

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Congressional Hills, Quezon City



SIXTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 3597

Introduced by **Representative Marlyn L. Primicias-Agabas**

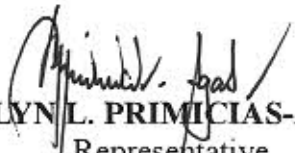
EXPLANATORY NOTE

The Philippine National Police (PNP) acknowledges the usefulness of closed circuit television (CCTV) cameras in the premises of commercial establishments to deter crime and assist them in their crime investigations. According to the PNP, their efficiency rating in solving crimes has improved with the use of CCTV cameras.

CCTV cameras prevent and reduce crimes in a number of ways: through deterrence (potential burglars and thieves may see the camera and decide that a store in question is too much of a risk and therefore not a good target), prosecution (thieves and shoplifters may be caught on camera and this can help catch and prosecute them), fear reduction (if everyone knows that there is a camera, they may feel safer in or around your business, thus preventing potential criminals from attacking) and monitoring and intervention (if there is a security guard monitoring the area through CCTV system, he or she may act on any suspicious behavior and thus prevent a crime from occurring). Most key cities in the country had already adopted the measure requiring business establishments to install CCTV security systems as a requisite for issuance of business license and permit to operate. These LGUs have, in fact, experienced improved peace and

order situations upon the adoption of the measure. We seek to replicate and expand local ordinances adopted by these requiring business establishments to install closed circuit television (CCTV) security systems.

Thus, the early passage of this bill is earnestly requested.


MARLYN L. PRIMICIAS-AGABAS
Representative
Sixth District, Pangasinan

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AN ACT
REQUIRING BUSINESS ESTABLISHMENTS TO INSTALL CLOSED CIRCUIT
TELEVISION (CCTV) CAMERAS IN THEIR PLACE OF BUSINESS
AS A MEANS TO DETER CRIME

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 Cameras for Security Act of 2014."

SECTION 2. Declaration of Policy. - It is the policy of the State to serve and protect the people, to maintain peace and order, to protect life, liberty, and property, and to promote the general welfare.

SECTION 3. Installation of CCTV Cameras. - All business establishments employing more than twenty (20) employees and with work premises of not less than fifty (50) meters are hereby mandated to install and maintain in good working condition

surveillance and/or closed circuit television (CCTV) cameras in all their entrance and exits, within the premises of their work area, the perimeter of their work areas, and other areas in their business premises to protect their patrons and employees and to deter crime. Business establishments employing less than twenty (20) people or whose work premises is less than fifty (50) meters, but whose transactions amount to not less than fifty thousand pesos (PhP 50,000.00) each day, shall also install and maintain surveillance and/or CCTV cameras.

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

The installation of surveillance/CCTV cameras shall be a mandatory requirement before business permits or permits to operate are issued.

For purposes of this Act, business establishments refers to any establishment used for commercial purposes and operating for, selling products to, or providing services to the general public. They shall include but shall not be limited to restaurants, hospitals, malls, shopping centers, movie-houses, theaters, supermarkets, groceries, entertainment centers, office buildings, warehouses, and other similar establishments.

SECTION 4. Notice of Surveillance. - The fact that surveillance/CCTV cameras have been installed in a business establishment shall be made known to the general public through a written notice prominently displayed at the entrance of the establishment.

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

SECTION 6. Confidentiality and Non-disclosure of Video Recordings. - The owner and/or manager of the business establishment shall maintain the privacy and confidentiality of the video feeds and recordings obtained as a result of the surveillance performed in accordance with this Act. Towards this end, the owner and/or manager shall prohibit the use, viewing, copying, disclosure, or publication of said video feeds and recordings for any purpose not allowed under this Act.

SECTION 7. Allowed Use and Disclosure. - The use, viewing, copying, or disclosure of I video feeds ajld recordings obtained pursuant to the surveillance performed in accordance with this Act shall only be allowed in the following instances:

- a) Use, viewing, 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, viewing, copying, or disclosure in connection with any pending criminal or civil proceeding; or
- c) Use, viewing, copying, 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 the offense was perpetrated.

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

SECTION 8. Penalties. - Any act or omission causing the violation of duties ascribed to business establishments under this Act shall be punishable with imprisonment not exceeding six (6) months, or a fine not exceeding one thousand pesos (PhP 1,000.00), or

both, without prejudice to other civil or criminal liabilities that may arise therefrom. The owner and/or manager of the establishment shall likewise be answerable for violations of this Act; provided that it is shown that the violation was due to his/her direct participation, lack of supervision, or negligence.

SECTION 9. Implementing Agency. - The Department of Interior and Local Government and the respective local government units with jurisdiction over the area wherein a covered establishment is located shall ensure the implementation and enforcement of this Act.

SECTION 10. Implementing Rules and Regulations. - Within thirty (30) days from the effectivity of this Act, the Secretary of Interior and Local Government, in consultation with appropriate government agencies and other stakeholders, shall promulgate the necessary rules and regulations to implement this Act.

SECTION 11. Repealing Clause. - All laws, presidential decrees, executive orders and rules and regulations or part thereof, contrary to, or inconsistent with the provisions of this Act, are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SECTION 12. Separability Clause. - Should any provision of this Act be found unconstitutional by a court of law, such provision shall be severed from the remainder of this Act, and such action shall not affect the enforceability of the remaining provisions of this Act.

SECTION 13. Effectivity Clause. - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its complete publication in any two (2) national newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,