

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

FIFTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

House Bill No. 1577

Introduced by Representatives
DIOSDADO MACAPAGAL ARROYO and GLORIA MACAPAGAL ARROYO

AN ACT
TO DIRECT THE DIRECTOR OF THE BUREAU OF ANIMAL
INDUSTRY TO ESTABLISH AND MAINTAIN A PUBLIC
WEBSITE THROUGH WHICH INDIVIDUALS MAY FIND A PET
REGISTRY AND A COMPLETE DATABASE OF MISSING PETS
AND FOUND STRAYS

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Numerous cases of missing pets are reported everyday. Many pets which have been separated from their owners have remained unfound due to lack of information and assistance. Losing a pet can be a traumatic and stressful experience not only for the owners, but even for the animals themselves.

The proposed bill seeks the establishment of the first national pet registry and database for missing pets and found strays. The Registry will tie all pets' pertinent information into a national database. Through registration, shelters, vets, pet organizations and individuals will have the ability to notify the owner immediately should a missing pet end up in their care. Every pet will have an online profile with veterinary/medical records, emergency contacts, tattoos, photos, histories, medical logs, and certifications. On the other hand, the Missing Pets and Found Strays Database shall be equipped with a search engine so that all reports for lost pets can be uploaded and categorized, enabling users to find possible matches. The database will be readily accessible through the internet.

Through this national database, the search for missing pets will definitely be expedited. Thus, we urge our colleagues to work with us for the passage of this Bill.



DIOSDADO MACAPAGAL ARROYO
Second District, Camarines Sur



GLORIA MACAPAGAL ARROYO
Second District, Pampanga

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

SECTION 1. *Short Title.* – This Act shall be known as the “National Pet Registry Act of 2010.”

SECTION 2. *Definitions.* – For purposes of this Act, the following terms shall be construed to mean as follows:

- a. MISSING PET – means any domesticated animal whose whereabouts is unknown to the reporting party.
- b. STRAY – means any domestic animal found at large whose owner is unidentified.
- c. DIRECTOR - means the Director of the Bureau of Animal Industry, unless otherwise indicated.

SECTION 3. *Pet Registry.* – Pet owners are encouraged to register their pets in a general website/database to be set up by the Bureau of Animal Industry. This website/database shall contain information which can identify the pet including, but not limited to photographs, breed, color, identifying marks such as tattoos, and will also include a profile with veterinary/medical records, emergency contacts, histories, medical logs, and certifications. Upon registration, the pet shall be assigned a custom and numbered ID tag. This tag will allow the pet to be immediately identified in case it is lost.

SECTION 4. *Establishment of a Missing Pets and Found Strays Database.* – The Director shall establish and maintain, in a public website, a database consisting of information on missing pets and found strays. The database will be engineered such that the general public will be able to search for matches between missing pets and found stray records. Access to this database shall be free of charge.

SECTION 5. *Unidentified Found Stray Database.* – This database shall contain information entered by individuals, animal shelters and other agencies, which will include photographs, physical characteristics, and other information that will help in the identification of the found stray.

SECTION 6. *Useful links.* – The website shall contain links to various kennel clubs, animal welfare societies and veterinary organizations including but not limited to:

- a. Philippine Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (PSPCA);
- b. Philippine Animal Welfare Society (PAWS);
- c. Protected Areas and Wildlife Bureau (PAWB) of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR);
- d. Philippine Veterinary Medical Association (PVMA);
- e. Veterinary Practitioners Association of the Philippines (VPAP);
- f. Philippine Animal Hospital Association of the Philippines (PAHA);
- g. Philippine Canine Club, Inc. (PCCI).

SECTION 7. *Dissemination of Information on Database.* – The Director shall take such actions as may be necessary to disseminate information on the

database established and maintained under this Act and to encourage its use by interested parties.

SECTION 8. *Appropriations.* –The amount necessary for the initial implementation of this Act shall be charged against the appropriations of the Department of Agriculture under the current General Appropriations Act. Thereafter, such sum as may be necessary for its full implementation shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act as a distinct and separate item.

SECTION 9. *Separability Clause.* – If any provision or part hereof, is held invalid or unconstitutional, the remainder of the law or the provision not otherwise affected shall remain valid and subsisting.

SECTION 10. *Repealing Clause.* – Any law, presidential decree or issuance, executive order, letter of instruction, administrative order, rule or regulation contrary to or is inconsistent with the provision of this Act is hereby repealed, modified, or amended accordingly.

SECTION 11. *Effectivity Clause.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,