the Committee on Science and Technology joint with the Committees on Civil Service, Government Reorganization and Professional Regulation; Local Government; Public Information and Mass Media; and, Finance will conduct its **Technical Working Group (TWG) Meeting on E-Governance/E-Government Act on Thursday, 16 November 2023, 10:00 a.m. at Senator Sotto Room, 2nd Floor, Senate of the Philippines and via Cisco Webex Videoconference.** The following legislative measures will be discussed:

1. **Senate Bill No. 67**, "An Act Institutionalizing the Use of 'Mobile Application Para sa Pilipino' otherwise known as 'Mobile A.P.P.' in the Delivery of Basic Government Services and Programs, Providing Funds Therefor, and for Other Purposes" (*Introduced by Sen. Alan Peter Cayetano*)
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13. **Senate Bill No. 1172**, "An Act Institutionalizing a Masterplan for the Transition of the Government to E-Governance, Appropriating Funds Therefor and for Other Purposes" (*Introduced by Sen. Joseph Victor Ejercito*)
14. **Senate Bill No. 1542**, "An Act Institutionalizing the Transition of the Government to E-Governance in the Digital Age, Appropriating Funds Therefor, and for Other Purposes" (*Introduced by Sen. Ramon Bong Revilla, Jr.*)
15. **Senate Bill No. 1574**, "An Act Institutionalizing E-Governance in the Government, Appropriating Funds Therefor, and for Other Purposes" (*Introduced by Sen. Joel Villanueva*)
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In this regard, may we invite you or your duly authorized representative as a Resource Person to this meeting. Your representative's virtual presence is earnestly requested. Please take note that the Webex Link for the said meeting will be sent at least two (2) hours before the schedule.

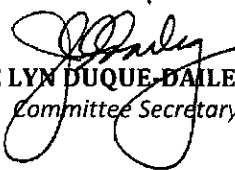
We would also appreciate if you could give us confirmation of your attendance as well as that of your representative who will be joining this TWG Meeting, including their email address, and a copy of your position paper/comments on or before **Wednesday, 15 November 2023 at 5:00 p.m.** Kindly disregard the submission of position paper/comments if you have already submitted the same to the Committee.

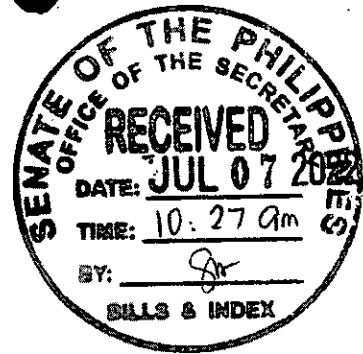
Attached herewith is a copy of the Video Conferencing Etiquette that will be observed during the entire conduct of the TWG Meeting. Please read the same for your guidance.

For any clarification on the matter, please feel free to contact the undersigned Committee Secretary at (02) 8552-6820, (02) 8552-6601 locals 3303, 3305 and 3306; or thru [senatesciencetech@gmail.com](mailto:senatesciencetech@gmail.com).

Thank you very much.

For the Chairperson:  
**SEN. ALAN PETER P. CAYETANO**

  
**(MS.) JAMIE LYN DUQUE-BAILEG, MPP-NUS**  
*Committee Secretary*



S. B. No. 67

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INTRODUCED BY SENATOR ALAN PETER "COMPAÑERO" S. CAYETANO

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**AN ACT  
INSTITUTIONALIZING THE USE OF "MOBILE APPLICATION PARA SA PILIPINO"  
OTHERWISE KNOWN AS "MOBILE A.P.P." IN THE DELIVERY OF BASIC  
GOVERNMENT SERVICES AND PROGRAMS, PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFOR, AND  
FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

**EXPLANATORY NOTE**

Modern problems require modern solutions. But complex problems are better solved through simple solutions. Government has many ongoing programs to deliver financial assistance to our people. With a yearly allotment of at least Php 100 Billion for social welfare programs, the issue is access to these funds, efficiency of the agencies in delivering these to intended beneficiaries.

The hardships brought about by the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic have necessitated a more efficient and direct delivery of services and benefits to our countrymen. Promoting a more efficient and streamlined delivery of government services has become an imperative since the government now has the opportunity to bring services closer to the Filipinos through the efficient use of technology. However, the bureaucratic red tape has only served as a bottleneck to the full achievement of our state policy to "free the people from poverty through policies that provide adequate social services, promote full employment, rising standard of living, and improved quality of life for all."

The use of present technology affords the government the opportunity to bring itself and its services closer to the people. A contactless system, such as the mobile application that this Act seeks to establish, could elevate the country's response to the global COVID-19 pandemic given that as of 2020, 72.1% of Filipinos already have internet access through their mobile phones, and is projected to grow up to 77.1% by 2025.<sup>1</sup>

The proposed mobile application would promote the financial inclusion of the most vulnerable sectors of society through the adoption of an expedient means of distribution of aid and other assistance. The previous Congress had successfully funded the government's COVID-19 response and stimulus programs such as

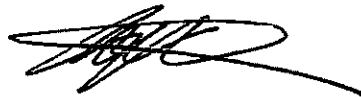
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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.trade.gov/country-commercial-guides/philippines-ecommerce>

Assistance to Individuals in Crisis Situation (AICS), *Tulong Panghanapbuhay sa Ating Disadvantaged/Displaced Workers* (TUPAD), Medical Assistance to Indigent Patients (MAIP), among others. Funds are at the government's disposal. The present Congress now has the opportunity to put in place a system that will bridge the programs and its intended beneficiaries. Going digital will make these *ayuda* more accessible for our people. Help can be one click away. In addition, it will dispense with the need for personal appearance by the public, health workers, and personnel in government payments collection, thereby ensuring their health and safety.

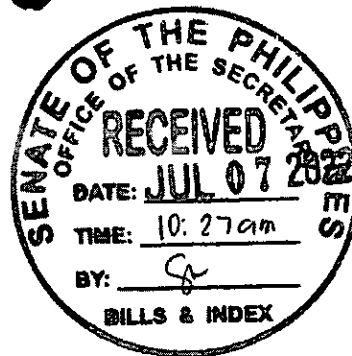
This system could also pave the way for faster dissemination of important and urgent information, such as relevant updates on government guidelines and protocols, promoting transparency and making sure that the reports they receive are accurate to prevent any confusion or misunderstanding.

The government needs to take itself into the 21st century. For these reasons, the swift passage of the foregoing measure is earnestly sought.



**ALAN PETER "COMPAÑERO" S. CAYETANO**





S. B. No. 67

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INTRODUCED BY SENATOR ALAN PETER "COMPAÑERO" S. CAYETANO

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1 AN ACT  
2 INSTITUTIONALIZING THE USE OF "MOBILE APPLICATION PARA SA PILIPINO"  
3 OTHERWISE KNOWN AS "MOBILE A.P.P." IN THE DELIVERY OF BASIC  
4 GOVERNMENT SERVICES AND PROGRAMS, PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFOR, AND  
5 FOR OTHER PURPOSES

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

8 **SECTION 1. Short Title.** - This Act shall be known as the "*Mobile A.P.P. Act.*"

9 **SECTION 2. Declaration of Policy.** - It is the policy of the State to provide a  
10 more efficient and direct delivery of services to the public. It is also the policy of the  
11 State to streamline its processes and reduce red tape. For this purpose, the  
12 establishment of a mobile application for the delivery of basic government services  
13 and the facilitation of government payments collection would eliminate possibilities  
14 of corruption in the government's provision of services.

15 A contactless system, such as a unified mobile application, would elevate and  
16 advance the country's assistance after the global Coronavirus Diseases 2019  
17 pandemic. The use of a mobile application would dispense with the need for personal  
18 appearance by the public, health workers, and government personnel in the  
19 distribution of assistance and in the collection of payments, thereby ensuring their  
20 health and safety.

21 This interoperable system would also allow for faster dissemination of  
22 important and urgent information straight to the people, such as relevant updates on  
23 government programs, assistance, and subsidies whilst making sure that the reports  
24 they receive are accurate to prevent any confusion or misunderstanding.

25 Towards this end, this digital system shall ensure that the data collected is  
26 secure and that the people's right to privacy and other constitutional and statutory  
27 rights are respected and protected at all times.

28 **SECTION 3. Definition of Terms.** - For purposes of this Act, the following  
29 terms are hereby defined as follows:

- 30 a) "Citizen" refers to a Filipino citizen, as defined in the Constitution, including  
31 those with dual or multiple citizenships in accordance with Republic Act No.

1 9225, otherwise known as the Citizenship Retention and Re-acquisition Act of  
2 2003.

- 3 b) "Digital collection" refers to a mode of payment wherein a government entity  
4 receives payments from individuals and entities through digital devices and  
5 where payments can be made through bank transfers, electronic money and  
6 payment cards.
- 7 c) "Digital disbursement" refers to a mode of payment wherein a government  
8 entity disburses money or any equivalent electronic representations of legal  
9 tender, for purposes of paying government expenditures, by crediting the  
10 target recipient's transaction account through Advice to Debit Account or  
11 Electronic Fund Transfer facilitated by the Government Servicing Bank, or any  
12 other digital payment instruments allowed by existing laws and regulations.
- 13 d) "Digital payment" refers to a monetary payment transaction between two (2)  
14 parties through a digital payment instrument in which both the payer and the  
15 payee use an electronic channel.
- 16 e) "Electronic money (e-money)" refers to electronically stored money value  
17 which is issued in accordance with relevant regulations and issuances of the  
18 Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas (BSP).
- 19 f) "Interoperability" refers to the ability or capacity of computerized systems to  
20 connect, exchange, and interpret shared data although developed by different  
21 manufacturers in different industries to enable exchange of information  
22 between applications, databases, and other computer systems.
- 23 g) "Mobile Application" refers to the contactless system to be established by this  
24 Act.
- 25 h) "Mobile Registration" refers to the ability to register in transportable  
26 registration devices or centers.
- 27 i) "Online Registration" refers to the ability to register using a computer or  
28 similar device connected to the internet.
- 29 j) "QR Code" refers to the quick response (QR) which can be read easily by a  
30 digital device and which stores information as a series of pixels in a square-  
31 shaped grid, developed and issued by the Department of Information and  
32 Communications Technology (DICT).
- 33 k) "Registration" refers to the act of entering the demographic and other relevant  
34 information of citizens to the system.

35 **SECTION 4. Coverage.** – All departments, agencies, and instrumentalities of  
36 the government, including state universities and colleges, government-owned or -  
37 controlled corporations (Covered Agencies) are hereby directed and local  
38 government units (LGUs) are hereby enjoined to adopt the Mobile A.P.P. developed  
39 and established under this Act for efficient delivery of government services,  
40 disbursements, and collections.

41 **SECTION 5. Mobile Application Para sa Pilipino (Mobile A.P.P.).** – The DICT  
42 shall primarily be tasked for the development and establishment of the Mobile  
43 Application Para sa Pilipino otherwise known as the "Mobile A.P.P." that is accessible  
44 to all citizens and interoperable among government agencies, offices, and units.

45 For this purpose, the DICT may partner with relevant individuals, sectors,  
46 entities, and companies for the development of a mobile application that may also be  
47 accessible through a website, and if necessary, engage the services of such individuals,  
48 sectors, entities, and companies.

1 The Mobile A.P.P. shall afford a user-friendly registration process. Thereafter,  
2 a distinct QR Code shall be generated for each individual registrant taking into  
3 consideration the efficient delivery of government services, the collection of  
4 payments, and the implementation of necessary government programs, policies,  
5 protocols, and guidelines.

6 a) Purposes – The use of the Mobile A.P.P. shall have the following purposes:

7 1. To facilitate the delivery of government services such as, but not limited to,  
8 digital disbursement of financial assistance and other benefits, including  
9 but not limited to:

10 a. Social Amelioration Program (SAP) under the Department of Social  
11 Welfare and Development (DSWD);

12 b. Tulong Panghanapbuhay sa Ating Disadvantaged/Displaced  
13 Workers (TUPAD) and other cash-for-work programs of the  
14 government under the Department of Labor and Employment;

15 c. Assistance to Individuals in Crisis Situation (AICS) under the DSWD;

16 d. Stipends and other assistance to students under the Department of  
17 Education (DepEd);

18 e. Student loans under the Landbank of the Philippines, Government  
19 Service Insurance System (GSIS), or Social Security System (SSS);

20 f. Medical assistance under the Department of Health;

21 g. Loan programs under the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI);  
22 and

23 h. Social pensions from the DSWD and LGUs.

