

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City, Metro Manila

Thirteenth Congress

First Regular Session



HOUSE BILL NO. 1297

Introduced by Honorable Darlene R. Antonino-Custodio

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill seeks to require pre-audit on all programs and projects with government fundings before implementation.

Reports of the overpricing on some government funded projects is quite alarming. Added to this are the poor workmanship resulting from the poor performance of the contractor and the delay in the completion of the project wherein the contractor requests additional cost in the guise of increased cost of materials. These situations affect government accomplishments. People may no longer believe in the sincerity of the government in undertaking projects for the development of the country.

It is, therefore, being proposed that government programs and projects, particularly those needing funds from the government, be required to pass pre-audit by the Commission on Audit (COA) before implementation. Thus, the COA should first determine the reasonableness of the cost of the project concerned and then prioritize projects as well as ensure the availability of funds.

To restore the people's faith, respect, trust and confidence for the government, approval of this bill is earnestly urged.

DARLENE R. ANTONINO-CUSTODIO

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AN ACT
REQUIRING PRE-AUDIT ON ALL GOVERNMENT PROGRAMS AND PROJECTS
WITH FUNDING REQUIREMENTS BEFORE IMPLEMENTATION AND
PRESCRIBING PENALTIES FOR VIOLATIONS THEREOF.

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

SECTION 1. All government programs and projects with funding requirements, regardless of the amount, shall be subject to pre-audit by the Commission on Audit (COA) or its duly authorized representative before the same shall be implemented.

SEC. 2. Any official or employee who shall approve or allow the implementation of a certain program or project with government funding without undergoing pre-audit as required under this Act shall for the first offense, suffer the penalty of suspension from office for a period of not less than fifteen (15) days nor more than sixty (60) days. For second or succeeding offenses, the penalty of imprisonment of not less than six months but not more than six (6) years shall be imposed on the offender, plus perpetual disqualification to hold public office.

Any person, contractor, agency or corporation which shall implement a program or project funded by the government without submitting to a pre-audit as required under

this Act shall not be paid by the government for such undertaking. In addition, the person responsible for the violation shall suffer the penalty prescribed under the first paragraph.

SEC. 3. Except for the requirement provided under this Act, existing laws on government programs and projects shall continue to be in full force and effect.

SEC. 4. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

Approved,