

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

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. **4942**



Introduced by **Representative AGATHA PAULA "AGAY" A. CRUZ**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

In an age when you can send a message across oceans in less than a second, our postal system still trudges along with a coding scheme designed in the era of typewriters. While the rest of the world has upgraded their postal codes to support e-commerce, disaster response, and government service delivery, we continue to rely on a system that cannot even uniquely identify each barangay, the smallest building block of our democracy.

The proposed Modernized Zone Improvement Plan (ZIP) Code System Act seeks to bring our postal codes into the present. It mandates the Philippine Postal Corporation (PHLPOST) to adopt and institutionalize a simple, precise, and future-proof ZIP Code System covering every barangay in the Philippines.

This measure also goes beyond postal reform. It requires all national government agencies and instrumentalities to use the same format, ensures flexibility when barangays are created or merged, and encourages the private sector to follow suit. It also directs PHLPOST to maintain an updated, publicly accessible ZIP Code Locator on its website. This signals that government is serious about digital transformation—not only online, but in the physical infrastructure of service delivery.

For too long, our addresses have been stuck in the past while our people live in the present. This bill creates a future where every barangay can be pinpointed quickly and accurately, and government services arrive at the right door, at the right time.

Considering that this bill has passed the third and final reading during the 19th Congress, the immediate approval of this measure is earnestly sought.


AGATHA PAULA "AGAY" AGUILAR CRUZ
Representative, Fifth Legislative District of Bulacan



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Introduced by **Representative AGATHA PAULA “AGAY” A. CRUZ**

AN ACT
INSTITUTIONALIZING A MODERNIZED ZONE IMPROVEMENT PLAN (ZIP)
CODE SYSTEM, PROVIDING FOR ITS IMPLEMENTATION, APPROPRIATING
FUNDS THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Be it enacted by the Senate and the House of Representatives of the Philippines in Congress assembled:

1 **Section 1. Short Title.** – This Act shall be known as the “Modernized Zone
2 Improvement Plan (ZIP) Code System Act.”
3

4 **Section 2. Declaration of Policy.** – It is hereby declared the policy of the State to
5 ensure the economical and expeditious transfer of mail and other postal matters from
6 sender to addressee, with full respect for their privacy and confidentiality. Toward this
7 end, and to guarantee that the collection, sorting, storage, transportation, and delivery of
8 letters, parcels, and other mail items are performed with utmost dispatch in the most
9 economical, reliable, and secure manner, the Philippine Postal Corporation (PHLPOST) is
10 mandated to adopt and institutionalize a modernized alphanumeric ZIP Code System for
11 use by all national government agencies and instrumentalities.
12

13 **Section 3. Establishment of a Modernized Alphanumeric ZIP Code System.** – The
14 PHLPOST shall adopt and institutionalize a uniform modernized alphanumeric Zone
15 Improvement Plan (ZIP) Code System. It shall issue the official format, style, and usage
16 guidelines to ensure consistency across all government agencies, local government units,
17 and private sector entities.
18

19 **Section 4. Components and Assignments of the Modernized ZIP Code System.** –
20 The modernized alphanumeric ZIP Code shall be composed of: two (2) alphabetic
21 characters (A-Z), representing the province, and five (5) Arabic numerals (0-9),
22 representing the city or municipality and barangay.
23

24 Each of the current forty-two thousand and eleven (42,011) barangays shall be

1 assigned a unique alphanumeric zip code: *Provided*, That the PHLPOST shall ensure
2 flexibility in accommodating the creation, division, merger, or abolition of barangays
3 through a law or ordinance, and shall regularly coordinate with the Department of the
4 Interior and Local Government (DILG), the Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA), and
5 other concerned government agencies: *Provided, further*, That the modernized ZIP Code
6 System shall be uniformly adopted and applied in the operations of all agencies and
7 instrumentalities of government: *Provided, finally*, That the government shall encourage
8 and, after a transition period, may require the private sector, particularly those engaged
9 in mail and parcel delivery, banking, insurance, and other regulated industries, to adopt
10 and utilize the modernized ZIP Code System in their transactions and operations.
11

12 **Section 5. Public Access to ZIP Code.** – Using the modernized system, the
13 PHLPOST shall update and maintain on its official website a ZIP Code Locator that
14 enables the public to search and identify with ease the ZIP Code of any barangay in the
15 Philippines, with due regard to data privacy and cybersecurity standards.
16

17 **Section 6. Transition Period and Public Information Campaign.** – A transition
18 period of thirty-six (36) months from the effectivity of this Act is hereby set for all national
19 government agencies, local government units, government-owned or -controlled
20 corporations, and private sector entities to update their database using the new ZIP Code
21 System.
22

23 Within ninety (90) days after the effectivity of this Act, the PHLPOST shall develop
24 and implement an information and education campaign on the modernized ZIP Code
25 System in collaboration with all government agencies concerned.
26

27 **Section 7. Appropriations.** – The amount necessary to implement the provisions
28 of this Act shall be charged against the current appropriations of the PHLPOST.
29 Thereafter, such sums as may be necessary for its continued implementation shall be
30 included in the annual General Appropriations Act.
31

32 **Section 8. Separability Clause.** – If any part or provision of this Act is held
33 unconstitutional or invalid, the remainder thereof not otherwise affected shall remain in
34 full force and effect.
35

36 **Section 9. Repealing Clause.** – All laws, decrees, executive orders, rules, and
37 regulations, or parts thereof inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby
38 repealed or modified accordingly.
39

40 **Section 10. Effectivity.** – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days following the
41 completion of its publication in the *Official Gazette* or in a newspaper of general circulation.
42

43 *Approved,*