24 2. To improve government revenue system through digital collection of  
25 payments for taxes, fees, tolls, and other charges and impositions;

26 3. To aid Filipino citizens in the registration, application, and validation  
27 process for availing of government services; and

28 4. To disseminate information in a prompt and timely manner to appraise  
29 Filipino citizens on matters relevant to their health and safety.

30 b) Security features – Measures shall be taken by the DICT to secure the  
31 information, accounts, and QR Codes issued to Filipinos and to avoid possible  
32 security compromises, breaches of financial accounts, and potential violations  
33 of privacy.

34 c) Free of charge – No fees shall be collected regarding the provision or  
35 generation of a Philippine QR Code.

36 d) Features – The Mobile A.P.P. shall, among others, have the following features:

37 1. Available and accessible for all and every mobile operating system, such as  
38 but not limited to Android, iOS, and Windows and

39 2. Interoperable among all relevant government agencies and services and  
40 linked to services provided by Financial Service Providers.

41 Nothing in this Act shall prevent government agencies from developing or  
42 utilizing their own mobile applications or other information technology solutions to  
43 implement their respective programs, actions, or projects.

44 **SECTION 6. Data to be gathered.** – The information required for registration  
45 under the herein established Mobile A.P.P. shall be limited to the following:

46 a) Full Name;

47 b) Sex;

48 c) Date of Birth;

- 1 d) Place of Birth;
- 2 e) Address (Residence);
- 3 f) Marital Status;
- 4 g) Mobile Number (optional);
- 5 h) E-mail address (optional);
- 6 i) Health Status (indicate any comorbidities);
- 7 j) Willingness to be vaccinated or not;
- 8 k) Government assistance or benefit already being received, if any; and,
- 9 l) Details of bank account, e-money service (i.e., GCash, Pay Maya, Aii Pay), or
- 10 other preferred payment, if any.

11 **SECTION 7. Digital Payments Committee.** – A Digital Payments Committee  
12 shall be created to provide guidance and promote cost-efficiency and transparency in  
13 the procurement of digital payment solutions by Covered Agencies and LGUs. The  
14 Committee shall be composed of representatives from the following agencies and  
15 offices:

- 16 a. Department of Finance;
- 17 b. Department of Budget and Management (DBM);
- 18 c. Bureau of Treasury;
- 19 d. Bureau of Internal Revenue; and
- 20 e. Government Procurement Policy Board.

21 **SECTION 8. Registration and Interoperability** – The DICT, in coordination  
22 with other relevant agencies, shall develop and maintain a unified website for the  
23 same purpose as the Mobile A.P.P. and shall ensure their interoperability among  
24 relevant government agencies and supplied Financial Service Providers under  
25 Section 6(l) of this Act.

26 The LGUs, in coordination with the Department of Interior and Local  
27 Government (DILG) and the DICT, shall conduct house-to-house registration, being  
28 mindful of health protocols. They shall also organize temporary mobile registrations,  
29 in such a number and frequency as needed, to allow individuals, especially those  
30 without access to internet or without the proper electronic equipment, to register  
31 under this Act.

32 Once an individual is issued a QR Code, LGUs may print out the QR Codes of  
33 individuals upon the latter's request and without expense to them.

34 **SECTION 9. Special Registration of Minors, senior citizens, persons with**  
35 **disabilities (PWDs), illiterate persons, and indigenous peoples.** – The DICT, in  
36 creating the website and Mobile A.P.P., shall consider the vulnerabilities and special  
37 needs of different individuals and sectors of society such as but not limited to minors,  
38 senior citizens, persons with disabilities (PWDs), and indigenous peoples. *Provided,*  
39 That registration of minors shall be with the consent of parents or guardians of legal  
40 age. *Provided,* further, That QR codes generated for PWDs shall be printable in  
41 documents that allow them to be readable by PWDs. *Provided,* finally, That traditions  
42 and culture of indigenous peoples shall likewise be considered.

43 **SECTION 10. Documentary requirements.** – Any of the following documents  
44 shall be primary proof of recognition for purposes of verifying the registrant's  
45 identity under this Act:

- 1 a. Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA)-issued Certificate of Live Birth;
- 2 b. Any government-issued identification document which bears full name, front-
- 3 facing photograph, and signature or thumb mark;
- 4 c. Philippine Passport or e-Passport issued by the Department of Foreign Affairs
- 5 (DFA); or
- 6 d. GSIS or SSS-issued Unified Multi-purpose Identification Card (UMID).

7 If the registrant does not have any of the above-mentioned documents, he or  
8 she may submit any of the following secondary documents:

- 9 a. National Statistics Office (NSO)-issued Certificate of Live Birth with Birth
- 10 Reference Number (BreN)
- 11 b. Local Civil Registry Office (LCRO)-issued Certificate of Live Birth
- 12 c. PSA-issued Report of Birth
- 13 d. PSA-issued Certificate of Foundling
- 14 e. Seaman's Book
- 15 f. Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program (4Ps) ID
- 16 g. License to Own or Possess Firearms (LTOPF) ID
- 17 h. National Bureau of Investigation Clearance
- 18 i. Police Clearance/ID
- 19 j. Solo Parent's ID
- 20 k. Taxpayer Identification Number (TIN) ID
- 21 l. PhilHealth ID

22 The following identification documents shall also be accepted as secondary  
23 supporting documents provided that they have a front-facing photograph,  
24 signature/thumbmark, full name, permanent address, and date of birth:

- 25 a. Employee ID
- 26 b. School ID
- 27 c. Barangay Clearance/Certificate
- 28 d. Barangay ID
- 29 e. City/Municipal ID

30 **SECTION 11. Protection of data.** - The DICT shall implement reasonable and  
31 appropriate organizational, technical, and physical security measures to ensure that  
32 the information gathered under this Act is protected from unauthorized access, use,  
33 disclosure, and against accidental or intentional loss, destruction, or damage.

34 While upholding the confidentiality provisions under Republic Act No. 10625,  
35 otherwise known as the "Philippine Statistical Act of 2013", all data collated by the  
36 DICT under this Act may be used to generate aggregate data or statistical summaries  
37 without reference to or identification of any specific individual; *Provided*, that nothing  
38 in this Act shall be construed as prohibiting or limiting the sharing or transfer of any  
39 personal data that is already authorized or required by law.

40 **SECTION 12. Information Campaign.** - Within ninety (90) days from the  
41 effectivity of this Act, the DICT, together with the DILG and other government  
42 agencies, shall undertake an extensive information campaign to promote and explain  
43 the concept and use of the Mobile A.P.P. to all citizens.

1           **SECTION 13. Establishment of Citizens' Grievance Hotline.** – The DICT shall  
2 establish a Citizens' Information and Grievance Hotline which shall serve as a  
3 mechanism where citizens may ask information, report complaints and grievances,  
4 or request assistance relevant to the Mobile A.P.P.

5           **SECTION 14. Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR).** – Within sixty  
6 (60) days upon approval of this Act, the DICT, together with appropriate government  
7 agencies, shall promulgate rules and regulations and exchange existing technologies  
8 and best practices on authentication and data security and development of the Mobile  
9 A.P.P. to effectively implement the provisions of this Act.

10           **SECTION 15. Pilot Testing.** – Within thirty (30) days after the promulgation  
11 of the IRR of this Act, a pilot testing of the Mobile A.P.P. shall be conducted for the  
12 delivery of one (1) basic program or service of an agency deemed appropriate by  
13 DICT. In addition, within five (5) months from the implementation of the pilot testing,  
14 Covered Agencies shall fully implement digital disbursements and collections.

15           **SECTION 16. Transition.** – All Covered Agencies are encouraged to establish  
16 programs to capacitate their personnel on innovative technologies, cybersecurity,  
17 and data privacy protection tools to ensure the full implementation of this Act.  
18 Covered Agencies shall also ensure the continuous delivery of public services during  
19 such transition, particularly the acceptance of non-digital mode of payments.

20           **SECTION 17. Appropriations.** – The sum deemed appropriate by DICT and  
21 Department of Budget and Management is hereby authorized to be appropriated, out  
22 of any funds in the National Treasury not otherwise appropriated, for the  
23 implementation of this Act.

24           **SECTION 18. Separability Clause.** If, for any reason, any portion or provision  
25 of this Act shall be held unconstitutional or invalid, the remaining provisions not  
26 affected thereby shall continue to be in full force and effect.

27           **SECTION 19. Repealing Clause.** All laws, executive orders, proclamations,  
28 rules, regulations and other issuances or parts thereof which are inconsistent with  
29 the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or amended accordingly.

30           **SECTION 20. Effectivity.** This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its  
31 publication in the Official Gazette or in any newspaper of general circulation.

*Approved,*

)  
)  
)  
22 JUL 12 A8 51

S. B. No. 298

RECEIVED BY: 

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**INTRODUCED BY SENATOR ALAN PETER "COMPAÑERO" S. CAYETANO**

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**AN ACT**  
**ESTABLISHING A FRAMEWORK FOR A SMART PHILIPPINES, ENSURING**  
**ACCESSIBLE AND AFFORDABLE INTERNET FOR ALL, APPROPRIATING FUNDS**  
**THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

**EXPLANATORY NOTE**

Ingrained in our fundamental law is our high regard and recognition of the importance that science and technology plays in improving the lives of every Filipino and its role in taking our country to the next phase of nation building. Section 10, Article XIV of the 1987 Philippine Constitution provides that "science and technology are essential for national development and progress. The State shall give priority to research and development, invention, innovation, and their utilization..." Section 12, Article XIV of the Constitution also states that "the State shall regulate the transfer and promote the adaptation of technology from all sources for the national benefit. It shall encourage the widest participation of private groups, local governments, and community-based organizations in the generation and utilization of science and technology."

The term "smart cities", at its core, means leveraging new and disruptive technologies to address a broad range of urban problems.<sup>1</sup> Smart cities are the future of urban living because technology will play a significant role in governance, making social services available, and ensuring that the future is sustainable for future generations. As the country strives to create more eco-friendly smart cities with improved livability and quality of life for all, there is still work to be done as new technologies and other innovative ideas for city living emerge in the coming years.<sup>2</sup>

In a recent study, state-run think tank Philippine Institute for Development Studies (PIDS) said that the Philippines has begun its path toward building smart cities but it continues to face challenges along the way. Among the biggest issues are operational costs and lack of interoperability. Other challenges include the digital divide, lack of policies and standards in implementing smart city initiatives, and change in administration. Amid the still high number of challenges in developing smart cities, PIDS emphasized that national government agencies have a significant

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<sup>1</sup> <https://law.asia/philippine-smart-cities/>

<sup>2</sup> <https://opengovasia.com/the-philippines-to-expand-smart-city-initiatives/>

role to play in addressing such issues.<sup>3</sup> This is why this measure aims to bring together all the relevant national government agencies to provide an effective and long-term solution and framework into which our country can move forward to create more smart cities and municipalities in our country.

At the core of smart cities is the digitalization of government, the industries, institutions both public and private, and communities throughout the country. Broadband connection and digital literacy are critical to participation in society, the economy, and to access healthcare and essential services, obtain education, and establish or grow businesses, and in employment.

We therefore must modernize our digital infrastructure to ensure that all Filipinos have access to, and the use of, affordable, quality, and up-to-date information and communication technologies. This includes having reliable and affordable broadband internet service for everyone; internet-enabled devices that meet the needs of the user, whether for work, commerce, education, among others; and applications and online content designed to enable and encourage participation, interaction, and development. It also includes access to digital literacy training; digital and technical support; and ensuring online privacy and cybersecurity.

This bill creates the Smart Philippines Council composed of all the relevant government agencies and organizations, and serves as the overall policy-making and implementing body of the Act. The Smart Philippines Council is tasked with creating a "Smart Philippines Initiative", a five-year strategic action plan, with particular focus on the following sectors: digital infrastructure development, health, transportation, education, finance, and urban development. Based on the said Smart Philippines Initiative, a "Smart Philippines Resource Guide" shall also be created, which is designed to assist cities and municipalities in developing and implementing their own smart programs as well.

