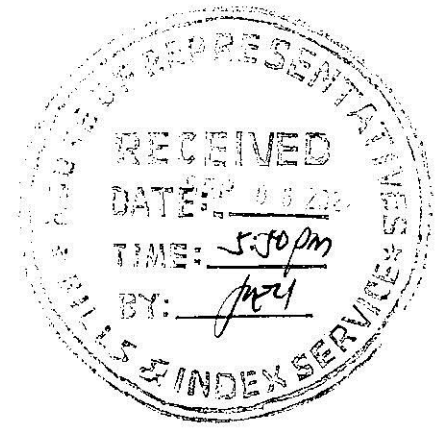


Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

NINETEENTH CONGRESS
1st Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. **4499**



Introduced by: REP. ARNOLFO "ARNIE" A. TEVES, JR.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

In these days where almost everyone is interconnected technologically and digitally the need for an efficient and faster government transaction is more pressing. The acceleration of digital transformation at various levels of the government has been accelerated by a confluence of factors and this can never be truer especially at this time of digital age.

While various government agencies have already started to adopt internet based services, increasing expectations for convenient access to government services bolstered by digital natives and digitally aware citizens and a rising need to manage service delivery costs, the efforts of the government must and should be linked together.

The passage of this Bill will make government services available to people who are using the internet and mobile technologies which will consequently bypass the physical infrastructure as well as increase the accountability throughout the system.

It cannot be denied that the new normal demands that the government must adapt to changes brought about by the pandemic and the importance of digital transformation and the use of electronic services and platforms to provide better services to serve the people.

This bill mandates the government to provide and establish an integrated, interconnected and interoperable information and resource sharing communications network in the entire government bureaucracy in the delivery of public services.

In view of the foregoing immediate passage of the Bill is earnestly sought.


ARNOLFO "ARNIE" A. TEVES, JR.

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NINETEENTH CONGRESS
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HOUSE BILL NO. 4499

Introduced by: REP. ARNOLFO "ARNIE" A. TEVES, JR.

**AN ACT MANDATING THE TRANSITION OF THE GOVERNMENT TO ELECTRONIC
GOVERNANCE IN THE DIGITAL AGE, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER
PURPOSES**

SECTION 1. TITLE. This Act shall be known as the "Electronic Governance Act of 2022.

SECTION 2. STATEMENT OF POLICY . It is the policy of the state to develop an efficient and customer-friendly public administration, resulting in an improved quality of public services. Towards this end, the Government hereby adopts a policy towards the digitalization or mainstreaming of its online services in order to sustain a digitally empowered and integrated government that provides responsive and transparent online citizen-centered services for globally competitive citizens.

SECTION 2. COVERAGE. This Act shall apply to all Government Agencies including Local Government Units, Government Owned or Controlled Corporations and Schools Universities and Colleges except on matters of national security which shall be under

the jurisdiction of the Department of National Defense or the National Security Council as the case may be.

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SECTION 3. ROLE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF INFORMATION AND TECHNOLOGY (DICT)

The DICT, in addition to its mandate under R.A 10844 shall be the lead agency to digitalize the systems and processes of the whole government

For this purpose the DICT shall coordinate all national ICT plans and initiatives and shall come out with a national road map for government transaction and services digitalization within 180 days from the enactment of this Act. The DICT shall harmonize and coordinate all national ICT plans and initiatives to ensure knowledge information and resource sharing, database building and agency networking linkages among government agencies, consistent with E-Government objectives in particular.

It shall also ensure the development and protection of integrated government ICT infrastructures and designs, plans, programs, software's, hardware and installed systems.

The DICT shall be the primary implementing body and principal administrator of this Act. All ICT projects in the Philippines shall be done in accordance with the National ICT Development Agenda, as the DICT may see fit. The DICT shall establish measures to implement policies under this Act and ensure that all ICT projects in the Philippines whether national or local are harmonized and integrated with the overall ICT projects in the Philippines.

SECTION 4. ROLE OF HEADS OF OFFICES

Every head of agency, office and instrumentality of the national and local government shall submit within ninety days (90) from the ratification of this Act to the DICT of all its processes and systems that need to be digitized. The DICT shall collate all systems and procedures submitted by the agencies. For agencies which have digitized systems and procedures, or which has an ongoing digitalization program the head of the agency

shall submit to DICT the said program for enhancement, if any. Further all heads of agencies shall be responsible for the following;

- a. To strictly comply with the requirements of this Act including related standards for all ICT infrastructure, systems, equipment, designs and all other technology;
- b. Comply with the standards and protocols for cybersecurity, resiliency, privacy and confidentiality;
- c. To ensure that the information technology standards promulgated by the DICT are communicated promptly and effectively to all relevant officials within their agency;

SECTION 5. TRANSITORY PROVISIONS

The DICT shall study, formulate and implement a master plan for the transition of the government and its provision of services in the digital age. For this purpose, until such time that the government shall complete the transition in accordance with the objectives of this Act, all government activities covered under this act shall be conducted in the manner provided for under existing laws and rules.

The government shall complete the transition in a maximum of three (3) years.

SECTION 6. REPORTING.

All agencies, offices and instrumentalities of the national and local governments covered under this Act shall submit to the Congress, the President and to the DICT an annual report on the status of implementation of this Act. These reports shall likewise be made publicly available on and through electronic portals.

SECTION 7. IMPLEMENTING RULES

The DICT shall within sixty days from the approval of this Act come up with Rules to implement this Act.

SECTION 8. REPEALING CLAUSE

All laws, decrees, executive orders, rules and regulations, or parts thereof inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed, amended or modified accordingly.

SECTION 11. EFFECTIVITY

This Act shall take effect Fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in a national newspaper of general circulation.

Approved.