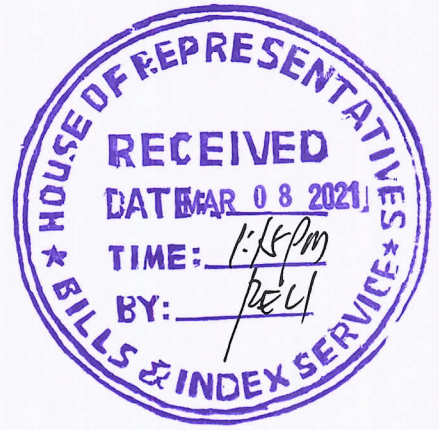


Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
Second Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 8926



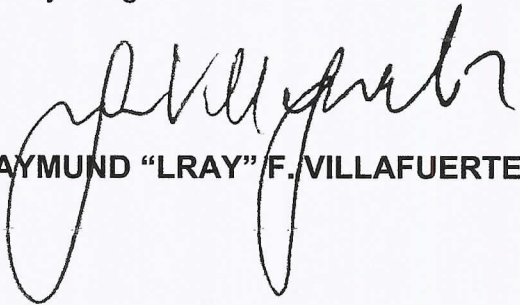
INTRODUCED BY LUIS RAYMUND "LRAY" F. VILLAFUERTE, JR.

**AN ACT MANDATING PUBLIC TELECOMMUNICATIONS ENTITIES TO
DISCLOSE SERVICE COVERAGE DATA TO THE PUBLIC**

This measure proposes the mandatory disclosure of coverage data for the information of various interested stakeholders. This is intended to help the public in their decision making, and it is over-all useful in assessing our level of connectivity.

Our daily activities have been reliant on connection from distance learning, to attending meetings and using video streaming services as form of entertainment. That is why it is our aim to make technologies especially in terms of connectivity available to every Filipino. The importance of such has not been as emphasized as it is in the past year when COVID-19 community restrictions forced us to do much of everything from the confines of our own homes.

The immediate passage of this bill is earnestly sought.


LUIS RAYMUND "LRAY" F. VILLAFUERTE, JR.

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
Second Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 8926

INTRODUCED BY LUIS RAYMUND “LRAY” F. VILLAFUERTE, JR.

**AN ACT MANDATING PUBLIC TELECOMMUNICATIONS ENTITIES TO
DISCLOSE SERVICE COVERAGE DATA TO THE PUBLIC**

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 “Telecommunications Coverage Data Disclosure Act.”

SEC. 2. Declaration of Policy. - It is the policy of the State to promote a just and dynamic social order that will ensure the prosperity of the nation and free the people from poverty through policies that provide adequate social services, promote full employment, a rising standard of living, and an improved quality of life for all. Towards these ends, the use of technology and increased connectivity for all citizens shall be encouraged.

SEC. 3. Mandatory Disclosure of Coverage Data. - All public telecommunications entities, including internet service providers, operating in the Philippines shall be required to disclose and publish, on an annual basis, their coverage data as provided under Section 4 of this Act. Without prejudice to Section 5 of this Act, the coverage data of each public telecommunications entities shall be publicly available and posted on their websites.

SEC. 4. Data Subject of Mandatory Disclosure. –

a. A publicly accessible map online that depicts the availability and scope of mobile and fixed broadband internet access service and/or mobile telecommunications services within the territorial jurisdiction of the Philippines: and

b. A specification of the network or internet type (GSM, 3G, 4G, LTE, etc.) used in the geographical region.

SEC. 5. Indexing System. - The Department of Information and Communications Technology (DICT) shall create a unified indexing system of data released by public telecommunications entities under a singular platform. The platform shall include, but not be limited, to;

a. A display of the geographical coverage of internet and telecommunications services in the Philippines;

b. Crowdsourcing facilities that allow third party users to submit information on coverage of telecommunications and internet services; and

c. Other information that will provide the public with knowledge of the telecommunications and internet coverage in the Philippines.

SEC. 6. Implementing Rules and Regulations. - The DICT, in consultation with relevant agencies and other stakeholders, shall promulgate and issue the implementing rules and regulations of this Act within 30 days from its effectivity.

SEC. 7. Repealing Clause. -All laws, executive orders, rules and regulations or any part thereof inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are deemed repealed or modified accordingly.

SEC. 8. Separability Clause. - If any part or provision of this Act shall be declared unconstitutional or invalid, such declaration shall not invalidate other parts of this Act, which shall remain in full force and effect.

SEC. 9. Effectivity. - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation, whichever comes earlier.

Approved,