Our growing population and its corresponding increasing urban challenges have pushed our country and the rest of the world to look at the creation of smart cities as a solution. This bill aims to fast-track all efforts towards the development of smart cities and smart municipalities to ensure that each Filipino's future is secured by continually innovating and strengthening our capabilities through technology and new opportunities. This measure also seeks to ensure the digital inclusion of every Filipino so that each may utilize the full potential of information and communication technologies for, among others, education, commerce, and health. All these considered, we will be on our way to becoming a Smart Country.

Foregoing considered, the immediate passage of this bill is sought.

  
ALAN PETER "COMPAÑERO" S. CAYETANO

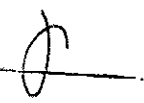
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<sup>3</sup><https://www.philstar.com/business/2022/02/02/2157878/challenges-remain-developing-smart-cities-philippines>



22 JUL 12 A8 51

S. B. No. 298

RECEIVED BY: 

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INTRODUCED BY SENATOR ALAN PETER "COMPAÑERO" S. CAYETANO

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AN ACT  
ESTABLISHING A FRAMEWORK FOR A SMART PHILIPPINES, ENSURING  
ACCESSIBLE AND AFFORDABLE INTERNET FOR ALL, APPROPRIATING FUNDS  
THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

*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 "*Smart Philippines*  
2 *Act*".  
3

4       **SECTION 2. Declaration of Policy.** – The State recognizes science and  
5 technology as essential for national development and progress. It thus gives priority  
6 to research and development, invention, and innovation and promotes smart  
7 technologies.  
8

9       In the same way that commerce and education require school buildings, roads,  
10 and other physical infrastructure, the digital economy needs the development of a  
11 digital highway for e-commerce, e-health programs, education, public safety, and  
12 government services.  
13

14       Achieving accessible and affordable access to internet service and information  
15 and communication technologies is a matter of social and economic justice. Thus, the  
16 State ensures that all Filipinos shall have access to affordable, quality, and up-to-date  
17 information and communication technologies. This includes having reliable and  
18 affordable internet service for everyone; internet-enabled devices that meet the  
19 needs of the user, whether for work, commerce, and education, among others; and  
20 applications and online content designed to enable and encourage participation,  
21 interaction, and development. It also includes access to digital literacy training; digital  
22 and technical support; and ensuring online privacy and cybersecurity.  
23

24       **SECTION 3. Definition of Terms.** – As used in this Act, the term:  
25

26       a) "Smart City" or "Smart Municipality" means a community in which innovative,  
27 advanced, and trustworthy information, communication, and energy  
28 technologies and related mechanisms are applied to:  
29

30       1) Improve the health and quality of life of residents;

- 1 2) Increase the efficiency and cost effectiveness of civic operations and
- 2 services;
- 3 3) Promote economic growth; and
- 4 4) Create a community that is safer and more secure, sustainable, resilient,
- 5 livable and workable.
- 6

7 The term "Smart City" or "Smart Municipality" also includes a city or  
8 municipality that:

- 9
- 10 1) Gathers and incorporates data from systems, devices, and sensors
- 11 embedded in civic systems and infrastructure to improve the
- 12 effectiveness and efficiency of civic operations and services;
- 13 2) Aggregates and analyzes gathered data;
- 14 3) Communicates the analysis and data in a variety of formats;
- 15 4) Makes corresponding improvements to civic systems and services
- 16 based on gathered data;
- 17 5) Coordinates with relevant public and private sector entities (including
- 18 entities providing electric, water, telecommunications,
- 19 energy, and transportation services) to leverage the activities carried
- 20 out by those entities;
- 21 6) Integrates measures to –
- 22 i. Ensure the resilience of civic systems against cybersecurity
- 23 threats and physical vulnerabilities and breaches;
- 24 ii. Protect the private data of residents;
- 25 iii. Measure the impact of smart city or community technologies on
- 26 the effectiveness and efficiency of civic operations and services;
- 27 and
- 28 iv. Promote regional coordination of the activities.
- 29

30 As used in this Act, the term "Smart City" shall pertain to both cities and  
31 municipalities unless otherwise indicated.

32  
33 b) "Digital inclusion" means—

- 34
- 35 1) activities necessary to ensure that all individuals in the Philippines shall
- 36 have the opportunity to interconnect to others within and without the
- 37 country through access to, and the use of, affordable information and
- 38 communication technologies, such as—
- 39 i. reliable and affordable internet service;
- 40 ii. internet-enabled devices that meet the needs of the user, whether
- 41 for work, commerce, and education, among others; and
- 42 iii. applications and online content designed to enable and encourage
- 43 self-sufficiency, participation, and collaboration;
- 44
- 45 2) including—
- 46 i. access to digital literacy training;
- 47 ii. provision of quality technical support; and
- 48 iii. assurance of online privacy and cybersecurity.
- 49

50 **SECTION 4. Smart Philippines Council.** – There is hereby established a  
51 "Smart Philippines Council" (SPC) composed of the following members:

- 1
- 2 1. Department of Information and Communications (DICT) Secretary as
- 3 Chairperson;
- 4 2. Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG) Secretary as Co-
- 5 Vice Chairperson;
- 6 3. Department of Science and Technology (DOST) Secretary as Co-Vice
- 7 Chairperson;
- 8

9 As members—

- 10
- 11 1. Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) Secretary;
- 12 2. Department of Human Settlements and Urban Development (DHSUD)
- 13 Secretary;
- 14 3. Department of Education (DepEd) Secretary;
- 15 4. Commission on Higher Education (CHED) Chairperson;
- 16 4. Department of Energy (DOE) Secretary;
- 17 5. Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE) Secretary;
- 18 6. Department of Transportation (DOTr) Secretary;
- 19 7. National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA) Secretary;
- 20 8. National Privacy Commission (NPC) Chairperson;
- 21 9. President of the League of Cities of the Philippines;
- 22 10. President of the League of Municipalities of the Philippines; and
- 23 11. Such representatives of the private sector, including the industry and the
- 24 academe, which the President appoints, upon recommendation of the SPC
- 25 Chairperson.
- 26

27 **SECTION 5. Smart Philippines Initiative.** – The SPC shall act as the overall  
28 policy-making and advisory body for the fulfillment of this Act. The SPC shall, within  
29 six (6) months from the effectivity of this Act, create a five-year strategic action plan  
30 called the “Smart Philippines Initiative”, with specific focus on modernizing digital  
31 infrastructure, health, transportation, education, finance, and urban development, for  
32 the cities and municipalities in the entire country.

33  
34 The Smart Philippines Initiative shall contain and prioritize activities which:

- 35
- 36 1. Identify the barriers to digital inclusion;
- 37 2. Study the feasibility of providing subsidies to local government units
- 38 (LGUs) to enable them to provide broadband service to their constituents
- 39 and make reports and recommendations to the President and Congress;
- 40 3. Study measures and programs to ensure the affordability of the prices of
- 41 broadband service for households, including how competition impacts the
- 42 price of broadband service;
- 43 4. Include the necessary assessments, conducted in coordination with
- 44 relevant private sector organizations and LGUs;
- 45 5. Demonstrate smart city technologies in repeatable ways that can rapidly
- 46 be scaled;
- 47 6. Encourage public, private, regional, national, and international sharing of
- 48 data and best practices;
- 49 7. Encourage private sector innovation by promoting industry-driven
- 50 technology standards, open platforms, technology-neutral
- 51 requirements, and interoperability;

- 1 8. Promote the following:
  - 2 a. A skilled workforce;
  - 3 b. An open and competitive global market for smart city technologies;
  - 4 c. Inclusion of all citizens, including minority or disadvantaged
  - 5 groups; and
  - 6 d. Protocols and standards that allow the measurement and validation of
  - 7 cost savings and performance improvements associated with the
  - 8 installation and use of smart city technologies and practices;
- 9 9. Foster the growth of the smart city technology industry and workforce in
- 10 the country;
- 11 10. Encourage the adoption of smart city technologies by communities;
- 12 11. Safeguard cybersecurity, including by promoting industry practices
- 13 regarding cybersecurity;
- 14 12. Safeguard privacy and establish parameters and best practices for the
- 15 management of data;
- 16

17 The SPC may avail itself of the expertise and services of local and international  
18 resource persons and consultants. The SPC shall endeavor to facilitate collaboration  
19 and cooperation with all relevant public and private stakeholders in the creation of  
20 the Smart City Initiative.

21  
22 The Smart Philippines Initiative shall also be in congruence and shall  
23 complement DICT's current initiatives, such as the E-Government Masterplan and the  
24 National Digital Infrastructure Program.

25  
26 **SECTION 6. Smart Philippines Pilot Program.** The Smart Philippines Council  
27 shall provide technical support and expertise to cities and municipalities to enable  
28 the same to modernize their digital infrastructure, health, transportation, education,  
29 finance, and urban development.

30  
31 There shall be a Smart Philippines Pilot Program for cities and municipalities  
32 which are financially unable to independently launch their respective modernization  
33 programs under this Act. For this purpose, the Smart Philippines Council shall choose  
34 five (5) cities and municipalities each from Luzon, Visayas, and Mindanao to form part  
35 of the pilot program that shall assist said local government units in the funding for  
36 the implementation of this Act.

37  
38 **SECTION 7. Smart Philippines Resource Guide.** - Based on the Smart  
39 Philippines Initiative, the SPC shall create a "Smart Philippines Resource Guide"  
40 which is designed to assist cities and municipalities in developing and implementing  
41 their own smart programs.

42  
43 The Smart Philippines Resource Guide shall be maintained electronically on a  
44 website and available free of charge to the public.

45  
46 **SECTION 8. Lead Agency.** - The DICT, in coordination with the DILG and  
47 DOST, shall be the primary government agency responsible for the implementation  
48 and enforcement of this Act. It shall ensure that the mandates provided in this Act are  
49 fulfilled and that interagency cooperation and the proper public and private  
50 partnerships are established for their accomplishments.

51

1           **SECTION 9. Report to Congress** – The SPC shall submit a report to Congress  
2 every year following the approval of this Act, particularly on Section 5 of this Act,  
3 including the status and progress of the implementation of its Smart City Initiative,  
4 and shall make the necessary recommendations in areas where there is need for  
5 legislative action.

6  
7           Furthermore, the lead implementing agencies of this Act shall periodically  
8 recommend to the President and Congress how to update the Smart Philippines  
9 framework given the fast pace of technological change in the world.

10  
11           **SECTION 10. Joint Congressional Oversight Committee.** – There is hereby  
12 created a Joint Congressional Oversight Committee to oversee the implementation of  
13 this Act composed of seven Members from the Senate and seven Members from the  
14 House of Representatives. The Members from the Senate shall be appointed by the  
15 Senate President, with at least two senators representing the minority. The Members  
16 from the House of Representatives shall be appointed by the Speaker, with at least  
17 two members representing the minority.

18  
19           **SECTION 11. Appropriations.** – For purposes of this Act, the initial amount of  
20 One Hundred Million Pesos (Php 100,000,000.00) is hereby authorized to be  
21 appropriated from the funds of the National Treasury not otherwise appropriated.  
22 Thereafter, the amount needed for the implementation of this Act shall be included in  
23 the annual General Appropriations Act.

24  
25           **SECTION 12. Implementing Rules and Regulations.** – The DICT, in  
26 coordination with DILG and DOST, shall promulgate its implementing rules and  
27 regulations within thirty (30) days after the effectivity of this Act.

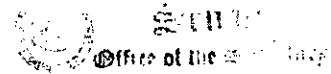
28  
29           **SECTION 13. Separability Clause.** – If any part or provision of this Act is  
30 declared invalid or unconstitutional, the other parts hereof not affected thereby shall  
31 remain valid.

32  
33           **SECTION 14. Repealing Clause.** – All laws, acts, presidential decrees,  
34 executive orders, administrative orders, rules and regulations inconsistent with or  
35 contrary to the provisions of this Act are deemed amended, modified or repealed  
36 accordingly.

