

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

SIXTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 186



Introduced by *Rep. Winston "Winnie" Castelo*

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This measure contemplates what shall be known as the 'Local Government Disclosure Act' which would, in effect, allow public access to transactions involving the local government unit and the governors, city mayors, municipal mayors, treasurers, accountants, budget officers and other fund accountable officers involved in the utilization of public funds inasmuch as the principle of public accountability shall take highest precedence in a wide range of governmental and developmental affairs at the local level.

Therefore, it is not as if the provisions of Section 352 of Republic Act No. 7160 also known as the Local Government Code of 1991 have been enough. In other words, under this proposed measure, other items of expenditures and disbursements would now need to be posted in various effective ways such as but not limited to websites, newspapers, or other publicly accessible or conspicuous places to demonstrate the government's resolve to make "public office a public trust" and to do justice to the principle of "public accountability in the administration of public funds".

A whole range of fiscal matters or items of expenditures have now to be posted to serve public notice how timely and prompt disclosure will effectively plug possible holes of graft and corruption in the local bureaucratic level. More importantly, public trust is the basic ingredient in the government's menu of transparency, accountability, and good governance.

This bill aims to introduce a new bureaucratic culture that will squeeze more bang out of every buck, as if it were. The immediate even urgent passage of this bill is therefore most earnestly sought and prayed for, hence this submission.

In whole, all sectors of society are stakeholders.

WINSTON "WINNIE" CASTELO

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AN ACT
MANDATING FULL PUBLIC DISCLOSURE BY GOVERNORS, CITY MAYORS, MUNICIPAL
MAYORS, TREASURERS, ACCOUNTANTS, BUDGET OFFICERS AND OTHER FUND
ACCOUNTABLE OFFICERS OF THE LOCAL BUDGET AND FINANCES OF THE LOCAL
GOVERNMENT UNIT AMENDING THEREBY SECTION 352 OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT
CODE OF 1991

SECTION 1. This Act shall be known as the "Local Government Transactions Disclosure Act of 2013".

SEC. 2. In addition to the provisions of Section 352 of Republic Act No. 7160 otherwise known as the Local Government Code of 1991", the following fiscal items shall be made mandatory for full disclosure and posting, as follows:

1. Annual Budget
2. Quarterly Statement of Cash Flows
3. Statement of Receipts and Expenditures
4. Trust Fund (PDAF) Utilization
5. Special Education Fund Utilization
6. 20% Component of the IRA Utilization
7. Gender and Development Fund Utilization
8. Statement of Debt Service
9. Annual Procurement Plan or Procurement List
10. Items to Bid
11. Bid Results on Civil Works, Goods and Services
12. Abstract of Bids Calculated

SEC. 3. Said fiscal items in accordance with the forms, procedures, and schedules prescribed by the Department of Budget and Management as well as those that may be jointly issued with the Commission on Audit and other cognizant agencies shall fully disclose and post the same in three (3) publicly accessible and conspicuous places aside from posting them in website or publication in newspapers.

SEC. 4. The Department of Budget and Management in collaboration with the Commission on Audit shall issue rules, regulations, promulgations and guidelines for the effective implementation of the provisions of this Act.

SEC. 5. This Act shall take effect upon thirty (30) days upon its publication in the Official Gazette.

Approved,