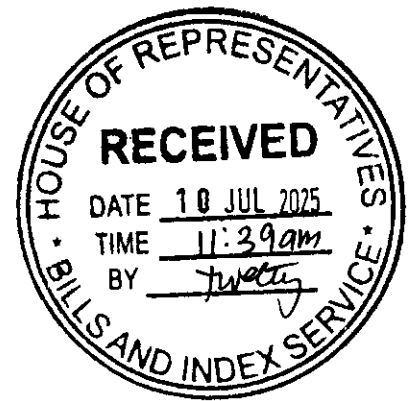


Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City, Metro Manila

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

House Bill No. 1755



Introduced by **Hon. Janice V. Degamo**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The Philippines continues to face significant challenges in the efficient enforcement of criminal laws, tracking of convicted individuals, and the consistent administration of justice. A major contributing factor is the fragmented and outdated system of maintaining criminal records across various law enforcement and judicial institutions.

Currently, criminal records are dispersed among the Philippine National Police (PNP), National Bureau of Investigation (NBI), Department of Justice (DOJ), Bureau of Jail Management and Penology (BJMP), Bureau of Corrections (BuCor), and the judiciary. These records often lack integration, real-time updating, and accessibility, leading to delays in investigations, background checks, and judicial decisions. This inefficiency undermines public safety, slows down the wheels of justice, and allows some convicted individuals to escape accountability or commit further crimes.

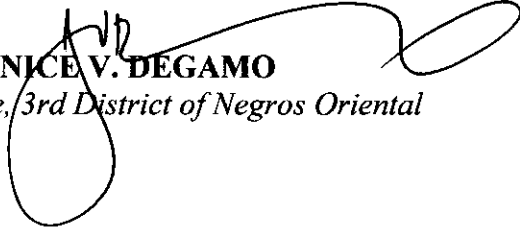
This bill seeks to establish a National Criminal Offender Registry System (NCORS), a centralized, secure, and updated digital database of individuals convicted of crimes by final judgment. It mandates the integration of criminal conviction records across all relevant government agencies, providing real-time access to authorized law enforcement and judicial officers. In addition, it provides safeguards to protect individual privacy and ensures that those whose convictions have been overturned, expunged, or pardoned are not unduly penalized by outdated records.

Through this legislation, law enforcement agencies will be better equipped to track repeat offenders, monitor parolees, and prevent individuals with serious convictions from infiltrating sensitive positions in both government and private sectors. Courts will also benefit from faster and more accurate information when handling cases involving criminal history or sentencing.

Furthermore, the bill enhances transparency and accountability in the criminal justice system, and provides a legal framework for the responsible use of criminal record data, balanced with the constitutional rights of individuals.

In an era of increasing security threats, organized crime, and digital fraud, the Philippines must modernize its criminal justice infrastructure. The National Database of Criminal Offenders Act is a vital step toward that goal.

Approval of this bill is earnestly sought.



JANICE V. DEGAMO
Representative, 3rd District of Negros Oriental

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TWENTIETH CONGRESS
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House Bill No. **1755**

Introduced by **Hon. JANICE V. DEGAMO**

AN ACT
ESTABLISHING A NATIONAL DATABASE OF CRIMINAL OFFENDERS,
INTEGRATING LAW ENFORCEMENT AND JUDICIAL RECORDS, AND
PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFOR

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 "National Database of Criminal Offenders Act of 2025"

Section 2. *Declaration of Policy.* It is hereby declared the policy of the State to ensure the safety and welfare of its citizens by strengthening the criminal justice system by establishing an accurate, secure, and centralized database of all criminal offenders. This will enable more effective law enforcement, better informed judicial decisions, efficient background checks, and greater protection of public safety, while upholding the rights and privacy of individuals.

Section 3. *Definition of Terms.* For the purposes of this Act:

- (a) *Criminal Offender* refers to any individual who has been convicted by final judgment of a crime by a Philippine court;
- (b) *Criminal Records* refer to all official documentation related to criminal convictions, including arrest records, court decisions, sentencing, incarceration status, parole or probation status, and biometric data;
- (c) *Database* refers to the National Criminal Offender Registry System (NCORS) established under this Act;
- (d) *Authorized Agencies* refers to the Philippine National Police (PNP), National Bureau of Investigation (NBI), Bureau of Jail Management and Penology (BJMP), Bureau of Corrections (BuCor), and the Department of Justice (DOJ);
- (e) *Secure Access* refers to regulated, encrypted, and audited digital access to the database limited to authorized users.

Section 4. *Establishment of the National Criminal Offender Registry System (NCORS).* There is hereby established a National Criminal Offender Registry System (NCORS) under the supervision of the DOJ, which shall:

- (a) Consolidate all criminal records from the PNP, NBI, DOJ, courts, BJMP, and BuCor;
- (b) Include the full name, aliases, photograph, fingerprints, DNA data (if available), date of birth, gender, nationality, current incarceration or probation status, criminal charges, and final disposition;
- (c) Be digitized, searchable, and secure, with safeguards to prevent tampering, misuse, or unauthorized access;
- (d) Be updated in real time by contributing agencies up conviction, release, or change in offender status.

Section 5. *Mandatory Reporting and Data Integration.* All government agencies involved in criminal justice shall be required to:

- (a) Submit all final convictions and related offender data to the DOJ within thirty (30) days of judgment or status change;
- (b) Use a standardized digital format for submissions as prescribed by the DOJ in coordination with the Department of Information and Communications Technology (DICT);
- (c) Cooperate in the development of inter-agency protocols for secure data transmission and verification.

Section 6. *Authorized Access and Use.* Access to the NCORS shall be limited to the following purposes and users:

- (a) Law enforcement officers conducting investigations or background checks;
- (b) Judges and prosecutors handling criminal cases or sentencing decisions;
- (c) Government agencies conducting security clearance, background checks for sensitive positions, or public safety evaluations.

Section 7. *Rights of Convicted Individuals.* Convicted individuals shall have the following rights under this Act:

- (a) To review and verify their criminal records in the NCORS;
- (b) To have errors or outdated information corrected within fifteen (15) working days of filing a verified request with supporting documentation;

(c) To have their records removed or altered accordingly if their conviction is expunged or pardoned.

Section 8. Confidentiality and Data Protection. For the purposes of this act:

(a) All information in the NCORS shall be protected under Republic Act 10173 also known as the Data Privacy Act of 2012 and relevant human rights laws;

(b) Unauthorized access, alteration, or disclosure of data shall be punishable under this Act with imprisonment of six (6) to twelve (12) years, and perpetual disqualification from public office if the offender is a government employee.

Section 9. Budget and Appropriations. The amount necessary for the initial implementation of this Act shall be charged against the current budget of the DOJ and DICT. Thereafter, such amount as may be necessary shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act (GAA).

Section 10. Implementing Rules and Regulations. Within ninety (90) days from the effectivity of this Act, the DOJ, in coordination with the DICT, Supreme Court, PNP, NBI, BJMP, BuCor, and the Commission on Human Rights (CHR), shall promulgate the necessary Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR).

Section 11. Separability Clause. If any provision of this Act is declared unconstitutional or invalid, the remainder of this Act shall not be affected thereby.

Section 12. Repealing Clause. All laws, decrees, orders, rules and regulations or parts thereof inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

Section 13. Effectivity. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its complete publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,