37  
38           **SECTION 15. Effectivity.** – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its  
39 publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

*Approved,*

NINETEENTH CONGRESS OF THE )  
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES )  
*First Regular Session* )



'22 JUL 12 AIO :35

**SENATE**  
S. No. **334**

RECEIVED BY: \_\_\_\_\_

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Introduced by Senator Grace Poe

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**AN ACT**  
**ESTABLISHING THE E-GOVERNMENT, DEFINING ITS POWERS AND**  
**FUNCTIONS, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER**  
**PURPOSES**

**EXPLANATORY NOTE**

Executive Order No. 47, s. 2011 directed the then Information and Communications and Technology Office (ICTO) under the Department of Science and Technology (DOST) to: (1) ensure provision of efficient and effective information and communications technology infrastructure, information systems and resources to support efficient, effective, transparent and accountable governance and, in particular, support the speedy and efficient enforcement of rules and delivery of accessible public services to the people; and (2) build the capacities of public sector institutions and their personnel in the use of ICT to improve planning, management, delivery of mission, critical functions and monitoring and evaluation.<sup>1</sup> Pursuant to this, the first E-Government Master Plan (EGMP) was launched for years 2013 to 2016.<sup>2</sup>

To continue with the efforts of the government to harmonize and integrate information and communications technology (ICT) in the promotion of open governance as well as in the delivery of public service, another EGMP was released

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<sup>1</sup> Executive Order No. 47, s. 2011. Retrieved from <https://dict.gov.ph/executive-order-no-47-s-2011/>

<sup>2</sup> Overview of the E-Government Master Plan (2013-2016). Retrieved from <https://www.dbm.gov.ph/wpcontent/uploads/MITHI/July2013/EGMP%20presentation%20for%20pienary%202.pdf>

for the years 2016 to 2022.<sup>3</sup> In the same vein, the Department of Information and Communications Technology (DICT) also released an updated EGMP for 2022.<sup>4</sup>

In cognizance of the importance of the initiatives undertaken in the previous EGMPs and to guarantee effective implementation, this bill requires the updating of the EGMP every three (3) years and directs the Secretary of the DICT to spearhead the implementation of the EGMPs to be formulated. The bill also mandates the deployment of Chief Information Officers (CIO) to national and key government units and the appointment of an ICT Officer in each local government unit (LGU) to manage the implementation of the EGMP.

The call for the digital transformation of processes involved in delivering services through an interoperable government ICT network is definitely not new. However, it is more urgent now—in the time of COVID-19 pandemic and at the wake of the *new normal*—when physical interactions are still being minimized, when digital transactions continue to take over and to soar exponentially, and when having reliable access to government services within the confines of our homes is more crucial than ever.

In view of the foregoing, immediate passage of this bill is earnestly sought.<sup>5</sup>



GRACE POE

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<sup>3</sup> E-Government Master Plan 2.0 (2016-2022) See [https://www.gov.ph/documents/495812/518611/egmp-2.0-popular-version\\_final.pdf](https://www.gov.ph/documents/495812/518611/egmp-2.0-popular-version_final.pdf)

<sup>4</sup> E-Government Master Plan (2022). See <https://dict.gov.ph/ictstatistics/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/EGMP-2022.pdf>

<sup>5</sup> This bill was earlier filed in the House of Representatives by Rep. Luis Raymund Villafuerte Jr.

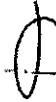
NINETEENTH CONGRESS OF THE )  
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES )  
First Regular Session )

SENATE  
Office of the Secretary

'22 JUL 12 A10 :35

SENATE  
S. No. 334

RECEIVED



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Introduced by Senator Grace Poe

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**AN ACT  
ESTABLISHING THE E-GOVERNMENT, DEFINING ITS POWERS AND  
FUNCTIONS, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER  
PURPOSES**

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

1 Section 1. *Short Title.* – This Act shall be known as the "E-Government Act of  
2 2022".

3 Sec. 2. *Declaration of Policy.* – The State hereby adopts the following policies:

- 4 1. The State shall provide effective leadership for the government to develop and  
5 promote electronic government services and processes;
- 6 2. The State shall provide increased opportunities for citizen participation in  
7 government;
- 8 3. The State shall promote inter-agency collaboration in providing electronic  
9 government services;
- 10 4. The State shall promote the use of the internet and other emerging  
11 technologies within and across government agencies to provide citizen-centric  
12 government information and services;
- 13 5. The State shall ensure that costs and burdens are reduced for businesses and  
14 other government entities;
- 15 6. The State shall promote better-informed decision making by policy makers;
- 16 7. The State shall strengthen and prepare for contingencies like natural disasters  
17 or pandemics that may otherwise limit citizen mobility and access to services;



1 8. The State shall promote access to high quality government information and  
2 services across multiple channels; and

3 9. The State shall make the government more transparent and accountable.

4 Sec. 3. *Definition of Terms.* – As used in this Act, the following terms are defined  
5 as follows:

6 a. *Information and Communications Technology* or ICT shall mean the totality of  
7 electronic means to access, create, collect, store, process, receive, transmit,  
8 present and disseminate information;

9 b. *Electronic Government* or E-Government shall mean the use of ICT by the  
10 government and the public to enhance the access to and delivery of  
11 government services to bring about efficient, responsive, ethical, accountable  
12 and transparent government service;

13 c. *ICT-Enabled Services* shall mean those engaged in providing services that  
14 require the intrinsic use of ICTs including engineering or architectural design,  
15 informatics service providers, offshoring and outsourcing service providers such  
16 as call centers, back office processing, software development, medical or legal  
17 transcription, animation, game development, and other services that require  
18 the intrinsic use of a networked information infrastructure;

19 d. *Chief Information Officer* or CIO shall mean a senior officer in all national  
20 government agencies (NGAs), including constitutional offices, state universities  
21 and colleges (SUCs), government-owned and controlled corporations (GOCCs),  
22 and government financial institutions (GFIs) responsible for the development  
23 and management of the agency's ICT systems and applications;

24 e. *Interoperability* shall mean the ability of different operating and software  
25 systems, applications, and services to communicate and exchange data in an  
26 accurate, effective, and consistent manner.

27 Sec. 4. *E-Government Master Plan.* – The Department of Information and  
28 Communications Technology (DICT) shall establish and promote an E-Government  
29 Master Plan to encourage excellence in facilitating the development and enhancement  
30 of all electronic Government services and processes. The E-Government Master Plan  
31 shall be reviewed and revised every three years.

1       Sec. 5. *E-Government Programs.* – The E-Government Master Plan shall include,  
2 but not limited to, the following programs:

3       1. *Philippine Government Interoperability Framework.* – A framework shall be  
4 developed to guide and govern basic technical and informational  
5 interoperability of government ICT systems. Such a framework will guide all  
6 shared operations and services of the Philippine government between and  
7 among its various agencies, as well as for these agencies in dealing with their  
8 various constituencies;

9       2. *Archives and Records Management Information System.* – A system shall be  
10 designed to systematically and efficiently manage government documents and  
11 records. This includes the digitization of paper-based documents and records  
12 and the development of systems that will manage these documents—from  
13 creation, routing, tracking, and archiving to disposal—while adhering to existing  
14 policies, laws and standards of the International Organization for  
15 Standardization;

16       3. *Government Online Payment System.* – An internet-based electronic payment  
17 facility and gateway that will enable citizens and businesses to remit payments  
18 electronically to government agencies shall be created. It shall render services  
19 through various delivery channels, which include debit instructions (ATM  
20 accounts), credit instructions (credit cards) and mobile wallets (SMS);

21       4. *Citizen Frontline Delivery Services.* – Services that are needed to facilitate  
22 business registration-related transactions shall be made efficient by integrating  
23 all agencies involved in business registration, such as the Department of Trade  
24 and Industry (DTI), Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC), Cooperative  
25 Development Authority (CDA), Bureau of Internal Revenue (BIR), Social  
26 Security System (SSS), Home Development Mutual Fund (PagIBIG), Philippine  
27 Health Insurance Corporation (PhilHealth), Local Government Units (LGUs) and  
28 other permit/license-issuing agencies;

29       5. *Public Financial Management.* – Various financial systems in government such  
30 as taxation, payment systems, accounting, and business registries shall be  
31 harmonized and managed; and

1 6. *Procurement System* – An online and real-time service that encompasses all  
2 procurement processes involving bidding, contract agreements, and payment  
3 for services or supplies shall also be developed.

4 The E-Government Master Plan shall likewise include the following:

- 5 1. Inventory and purchase of hardware and software of all government offices;
- 6 2. Utilization of servers, network connections and data centers in all government  
7 offices;
- 8 3. Security, disaster recovery plans and archiving considering existing services and  
9 capabilities already available as well as future information systems; and
- 10 4. Standardization of systems across government agencies to promote  
11 interoperability and database management.

12 *Sec. 6. DICT Secretary as E-Government Head.* – The Secretary of the DICT shall  
13 head the E-Government initiative. The Secretary is expected to spearhead all aspects  
14 of accomplishing the implementation of the E-Government Master Plan to catalyze the  
15 optimum use of ICT in government to expand and improve public services,  
16 government operations and capabilities.

17 *Sec. 7. Chief Information Officers.* – Chief Information Officers will be assigned  
18 and deployed to national and key governmental units with the function of:

- 19 1. Advising agencies on how best to leverage ICTs to optimize the delivery of  
20 public services, and achieve efficient and cost-effective operations;
- 21 2. Developing, maintaining and managing the agency's information systems;
- 22 3. Managing and supervising the implementation of ICT-based projects, systems  
23 and processes;
- 24 4. Formulating and implementing processes in relation to the adoption of ICT-  
25 based solutions as provided by the E-Government plan;
- 26 5. Managing operational risks related to ICT in coordination with the agency's  
27 management and stakeholders; and
- 28 6. Ensuring that the ICT programs and operations are consistent with national  
29 policies and standards.

30 *Sec. 8. LGU ICT Officers.* – Each Local Government Unit shall have an Information  
31 Officer assigned to manage and supervise its adoption of the E-Government Plan. The

1 LGU ICT Officer is likewise tasked to spearhead seminars and other means of  
2 educating the community to maximize E-Government initiatives.

3 *Sec. 9. E-Government Status Report.* – Each agency and local government unit  
4 shall compile and submit an annual E-Government Status Report on:

- 5 a. status of the implementation of electronic government initiatives;
- 6 b. compliance by the agency with this Act; and
- 7 c. performance in delivering programs through the E-Government to  
8 constituencies.

9 *Sec. 10. Appropriations.* – The amount needed for the initial implementation of this  
10 Act shall be taken from the current year's appropriations of the DICT. Thereafter, such  
11 sums as may be necessary for its continued implementation shall be included in the  
12 annual General Appropriations Act.

13 *Sec. 11. Implementing Rules and Regulations.* – Within sixty (60) days after the  
14 effectivity of this Act, the DICT shall, in coordination with relevant agencies and upon  
15 consultation with stakeholders, formulate the rules and regulations to effectively  
16 implement the provisions of this Act.

17 *Sec. 12. Separability Clause.* – If any portion or provision of this Act is declared  
18 unconstitutional, the remainder of this Act or any provisions not affected thereby shall  
19 remain in force and effect.

20 *Sec. 13. Repealing Clause.* – Any law, presidential decree or issuance, executive  
21 order, letter of instruction, rule or regulation inconsistent with the provisions of this  
22 Act is hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

23 *Sec. 14. Effectivity.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days following its  
24 publication in the Official Gazette or in at least two (2) newspapers of general  
25 circulation.

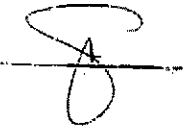
Approved,



20

**NINETEENTH CONGRESS OF THE** ]  
**REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES** ]  
**First Regular Session** ]

'22 JUL 18 AIO :03

RECEIVED BY: 

**SENATE**

S.B. No. 685

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**Introduced by SEN. WIN GATCHALIAN**

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**AN ACT  
MANDATING THE FULL DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION OF ALL GOVERNMENT  
AGENCIES, OFFICES AND CORPORATIONS, INCLUDING LOCAL  
GOVERNMENT UNITS, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR  
OTHER PURPOSES**

**EXPLANATORY NOTE**

Governments are facing increasing expectations to deliver innovative and responsive public services effectively and promptly, while dealing with strong pressures to consolidate public finances to remain globally competitive and to spur growth.<sup>1</sup> However, governments have been slow in using digital technology to change the way it delivers necessary services to the general public.

