

FIFTEENTH CONGRESS)
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
THIRD REGULAR SESSION)

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Introduced by Representative Rufus B. Rodriguez and
Representative Maximo B. Rodriguez, Jr.

House Bill No. 6672

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Crime data gathered by the Philippine National Police (PNP) showed that from January to November 2011, the PNP recorded 230,817 crime incidents. While this number is lower compared to previous years like in 2009 where there were a reported 333,416 crime incidents, it is still very high. One way to lower this high crime rate is to provide deterrents which will make would be criminals think twice and reconsider. And one very effective form of deterrent is the installation of Closed Circuit Television (CCTV) cameras. CCTV cameras will not only prevent crime, it can also help in solving crimes. Data from the PNP also showed that for 2011, physical assault and theft were the two largest contributors to the total number of incidents. These types of crimes can be easily solved with the help of CCTV's. When you read newspapers, there are many news reports with the following headlines or similar ones: "CCTV catches robber mauling woman"; "CCTV catches theft inside CDO hospital"; "CCTV catches theft inside training center in Manila". Even one of the actors of the Phantom of the Opera was victimized by theft, which was also captured on CCTV.

Unfortunately, many establishments refuse to put up CCTV's because of added expenses. It is therefore high time that CCTV cameras become mandatory requirements for different establishments all over the country.

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


RUFUS B. RODRIGUEZ


MAXIMO B. RODRIGUEZ, JR.

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AN ACT

REQUIRING BUSINESS ESTABLISHMENTS ALL OVER THE
PHILIPPINES TO INSTALL CLOSED CIRCUIT TELEVISION (CCTV)
CAMERAS IN THEIR PLACE OF BUSINESS AS A MEANS TO DETER
CRIME, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

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

SECTION 1. Short Title – This Act shall be known as the "CCTV Act of 2012."

SEC 2. Declaration of Policy – It is the policy of the state to serve and protect the people, to maintain peace and order, to protect the life of life, liberty, and property of its citizens and to promote the general welfare.

SEC 3. Installation of Closed Circuit Television Cameras (CCTV) – All business establishments employing more than twenty (20) employees/workers and with work premises of not less than fifty (50) meters in the Philippines are hereby mandated to install and maintain in good working condition surveillance and/or CCTV cameras in all their entrance and exits, within the premises of their work area, the perimeter of their work areas/establishments and other areas of their business to protect their patrons and to deter crime.

These establishments are also hereby mandated to ensure that these surveillance/CCTV cameras are turned on and recording for twenty-four (24) hours per day and for seven (7) days per week. They are also mandated to keep a deposit of video recordings for a period of not less than sixty (60) days from the date of recording

The installation of CCTV cameras is also hereby declared to be a mandatory requirement before business permits or permits to operate are issued.

Business establishments include, but are not limited to, restaurants, hospitals, malls, shopping centers, movie houses, supermarkets, groceries, entertainment centers, office buildings, warehouses and other similar establishments.

All government offices and buildings are also mandated to install CCTV cameras.

SEC 4. Notice of Surveillance – The fact that surveillance cameras have been installed in an establishment shall be made known to the general public through a written notice displayed in the entrance of the establishment.

SEC 5. Prohibited Surveillance – The installation of surveillance cameras in any restroom, toilet, shower, bathroom, changing room, and other similar areas shall be prohibited.

SEC 6. Confidentiality and Non-disclosure of Recordings – The owner and/ or manager of the commercial establishment shall maintain the privacy and confidentiality of the video feeds and records obtained as a result of the surveillance performed in accordance with this Act. Towards such end, said owner and/ or manager shall prohibit any use, viewing, disclosure, or publication of said video recordings.

SEC 7. Allowed Use and Disclosure – The use, copying, or disclosure of video records obtained pursuant to the surveillance performed in accordance with this Act shall only be allowed in the following instances:

- (a) Use, copying, or disclosure to a member or officer of a law enforcement agency in connection with and limited to the investigation or prosecution of an offense punishable by law or regulation;
- (b) Use, copying, or disclosure to further and in connection with any pending criminal or civil proceeding;
- (c) Use or disclosure that may be necessary to avoid an imminent threat to persons or property; or
- (d) Use or disclosure that may be necessary for persons to determine whether or not an offense was committed against their person or property, to ascertain the identity of a criminal perpetrator, and to determine the manner by which an offense was consummated.

It shall be the responsibility of the owner and/ or manager, or their agents, to ensure that the conditions for use, copying, or disclosure of video recordings are reasonably established before giving access to requesting parties. The extent of video recordings to be viewed, used, copied, or disclosed shall be limited to the images pertaining to the above-mentioned instances.

SEC 8. Penalties – For private establishments, any person or establishment who violates any provision of this Act will be punished by a fine of One Hundred Thousand Pesos (Php 50,000.00) and a suspension of its permit to operate or business permit until CCTV cameras are installed.

For government offices, non-installation of CCTV's shall be considered as nonfeasance and shall be subject to the proper penalties provided for in appropriate laws.

SEC 9. Implementing Rules and Regulations – The Department of Interior and Local Government, together with the Philippine National Police, shall prescribe the necessary rules and regulations to implement this act.

SEC 10. *Repealing Clause.* All laws, executive orders, rules and regulations or parts thereof in conflict with the provision of this Act are hereby repealed or amended accordingly.

SEC 11. *Separability Clause.* - If for any reason, any provision of this Act or the application thereof to any person or circumstances, is held invalid, the remaining provision not affected thereby shall be in full force and effect.

SEC 12. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in two (2) national newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,