In the Philippines, the e-Government Master Plan, thru the Medium-Term Information Technology Harmonization Initiative (MITHI), and related e-Government (e-Gov) and Integrated Government Philippines (iGovPhil) programs have been launched as early as 2012 by then Information and Communication Technology Office of the Department of Science and Technology. While e-Gov and iGovPhil programs laid the foundation necessary for the Philippines to build its technology capabilities by establishing government data centers, installing initial Wi-Fi facilities, providing

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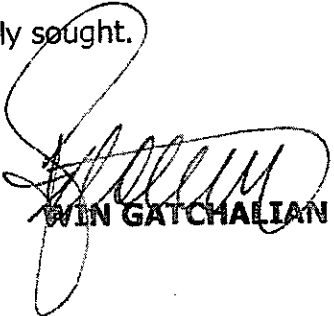
<sup>1</sup> "OECD Comparative Study: Digital Government Strategies for Transforming Public Services in the Welfare Areas", p. 6, 2016.

government agencies with internet-based shared services,<sup>2</sup> the Philippines has been very slow in integrating the use of digital technology in its modernization efforts to improve the delivery of its services.

The benefits of digitization and digitalization cannot be overemphasized, especially its potential to increase productivity and inclusiveness of service production and delivery in public welfare area considering that digitization and digitalization can be a precursor to establishing and maintaining sound fiscal policies in the long run.

Thus, this measure will mandate a time frame for the full digital transformation of the government to compel government agencies, offices, instrumentalities, corporations and units to adopt a digitization and digitalization strategy aligned with the Philippine Digital Transformation Strategy 2022 of the Department of Information and Communication Technology or such other strategy as may be approved later on. This includes the creation of a Digital Transformation department in every agency and office, which will perform functions beyond the current responsibilities of their Information, Communications and Technology Department if already existing. It will also oblige them to fully provide by 2025 an integrated E-Government services by using digital technologies in administrative processes and in modernizing the delivery of public services to the public. It likewise imposes penalties and liabilities to public officers and employees who continuously refuse or unwarrantedly delay the adoption of digitization efforts without any justifiable reason, among others.

Accordingly, the passage of this measure is earnestly sought.



**WIN GATCHALIAN**

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<sup>2</sup> Philippine Digital Transformation Strategy 2022, Department of Information and Communications Technology.

**NINETEENTH CONGRESS OF THE ]**  
**REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES ]**  
*First Regular Session ]*

'22 JUL 18 A10 03

**SENATE**

RECEIVED BY: 

**S.B. No. 685**

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**Introduced by SEN. WIN GATCHALIAN**

---

**AN ACT**  
**MANDATING THE FULL DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION OF ALL GOVERNMENT**  
**AGENCIES, OFFICES AND CORPORATIONS, INCLUDING LOCAL**  
**GOVERNMENT UNITS, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR**  
**OTHER PURPOSES**

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

1           SECTION 1. Short Title. – This Act shall be known as the "Full Digital  
2 Transformation Act".

3  
4           SEC. 2. Declaration of Policy. – It is hereby declared a policy of the State to  
5 afford efficient and cost-effective public services to citizens and businesses in the  
6 country. Towards this end, it is necessary to employ information technologies (IT) in  
7 public administration and in the delivery of public services, to improve organizational  
8 and inter-government coordination thru digital transformation of basic services,  
9 streamlining and integration of workflows and processes and enhancing the  
10 government workforce's Information and Communication Technology (ICT) capacity.  
11 It is likewise necessary for the government to effectively manage and secure its data,

1 information and transactions with the public, as well as expand communication  
2 channels for engagement and empowerment of the Filipino people.

3 SEC. 3. Integrated E-Government Services. - All government offices, agencies,  
4 government-owned and controlled corporations, instrumentalities and all local  
5 government units are mandated to adopt a digitization and digitalization strategy in  
6 accordance with the Philippine Digital Transformation Strategy 2022 and as may be  
7 further amended by the Department of Information and Communications Technology  
8 (DICT), and to fully-provide integrated E-Government services to the public by  
9 December 31, 2025. For this purpose, these offices, agencies and corporations shall

10 -

- 11 (a) immediately take measures to set-up electronic and online systems that will  
12 make the means of exchanging data and information between offices,  
13 departments and agencies secure, efficient and seamless;
- 14 (b) streamline procedures by adopting automation, digitization and digitization  
15 of government services to promote zero-contact policy and to facilitate its  
16 efficient delivery in accordance with Republic Act No. 11032 or the Ease of  
17 Doing Business and Efficient Government Service Delivery Act of 2018,  
18 Republic Act No. 11234 or the Energy Virtual One-Stop Shop Act, and other  
19 applicable laws;
- 20 (c) build-up its technology capabilities, including the establishment of  
21 government data centers, data repositories, basic messaging and electronic  
22 mail facilities, encryption systems and cyber-security facilities;
- 23 (d) pursuant to and in accordance with Republic Act No. 11055 or the Philippine  
24 Identification System Act, Republic Act No. 11315 or the Community-Based  
25 Monitoring Systems Act, and other applicable laws, harmonize common data  
26 related to persons, transportation, business and land; reference data widely  
27 used as a standard across multiple domains such as those pertaining to  
28 industry, occupational and commodity classifications, tariff, geographical



1 information; and regional and international data standards that are bound  
2 to unilateral or bilateral treaties or agreements;

3 (e) support agency onboarding on open-source systems advocated and offered  
4 by the DICT; and

5 (f) invest heavily into developing organizational capability and staff  
6 competencies that are well-suited to support national digital transformation.  
7

8 SEC. 4. Creation of Digital Transformation Department. – A Digital  
9 Transformation Department (DTD) shall be created in every government agency,  
10 office, corporation, instrumentality, and unit. In case an Information &  
11 Communications Technology (ICT) Department already exists, the same shall be  
12 transformed into a DTD. The DTD shall perform the functions of the existing ICT  
13 Department, if any, of various agencies, offices, corporations, instrumentalities, and  
14 units, as well as to be primarily tasked to perform the following functions and  
15 responsibilities:

16 a) promote and support the onboarding and training of government personnel  
17 in using eGov services aligned with the government's digital transformation  
18 strategy;

19 b) speed up the acquisition and adoption of solutions of the agency, office,  
20 corporation, instrumentality, or unit, and improving support capabilities to  
21 other departments;

22 c) obtain and monitor networking tools to create channels of communication  
23 with the general public and secure real-time feedback on the relevance and  
24 quality of services it provides;

25 d) provide a system that will allow and promote coordination among various  
26 departments or offices to ensure that workflows, responsibilities and  
27 accountabilities are properly tracked to allow the transacting public to know  
28 the status of their requests at any given time; and

1 e) design service processes and procedures that will promote efficiency and  
2 sense of expediency in the government.

3 SEC. 5. Violations and Persons Liable. – Any person who performs or cause the  
4 performance of the following acts shall be liable under this Act, in addition to violations  
5 under other laws, rules and regulations:

- 6 (a) Willful refusal or delaying to adopt or use the agency's digitization or  
7 digitalization efforts to streamline its procedures, to harmonize its data, and  
8 to improve its technological capabilities, without any justifiable reason;
- 9 (b) Continuous use of proprietary legacy systems that were implemented for  
10 more than ten (10) years, despite digitization or digitalization efforts of the  
11 agency, office, corporation, instrumentality, or unit;
- 12 (c) Continuous refusal to upgrade or update its IT systems for at most three  
13 (3) years without justifiable cause;
- 14 (d) Fixing and/or collusion with fixers in consideration of economic and/or other  
15 gain or advantage to delay the implementation of the agency's digitization  
16 or digitalization efforts; or
- 17 (e) Failure to render government services within the prescribed processing time  
18 on any application or request due to refusal or delay in the implementation  
19 of the agency's digitization or digitalization efforts.

20  
21 SEC. 6. Penalties and Liabilities; Administrative Jurisdiction. – Any violations of  
22 the preceding actions will warrant the following penalties and liabilities:

- 23 (a) First offense: administrative liability with six (6) months suspension:  
24 Provided, however, that in the case of fixing and/or collusion with fixers  
25 under Section 5(d), the penalty and liability under Sec. 6(b) of this Act shall  
26 apply.
- 27 (b) Second offense: Administrative and criminal liability of dismissal from the  
28 service, perpetual disqualification from holding public office and forfeiture

1 of retirement benefits and imprisonment of one (1) year to six (6) years  
2 with a fine of not less than Five hundred thousand pesos (P500,000.00) but  
3 not more than Two million pesos (Php2,000,000.00)

4 Criminal liability shall also be incurred through the commission of bribery,  
5 extortion or when violation was done deliberately and maliciously to solicit favor in  
6 cash or in kind. In such cases, the pertinent provisions of the Revised Penal Code and  
7 other special laws shall apply.

8 The administrative jurisdiction on any violation of the provisions of this Act shall  
9 be vested in either the Civil Service Commission or the Office of the Ombudsman as  
10 determined by appropriate laws and issuances.

11 The finding of administrative liability under this Act shall not bar the filing of  
12 criminal, civil or other related charges under existing laws arising from the same act  
13 or omission enumerated herein.

14  
15 SEC. 7. Appropriations. — All national government offices, agencies, and  
16 instrumentalities, and local government units shall incorporate the amount necessary  
17 in the implementation of this Act in the annual General Appropriations Act. All  
18 government-owned and controlled corporations shall source the amount necessary  
19 for the implementation of this Act from their respective corporate funds in the  
20 corporate operation budget approved by the Department of Budget and Management.

21  
22 SEC. 8. Implementing Rules and Regulations. — Within ninety (90) days from  
23 the effectivity of this Act, the Department of Information and Communication  
24 Technology (DICT), in consultation with appropriate government agencies and other  
25 stakeholders, shall promulgate the necessary rules and regulations to implement this  
26 Act.

27 The DICT shall implement, oversee, monitor and evaluate compliance by  
28 various agencies, offices, instrumentalities, corporations, and units with the objectives  
29 and provisions of this Act.

1           SEC. 9. Separability Clause. – If any provision of this Act is declared invalid or  
2 unconstitutional, the provisions not affected thereby shall remain in full force and  
3 effect.

4  
5           SEC. 10. Repealing Clause. – All laws, presidential decrees, executive orders,  
6 presidential proclamations, rules and regulations or parts thereof contrary to or  
7 inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

8  
9           SEC. 11. Effectivity. – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its  
10 publication in the Official Gazette or at least two (2) national papers of general  
11 circulation.

          Approved,

NINETEENTH CONGRESS OF THE )  
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES )  
First Regular Session )



Senate  
Office of the Secretary

'22 AUG -1 P1:59

SENATE

S. No. 974

RECEIVED BY:

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Introduced by Senator Manuel "Lito" M. Lapid

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**AN ACT**  
**PROMOTING THE DIGITALIZATION OF FRONTLINE SERVICES OF ALL**  
**GOVERNMENT AGENCIES AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR**

**EXPLANATORY NOTE**

The COVID-19 pandemic underscored the pressing need to adapt digitalization in the Philippines due to the various imposed quarantine measures and other health and safety protocols that restricted the movements of the people and discouraged face-to-face interactions. Due to this, merchants and government agencies found remote ways for the people to still be able to transact with them and to enable the continuation of social and business interactions. According to the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas, the digital payments made up 20.1% of all transactions in 2020, which corresponded to one in five payments or translated to a total of 910 million transactions done online<sup>1</sup>. The volume of digital payments increased by 10.1 percentage point compared to that in 2018, which was hugely to the government's efforts to fully digitalize its payment of salaries to its employees and emergency subsidies<sup>2</sup>.

Digitalization can help the Philippines overcome the impact of the pandemic and recover from the crises brought about by the same. According to the research conducted by the economic consultancy firm AlphaBeta, the Philippines' digital

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<sup>1</sup> Beltran, Bjorn Biel. Business World Online. (15 November 2021). *Embarking on a journey towards digital economy*. Retrieved from: <https://www.bworldonline.com/special-features/2021/11/15/410552/embarking-on-a-journey-towards-digital-economy/>

<sup>2</sup> *Id.*

economy can create up to P5 trillion through digital transaction by 2030, which is equivalent to 27% of the country's GDP in 2020 alone<sup>3</sup>. Moreover, digitalization can significantly reduce the costs of transactions at government offices, including, but not limited to, the cost of travelling to and extended time spend at a government office which could have been better used for other productive endeavors.

This bill aims to digitalize frontline services of all government agencies in order to improve and boost productivity of the public sector as a great tool to help the country recover from the crises brought about by the pandemic. The Department of Information and Communications Technology (DICT) shall establish an electronic transaction system online, which is in line with the Philippine Development Plan 2017-2022 that targets maximization of ICT to promote efficient, clean, and people-centered governance.

In view of the foregoing, early passage of this bill is earnestly requested.



**MANUEL "LITO" M. LAPID**  
Senator

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<sup>3</sup> DICT (10 November 2021). Retrieved from: <https://dict.gov.ph/ph-digital-economy-can-create-p5-trillion-by-2030/>



'22 AUG -1 P 2 :00

SENATE

S. No. 974

RECEIVED BY:

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Introduced by Senator Manuel "Lito" M. Lapid

---

1 **AN ACT**  
2 **PROMOTING THE DIGITALIZATION OF FRONTLINE SERVICES OF ALL**  
3 **GOVERNMENT AGENCIES AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR**

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

4 Section 1. *Short Title.* - This Act shall be known as the "*E-Government Services*  
5 *Act of 2022.*"

6 Section 2. *Declaration of Policy.* - It is hereby declared a policy of the State to:

- 7 a) Recognize the vital role of information and communications technology in  
8 the social and economic development of the country;
- 9 b) Promote and support innovations in providing better service to citizens and  
10 in raising efficiency and productivity in the public sector;
- 11 c) Build resilience in the face of external shocks such as natural disasters and  
12 pandemics where the mobility of citizens, as clients of government services,  
13 are restricted; and
- 14 d) Encourage the use of electronic documents and digital payments.

15 For these purposes, the State shall pursue a client-focused digitalization of  
16 frontline services that will make government transactions more accessible and  
17 responsive to the changing needs of the people.

1 Section 3. *Definition of Terms.* - As used in this Act:

2 (a) *Digitalization* refers to the adoption of information and communication  
3 technologies to upgrade processes for better ease and accessibility;

4 (b) *Frontline Services* refer to the process or transaction between citizens as  
5 clients and government offices or agencies involving applications for any privilege,  
6 right, permit, reward, license, concession, or for any modification, renewal or  
7 extension of the enumerated applications and/or requests which are acted upon in the  
8 ordinary course of business of the agency or office concerned;

9 (c) *Electronic Documents* refer to information or the representation of  
10 information, data, figures, symbols or other modes of written expression, described  
11 or however represented, by which a right is established, or an obligation extinguished,  
12 or by which a fact may be proved and affirmed, which is received, recorded,  
13 transmitted, stored, processed, retrieved or produced electronically;

14 (d) *Electronic Signatures* refer to any distinctive mark, characteristic and/or  
15 sound in electronic form, representing the identity of a person and attached to or  
16 logically associated with the electronic data message or electronic document, or any  
17 methodology or procedures employed or adopted by a person and executed or  
18 adopted by such person with the intention of authenticating or approving an electronic  
19 data message or electronic document; and

20 (e) *Digital Payments* refer to monetary transactions between two parties  
21 through a digital payment instrument in which both payer and the payee use an  
22 electronic medium.

23 Section 4. *Coverage.* - This Act shall apply to National Government Agencies,  
24 Local Government Units, and Government-Owned or Controlled Corporations and  
25 other government instrumentalities that provide frontline services.

26 Section 5. *Digitalization of Government Frontline Services.* - All government  
27 offices, in coordination with the Department of Information and Communications



1 Technology (DICT), should promote the establishment of an electronic transaction  
2 system online which shall:

3 (a) Accept the creation and filing of electronic documents with electronic  
4 signatures for the application for any privilege, right, permit, reward, license,  
5 concession, or for any modification, renewal or extension of the enumerated  
6 applications and/or requests;

7 (b) Minimize face-to-face transactions with a requesting party during the  
8 assessment and evaluation of submitted electronic documents for an application or  
9 request, unless such interaction is necessary for the processing of the request or  
10 application; and

11 (c) Require and/or accept payments, and issue receipts acknowledging such  
12 payments, through an online payment system accessible anytime and anywhere  
13 through any device connected to the internet.

14 Section 6. *Road Map and Progressive Realization.* – The DICT shall establish a  
15 roadmap for the implementation of this Act which shall not exceed ten (10) years. The  
16 goals of this Act shall be realized progressively.

17 Section 7. *Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR).* - Within sixty (60) days  
18 upon approval of this Act, the DICT shall promulgate the necessary rules and  
19 regulations for the effective implementation of the provisions of the digitalization of  
20 frontline services. The Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG), in  
21 consultation with local government units, and the Governance Commission for the  
22 GOCCs (GCG), in consultation with the GOCCs, shall promulgate the necessary rules  
23 and regulation with respect to the entities under their supervision.

24 Section 8. *Appropriations.* - The amount necessary to carry out the provisions  
25 of this Act shall be included in the budget of the concerned government agencies in  
26 the General Appropriations Act of the year following the enactment into law and  
27 thereafter.

1           Section 9. *Separability Clause.* - If any provision, section, or part of this Act  
2 shall be declared unconstitutional or invalid, such judgement shall not affect, invalidate  
3 or impair any other provisions, sections or parts hereof.

4           Section 10. *Repealing Clause.* - All provisions of existing laws, orders, rules and  
5 regulations or parts thereof which are in conflict or inconsistent with the provisions of  
6 this Act are hereby repealed, amended or modified accordingly.

7           Section 11. *Effectivity.* - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its  
8 publication in the *Official Gazette* or in at least two (2) newspapers of general  
9 circulation.

10           *Approved,*

NINETEENTH CONGRESS OF THE )  
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES )  
First Regular Session )



22 AUG -2 A8 :42

SENATE

S. No. 982

RECEIVED BY: \_\_\_\_\_

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Introduced by **SENATOR RAMON BONG REVILLA, JR.**

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**AN ACT  
ESTABLISHING THE E-GOVERNMENT, DEFINING ITS POWERS AND  
FUNCTIONS, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

**EXPLANATORY NOTE**

The Covid-19 pandemic accelerated the transition of our government onto the digital realm. Because people's movements are restricted, they find remote ways to transact with government offices. Because social distancing is widely implemented, physical appearance before government windows are highly discouraged and setting prior appointments are advised. Because long queues for payment of taxes and fees pose health risks, online banking and digital payments became safer options.

The Philippine Development Plan 2017-2022 already recognized the potential of maximizing information and communications technology (ICT) to promote efficient, clean and people-centered governance. It calls for the passage of the E-Government Act to "enable interoperability of government data and processes to increase efficiency and economy in the delivery of services."

This measure seeks to give life to the proposed E-Government Act and to institutionalize the shift to automated systems brought about by the pandemic. It espouses an E-Government Master Plan with the following programs: Philippine Government Interoperability Framework; Database and Other Resources Sharing Network; Archives and Records Management Information System; Full Disclosure

and Transparency System; Online Payment System; Citizen Frontline Delivery Services; Public Financial Management; Procurement System; and Cybersecurity Protection and Data Privacy Measures.

With streamlined processes and improved inter-agency cooperation, the E-Government Bill is expected to reduce costs and burdens not only for the transacting public, but also for the government. Moreover, it reduces the possibility of red tape and eliminates opportunity for graft and corrupt practices; thereby promoting good governance.

In this light, the immediate passage of this bill is sought.

  
**RAMON BONG REVILLA, JR.**

NINETEENTH CONGRESS OF THE )  
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES )  
First Regular Session )



22 AUG -2 A8 :42

SENATE  
S. No. 982

RECEIVED BY: \_\_\_\_\_

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**Introduced by SENATOR RAMON BONG REVILLA, JR.**

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**AN ACT  
ESTABLISHING THE E-GOVERNMENT, DEFINING ITS POWERS AND  
FUNCTIONS, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

*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 “*E-Government Act*”.
- 2 Sec. 2. *Declaration of Policy.* – The State hereby adopts the following policies:
- 3 1. The State shall provide effective leadership for the development and
- 4 promotion of electronic government services and processes;
- 5 2. The State shall provide increased opportunities for citizen participation in
- 6 government and people empowerment through use of available electronic
- 7 technologies and increased access to high quality government information
- 8 across multiple channels;
- 9 3. The State shall promote inter-agency collaboration and harmonized
- 10 systems in providing automated government services;
- 11 4. The State shall promote the use of the internet, as well as available and
- 12 emerging technologies within and across government agencies to provide
- 13 efficient and effective citizen-centric government information and services;
- 14 5. The State shall ensure that costs and burdens in availing government
- 15 services are reduced for the general public, businesses and other entities;
- 16 6. The State shall make the government more transparent and accountable;

1 7. The State shall recognize its inherent obligation to ensure that personal  
2 information in information and communications systems in the government  
3 are secured and protected;

4 8. The State shall strengthen and update existing electronic systems, online  
5 or remote transaction mechanisms and other contactless means of service  
6 in recognition of the health protocols, mobility restrictions and safety  
7 guidelines posed by the epidemics and similar health emergencies, and  
8 natural or man-made calamities.

9 **Sec. 3. *Definition of Terms.* – As used in this Act:**

10 1. ***Information and Communications Technology or ICT*** – shall mean the  
11 totality of electronic means to access, create, collect, store, process,  
12 receive, transmit, present and disseminate information;

13 2. ***Electronic Government or E-Government*** – shall mean the use of ICT by the  
14 government and the public to enhance access to and delivery of  
15 government services to bring about efficient, responsive, ethical,  
16 accountable, and transparent government service;

17 3. ***ICT-enabled Services*** – shall mean those engaged in providing services that  
18 require the intrinsic use of ICTs including engineering or architectural  
19 design, informatics service providers, offshoring and outsourcing service  
20 providers such as call centers, back office processing, software  
21 development, medical or legal transcription, animation, game development,  
22 and other services that require the intrinsic use of a networked information  
23 infrastructure;

24 4. ***Chief Information Officer or CIO*** – shall mean a senior officer in all national  
25 government agencies, including constitutional offices, state universities and  
26 colleges, government-owned and –controlled corporations, and  
27 government financial institutions responsible for the development and  
28 management of the agency’s ICT systems and applications;

29 5. ***Interoperability*** – shall mean the ability of different operating and software  
30 systems, applications and services to communicate and exchange data in  
31 an accurate, effective and consistent manner.

1           **Sec. 4. *E-Government Master Plan.*** – The Department of Information and  
2   Communications Technology (DICT) shall establish and promote an E-Government  
3   Master Plan to encourage excellence in facilitating the development and enhancement  
4   of all E-Government services and processes. The E-Government Master Plan shall be  
5   reviewed and revised every three (3) years.

6           **Sec. 5. *E-Government Programs.*** – The E-Government Master Plan shall include  
7   the following programs:

8           1. ***Philippine Government Interoperability Framework.*** – A framework shall be  
9           developed to guide and govern basic technical and informational  
10          interoperability of government ICT systems. Such framework shall guide all  
11          shared operations and services of the Philippine government between and  
12          among its various agencies, in dealing with their various constituencies.

13          2. ***Database and Other Resources Sharing Network.*** – A network shall be  
14          designed to allow agencies to access shared databases and other resources  
15          in order to facilitate seamless validation, inquiry and research procedures,  
16          inter-agency cooperation and support, and regular exchange of datasets,  
17          studies and statistics towards effective policy making, monitoring and  
18          evaluation.

19          3. ***Archives and Records Management System.*** – A system shall be designed  
20          to systematically and efficiently manage government documents and  
21          records. This includes the digitization of paper-based documents and  
22          records and the development of systems that will manage these documents  
23          – from creation, routing, tracking, and archiving to disposal – while adhering  
24          to existing policies, laws and the standards of the International Organization  
25          for Standardization.

26          4. ***Full Disclosure and Transparency System.*** – An open data system which  
27          allows the general public access to government information and other public  
28          interest documents, projects and transactions, and allows citizens to engage  
29          public officials in shaping public policies.

30          5. ***Government Online Payment System.*** – An internet-based electronic  
31          payment facility and gateway that will enable citizens and businesses to  
32          remit payments electronically to government agencies shall be created. It

1 shall render services through various delivery channels, which include debit  
2 instructions accounts (debit cards), credit instructions (credit cards) and  
3 mobile wallets (SMS).

4 6. *Citizen Frontline Delivery Services.* – Services that are needed to facilitate  
5 business registration-related transactions shall be made efficient by  
6 integrating all agencies involved in business registration, such as the  
7 Department of Trade and Industry, Securities and Exchange Commission,  
8 Cooperative Development Authority, Bureau of Internal Revenue, Social  
9 Security System, Home Development Mutual Fund, Philippine Health  
10 Insurance Corporation, Local Government Units (LGUs) and other  
11 permit/license-issuing agencies.

12 7. *Public Financial Management.* – Various financial systems in government  
13 such as taxation, payment systems, accounting, business registries, shall be  
14 harmonized and managed.

15 8. *Procurement System.* – An online and real-time service that encompasses  
16 all procurement processes involving bidding, contract agreements, and  
17 payment for services or supplies shall also be developed.

18 9. *Cybersecurity Protection and Data Privacy Measures.* – This refers to policies  
19 and safeguards that will ensure the protection of data and personal  
20 information against cyber security threats, breach of privacy, and illegal use  
21 of information.

22 The E-Government Master Plan shall likewise include the following:

- 23 1. Inventory and purchase of hardware and software of all government  
24 offices;
- 25 2. Utilization of servers, network connections and data centers in all  
26 government offices;
- 27 3. Security, disaster recovery plans and archiving considering existing services  
28 and capabilities, as well as future information systems;
- 29 4. Standardization of systems across government agencies to promote  
30 interoperability and database management.

31 **Sec. 6. *DICT Secretary as E-Government Head.*** – The Secretary of the DICT  
32 shall head the E-Government initiative. The Secretary is expected to spearhead all



1 aspects of implementation of the E-Government Master Plan to catalyze the optimum  
2 use of ICT in government to expand and improve public services, government  
3 operations and capabilities.

4 **Sec. 7. Chief Information Officers.** – Chief Information Officers shall be  
5 assigned and deployed to national and key governmental units and perform the  
6 following functions:

- 7 1. Advise agencies on how best to leverage ICTs to optimize the delivery of  
8 public services, and achieve efficient and cost-effective operations;
- 9 2. Develop, maintain and manage the agency's information systems;
- 10 3. Manage and supervise the implementation of ICT-based projects, systems,  
11 and processes;
- 12 4. Formulate and implement processes in relation to the adoption of ICT-based  
13 solutions as provided by the E-Government plan;
- 14 5. Manage operational risks to ICT in coordination with the agency's  
15 management and stakeholders; and
- 16 6. Ensure that the ICT programs and operations are consistent with national  
17 policies and standards.

18 **Sec. 8. Local Government Unit (LGU) ICT Officers.** – Each LGU shall have an  
19 ICT Officer assigned to manage and supervise its adoption of the E-Government Plan.  
20 The LGU ICT Officer is likewise tasked to spearhead seminars and other means of  
21 educating the community to maximize the E-Government initiatives.

22 **Sec. 9. E-Government Status Report.** – Each agency and LGU shall compile and  
23 submit an annual E-Government Status Report on:

- 24 1. The status of the implementation of electronic government initiatives;
- 25 2. Compliance by the agency with this Act; and
- 26 3. Performance in delivering programs through the E-Government to  
27 constituencies.

28 **Sec. 10. Separability Clause.** – If any provision or part hereof is held invalid or  
29 unconstitutional, the remainder of the law or the provision or part not otherwise  
30 affected shall remain valid and subsisting.

31 **Sec. 11. Repealing Clause.** – Any law, presidential decree or issuance, executive  
32 order, letter of instruction, administrative order, rule, or regulation contrary to or

1 inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed, modified, or amended  
2 accordingly.

3       Sec. 12. *Effectivity.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its  
4 publication in the *Official Gazette* or in a newspaper of general circulation.

*Approved,*



Senate  
Office of the Secretary

NINETEENTH CONGRESS OF THE ]  
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES ]  
*First Regular Session* ]

22 AUG -8 A10 :03

SENATE

RECEIVED BY:

S.B. No. 1051

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Introduced by SEN. WIN GATCHALIAN

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AN ACT  
ESTABLISHING AN INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY OFFICE IN EVERY  
PROVINCE, CITY AND MUNICIPALITY, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

EXPLANATORY NOTE

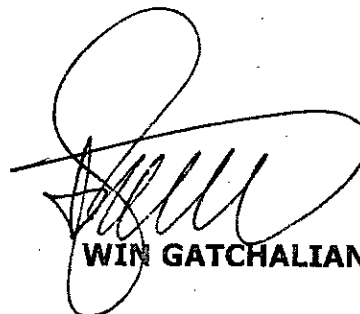
Existing laws generally mandate various government agencies, offices and entities to make government services more efficient, available and accessible to the public.

Republic Act No. 10844 or the "*Department of Information And Communications Technology Act of 2015*" directs the prioritization of the government's shift to E-government services or the use of Information and Communications Technology (ICT) by the government and the public to enhance the access to and delivery of government services to bring about efficient, responsive, ethical, accountable and transparent government service. More recently, Republic Act No. 11032 or the "*Ease of Doing Business and Efficient Government Service Delivery Act of 2018*" mandates the taking of appropriate measures to promote transparency in each agency with regard to the manner of transacting with the public, including the adoption of simplified requirements and procedures that will reduce red tape and expedite business and nonbusiness related transactions in government. It likewise consistently provides for the utilization of electronic services to expedite the public's transactions with government agencies.

While these laws establish the framework and concept of good governance, there is a need to implement these directives through a dedicated office to effectively carry out the ICT requirements of government agencies for effective administration.

Thus, this bill provides the missing link between implementing a concept, and the actual receipt of efficient services sought after by the public, especially in the local government units (LGUs). The creation of an Information Technology Office is the best mechanism for the LGUs to professionalize the ICT services delivery in their localities, and implement the directive for efficient delivery of services under the Ease of Doing Business Law, among other laws.

In view of the foregoing circumstances, the immediate passage of this bill is earnestly sought.



WIN GATCHALIAN



**NINETEENTH CONGRESS OF THE  
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES**  
*First Regular Session*

] ] ]

'22 AUG -8 AIO :03

SENATE

S. B. No. 1051

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**Introduced by SEN. WIN GATCHALIAN**

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**AN ACT**  
**ESTABLISHING AN INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY OFFICE IN EVERY  
PROVINCE, CITY AND MUNICIPALITY, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

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

- 1           SECTION 1. *Short Title.* - This Act shall be known as the "LGU
- 2 Information Technology Office Act".
- 3
- 4           SEC. 2. *Declaration of Policy.* - It is hereby declared to be the policy of
- 5 the State to recognize the vital role of communication and information
- 6 technologies in nation-building. Towards this end, the automation of
- 7 information and public service-related transactions in all provinces, cities and
- 8 municipalities shall be organized and made accessible through a database
- 9 management system, to increase productivity and efficiency of the delivery of
- 10 services of the public servants, and to provide the client-public better
- 11 transparency as to the status of their transactions. Furthermore, these policy
- 12 objectives are to be read in consonance with Republic Act No. 11032 or the
- 13 "*Ease of Doing Business and Efficient Government Service Delivery Act of*
- 14 *2018*".

1           SEC. 3. *Creation of an Information Technology Office.* - An Information  
2 Technology Office (ITO) is established in every province, city or municipality  
3 throughout the country which shall have the following functions:

- 4           a) Provide for the automation and system of electronic data storage for  
5           all information and public service-related transactions relating to local  
6           business processes and other matters of public concern;
- 7           b) Provide an on-time accomplishment reports of all departments, local  
8           advisories and participatory initiatives for local programs of their  
9           respective local government units (LGUs);
- 10          c) Create a system to expedite the processing of all internal and public  
11          services-related local transactions;
- 12          d) Coordinate with other LGUs in creating an inter-connected database  
13          and information management system to further expedite public  
14          service related-transactions occurring in multiple LGUs;
- 15          e) Provide for technologies that will offer online payments for all local  
16          taxes, fees and other assessments, equipped with accurate  
17          computation of payments;
- 18          f) Provide for transparency and the effective monitoring of all  
19          information and public service-related transactions within the locality  
20          concerned;
- 21          g) Provide for consistent accessibility of organized information to the  
22          general public as well as provide a venue for communication with  
23          constituents;
- 24          h) Provide a productive tool to increase efficiency in local government  
25          service; and
- 26          i) Equip LGUs with a constantly evolving technology that will be at par  
27          with global standards.

28  
29           SEC. 4. *Appointment of the ITO Chief.* - A provincial, city or municipal  
30 ITO Chief shall be appointed to head the ITO: *Provided,* That the province, city  
31 and municipality has the option to appoint a full-fledged ITO Chief or merge  
32 such position to an existing position or official in a related office, unit or

1 department in the provincial, city or municipal government: *Provided, Further,*  
2 that if the province, city or municipality shall appoint a full-fledged ITO Chief,  
3 the municipality has the option to set the rank, remuneration and other  
4 emoluments of such provincial, city or municipal ITO Chief subject to existing  
5 laws, rules, and regulations.

6  
7 **SEC. 5. *Duties and Responsibilities of the ITO Chief.*** - The ITO Chief has  
8 the following duties and responsibilities:

- 9 a) Formulate their respective Provincial, City or Municipal Information  
10 Technology Plan as well as programs and projects designed to  
11 contribute to the development of the local government involved;
- 12 b) Implement, promote and monitor the various technology use and  
13 promotion programs among all the offices of the involved LGU;
- 14 c) Disseminate best practices and innovations of information technology  
15 management through the conduct of trainings, technology fora and  
16 similar activities;
- 17 d) Maintain effective liaison with the DOST and DICT, and public and  
18 private academic institutions engaged in information technology  
19 research, technology transfer, education, and training;
- 20 e) Perform over-all supervision of services and operations of the ITO;
- 21 f) Ensure that appropriate quality management systems are properly  
22 implemented and maintained in accordance with international  
23 standards in all aspects of operations of the ITO; and
- 24 g) Perform other related functions as may be assigned by higher  
25 authorities from time to time.

26  
27 **Sec 6. *Staffing Pattern.*** - The Secretary of Department of Interior and  
28 Local Government (DILG) shall determine the organizational structure and  
29 staffing pattern of the ITO in accordance with civil service laws, rules, and  
30 regulations, subject to the review and approval of the Department of Budget  
31 and Management (DBM).

1            *SEC. 7. Budget and Implementation* - The amount necessary for the  
2 operation and maintenance of the ITO in every province, city and municipality  
3 shall be charged to the local funds. The LGU concerned, shall, immediately  
4 include in its annual budget the amount to be defrayed, and, consistent with  
5 its allowable budgetary allocation may seek the technological support of the  
6 Department of Science and Technology (DOST) and the Department of  
7 Information and Communication Technology (DICT) in the establishment of the  
8 ITO.

9  
10           *Sec. 8. Implementing Rules and Regulations.* – The DILG, in consultation  
11 with the DBM, DICT and DOST, and other concerned agencies and  
12 stakeholders, shall promulgate the implementing rules and regulations of this  
13 Act within ninety (90) days from effectivity of this Ac

14  
15           *SEC. 9. Separability Clause.* - If any provision of this Act is declared  
16 invalid or unconstitutional, the provisions not affected thereby shall remain in  
17 full force and effect.

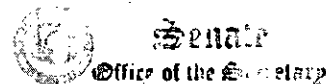
18  
19           *SEC. 10. Repealing Clause.* - All laws, presidential decrees, executive  
20 orders, presidential proclamations, rules and regulations or parts thereof  
21 contrary to or inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed or modified  
22 accordingly.

23  
24           *SEC. 11. Effectivity.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its  
25 publication in the *Official Gazette* or in a newspaper of general circulation in the  
26 Philippines.

*Approved,*



NINETEENTH CONGRESS OF THE )  
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES )  
Second Regular Session )



23 FEB 13 P2 52

SENATE  
S. No. 1867

RECEIVED BY

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Introduced by Senator Loren B. Legarda

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AN ACT  
ESTABLISHING THE E-GOVERNMENT, DEFINING ITS POWERS AND  
FUNCTIONS, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The information ecosystem has found its relevance in today's world. Timely, accurate, and clear information requires the right technological infrastructure, efficient information systems, resources, and protocols. This is why the Information and Communications Technology (ICT) industry is regarded as the "industry of industries" as it is embedded in every aspect of people's economic, social, and political life.

Digital transformation has long been introduced and is welcomed by the people and governments. It brings the government's services closer and faster to the people. However, there is a clamor for more efficient, effective, transparent, and accountable governance through the use of ICT, in accord with the demands of today. There is also a challenge of making it more inclusive, encouraging and strengthening people's participation and empowerment through civic technology.

During calamities and disasters, for instance, operations of government networks highly depend on information and effective communication through the use of technology in abating damages and preventing imprecisions. The global COVID-

19 pandemic opened the necessity of speeding up the process of digital transformation in many countries. During its peak, the whole world was sustained by the emergence and use of technology where the fast-paced world of the internet fueled and sustained the stride for public service and business continuity, social interaction, and access to government services. The pandemic pushed the whole world and catapulted all societies and governments to a digital revolution.

Among our realizations of the sudden swift to digitalization is the pressing need to come up with legislation that paves the way for institutionalizing a digital transformation agenda. While there is an existing 2022 E-government Plan developed by the Department of Information Communication Technology (DICT), with its aim of having a "One Digitized Government" enabling full interoperability of government systems and services, it still needs a strong legislative backbone to support and direct national government agencies and local government units to prioritize and allocate funding to implement the e-governance agenda of their respective organizations.

The vital role of communication and information in nation-building is stipulated in Article II Section 24 of our Constitution. The establishment of e-government through this legislative action is a pre-condition to jump-start and speed up the process of digital transformation of the entire Philippine bureaucracy, for the government to cope with and match the growing demand of an ICT-enabled society.

In view of the foregoing, the passage of this measure is earnestly sought.

  
LOREN LEGARDA



23 FEB 13 P2 52

SENATE  
S. No. 1867

RECEIVED

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Introduced by Senator Loren B. Legarda

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AN ACT  
ESTABLISHING THE E-GOVERNMENT, DEFINING ITS POWERS AND  
FUNCTIONS, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

EXPLANATORY NOTE

*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 "E-Government Act of  
2 2022."

3 Sec. 2. *Declaration of policy.* - The State hereby adopts the following policies:

4 1) The State shall provide effective leadership for the development and  
5 promotion of electronic government services and processes;

6 2) The State shall provide increased opportunities for citizen participation  
7 in government and people empowerment through the use of available electronic  
8 technologies, increased access to high-quality government information across  
9 multiple channels, and the use of civic technology to democratize governance;

10 3) The State shall promote inter-agency collaboration in providing  
11 electronic government services;

12 4) The State, in its recognition of the vital role of communication and  
13 information in nation-building, shall promote the use of the internet and emerging  
14 technologies within and across government agencies to provide citizen-centric  
15 government information and services;

16 5) The State shall ensure that costs and burdens on setting up ICT

1 infrastructures, processes, and systems are reduced for businesses, private, civic, and  
2 government entities;

3 6) The State shall promote better-informed decision-making by  
4 policymakers;

5 7) The State shall promote access to high-quality government information  
6 and services across multiple channels;

7 8) The State shall make the government more transparent and accountable;

8 9) The State shall recognize its inherent obligation to ensure that personal  
9 information in information and communications systems in the government is  
10 secured and protected; and,

11 10) The State shall strengthen and update existing electronic systems, online  
12 or remote transaction mechanisms, and other contactless means of service in  
13 recognition of the health protocols, mobility restrictions, and safety guidelines posed  
14 by the epidemics and similar health emergencies, and natural hazards or human-  
15 induced disasters.

16 Sec. 3. Definition of Terms - As used in this Act:

17 a) *Chief Information Officer or CIO* shall mean, a senior officer in all national  
18 government agencies, including constitutional offices, state universities, and  
19 colleges, government-owned and controlled corporations, and government  
20 financial institutions responsible for the development and management of  
21 the agency's ICT systems and applications, selected through the designation  
22 by the Head of Agency.

23 b) *Civic Technology* shall mean the use of ICT that promotes transparency,  
24 empowers citizens, fights corruption, and harnesses new technologies to  
25 strengthen citizen participation and governance.

26 c) *Electronic Government or E-Government* shall mean the use of ICT by the  
27 government and the public to enhance access to and delivery of government  
28 services to bring about efficient, responsive, ethical, accountable, and  
29 transparent government service;

30 d) *Information and Communications Technology or ICT* shall mean the totality of  
31 electronic means to access, create, collect, store, process, receive, transmit,  
32 present, and disseminate data and information;

1 e) *ICT-Enabled Services* shall mean those engaged in providing services that  
2 require the intrinsic use of ICTs including engineering or architectural  
3 design, informatics service providers, offshoring and outsourcing service  
4 providers such as call centers, back-office processing, software development,  
5 medical or legal transcription, animation, game development, and other  
6 services that require the intrinsic use of networked information  
7 infrastructure;

8 f) *Interoperability* shall mean the ability of different operating and software  
9 systems, applications, and services to communicate and exchange data in an  
10 accurate, effective, and consistent manner.

11 **Sec. 4. *E-Government Master Plan*** - The Department of Information and  
12 Communications Technology (DICT) shall establish and promote an E-Government  
13 Master Plan to encourage excellence in facilitating the development and enhancement  
14 of all E-Government services and processes at the national and local levels. The E-  
15 Government Master Plan shall be reviewed and revised every three (3) years.

16 **Sec. 5. *E-Government Programs*** - The E-Government Master Plan shall include  
17 but not be limited to, the following programs:

18 1) *Philippine Government Interoperability Framework*. - A framework shall be  
19 developed to guide and govern basic technical and informational  
20 interoperability of government ICT systems. The framework shall guide all  
21 shared operations and services of the Philippine government - between and  
22 among its various agencies, as well as for these agencies, in dealing with their  
23 various constituencies;

24 2) *Database and Other Resources Sharing Network* - A network shall be designed  
25 to allow agencies to access shared databases and other resources to facilitate  
26 seamless validation, inquiry and research procedures, inter-agency  
27 cooperation and support, and regular exchange of datasets, studies, and  
28 statistics towards effective policy-making, monitoring, and evaluation.

29 3) *Archives and Records Management Information System* - A system shall be  
30 designed to systematically and efficiently manage government documents  
31 and records. This includes the digitization of paper-based documents and  
32 records and the development of systems that will manage these documents,

1 - from creation, routing, tracking, and archiving to disposal, - while adhering  
2 to existing policies, laws, and the standards of the International Organization  
3 for Standardization;

4 4) *Government Online Payment System* - An Internet-based electronic payment  
5 facility and gateway that will enable citizens and businesses to remit  
6 payments electronically to government agencies shall be created. It shall  
7 render services through various delivery channels, which include debit  
8 instructions accounts (debit cards), credit instructions (credit cards), and  
9 mobile wallets (SMS);

10 5) *Citizen Frontline Delivery Services* - Services that are needed to facilitate  
11 business registration-related transactions shall be made efficient by  
12 integrating all agencies involved in business registration, such as the  
13 Department of Trade and Industry, Securities and Exchange Commission,  
14 Cooperative Development Authority, Bureau of Internal Revenue, Social  
15 Security System, Home Development Mutual Fund, Philhealth Health  
16 Insurance Corporation, Local Government Units (LGUs) and other  
17 permit/license-issuing agencies;

18 6) *Public Fiscal Management* - Various financial systems in government such as  
19 taxation, payment systems, accounting, and business registries, shall be  
20 harmonized and managed;

21 7) *Procurement System* - An online and real-time service that encompasses all  
22 procurement processes involving bidding, contract agreements, and  
23 payment for services or supplies shall also be developed;

24 8) *Full Disclosure, Transparency System, and Citizen Feedback Systems*- An open  
25 data and feedback system that allows the general public access to  
26 government and other public interest documents, projects, and transactions,  
27 allows citizens to engage public officials by providing feedback on  
28 government actions on the implementation of programs, projects, and  
29 operations, as well as in shaping public policies thereby enhancing the  
30 relationship of the public to the government and facilitate discourse to  
31 strengthen democracy.

1 9) *Cybersecurity Protection and Data Privacy Measures* – This refers to policies and  
2 safeguards that will ensure the protection of data and personal information  
3 against cyber security threats, breach of privacy, and illegal use of  
4 information.

5 The E-Government Master Plan shall likewise include the following:

- 6 1) Inventory and purchase of hardware and software of all government offices;
- 7 2) Utilization of servers, network connections, and data centers in all  
8 government offices;
- 9 3) Security, disaster recovery plans, and archiving considering existing services  
10 and capabilities, as well as future information systems; and
- 11 4) Standardization of systems across government agencies to promote  
12 interoperability and database management.

13 *Sec. 6. DICT Secretary as E-Government Head* – The Secretary of the DICT shall  
14 head the E-Government initiative. The Secretary is expected to spearhead all aspects  
15 of the implementation of the E-Government Master Plan to catalyze the optimum use  
16 of ICT in government to expand and improve public services, government operations,  
17 and capabilities.

18 *Sec. 7. Chief Information Officers* – Chief Information Officers shall be assigned  
19 and deployed to national and key governmental units and perform the following  
20 functions:

- 21 1) Advise agencies on how to best leverage ICTs to optimize the delivery of  
22 public services, and achieve efficient and cost-effective operations;
- 23 2) Develop, maintain and manage the agency's information systems;
- 24 3) Manage and supervise the implementation of ICT-based projects, systems,  
25 and processes;
- 26 4) Formulate and implement processes in relation to the adoption of ICT-based  
27 solutions as provided by the E-Government plan;
- 28 5) Manage operational risks related to ICT in coordination with the agency's  
29 management and stakeholders; and,
- 30 6) Ensure that the ICT programs and operations are consistent with national  
31 policies and standards.

32

1           **Sec. 8. Local Government Unit (LGU) ICT Offices** - Each LGU shall have an ICT  
2 Officer assigned to manage and supervise its adoption of the E-Government Plan. The  
3 LGU ICT Officer is likewise tasked to spearhead seminars and other means of  
4 educating the community to maximize E-Government initiatives.

5           **Sec. 9. E-Government Status Report** - Each agency and LGU shall compile and  
6 submit an annual E-Government Status Report on:

7           (a) The status of the implementation of electronic government initiatives;

8           (b) Compliance by the agency with this Act; and,

9           (c) Performance in delivering programs through the E-Government to  
10 constituencies.

11           **Sec. 10. Appropriations** - The amount needed for the initial implementation of  
12 this Act shall be taken from the current year's appropriations of the DICT. Thereafter,  
13 such sums as may be necessary for its continued implementation shall be included in  
14 the annual General Appropriations Act. Each national government agency is likewise  
15 allowed to propose funding for its ICT-strengthening initiatives in response to this  
16 law.

17           **Sec. 11. Implementing Rules and Regulations** - The DICT shall, in coordination with  
18 relevant agencies and upon consultation with stakeholders, issue within sixty (60)  
19 days from the effectivity of this Act, the necessary rules and regulations for the  
20 effective implementation of this Act.

21           **Sec. 12. Separability Clause** - If any provision of this Act shall be declared  
22 unconstitutional or invalid, the other provisions not otherwise affected shall remain  
23 in full force and effect.

24           **Sec. 13. Repealing Clause** - All laws, decrees, executive orders, rules and  
25 regulations, and other issuances or parts thereof that are inconsistent with this Act are  
26 hereby repealed, amended, or modified accordingly.

27           **Sec. 14. Effectivity.** - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its  
28 publication in at least two (2) national newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,