



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



TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

House Bill No. 5071

Introduced by **Representative KATRINA REIKO CHUA - TAI**
1st District, Zamboanga City

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Transparency and access to information are crucial for good governance and democracy. While the E-Governance Act of 2015 (RA 12254) laid the groundwork for digital government services, persistent implementation challenges and the evolution of technology highlight the need for a single, strengthened framework to ensure government accountability in the digital age.

The core objective of this bill is to unify and advance current transparency laws by integrating all related provisions. It creates a clear mandate for all government agencies to regularly disclose updated, comprehensive information on their digital platforms, strengthening accountability.

Unlike previous measures, this bill establishes a centralized transparency portal and compliance system, setting it apart by providing more direct citizen access and publicly tracking agency performance. This approach is designed to foster stronger public trust, promote participation, and deter corruption more effectively than existing, fragmented efforts.

The bill prioritizes accessible, user-friendly digital platforms so that all citizens, including persons with disabilities, can benefit from responsive design and multiple channels, such as official social media platforms. Ultimately, by guaranteeing public access to information, the Act aims to build a transparent, efficient, and people-centered government.

IN VIEW OF THE FOREGOING, immediate passage of this bill is earnestly sought.

KATRINA REIKO CHUA - TAI



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AN ACT

STRENGTHENING REPUBLIC ACT NO. 12254, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE E-GOVERNANCE ACT OF 2015, AND HARMONIZING ALL RELATED TRANSPARENCY AND E-GOVERNANCE MEASURES BY MANDATING REGULAR UPDATES AND ENHANCED DISCLOSURE ON GOVERNMENT WEBSITES AND DIGITAL PLATFORMS, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

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 “Enhanced Government Transparency and Digital Accountability Act.”

SECTION 2. *Declaration of Policy.* - The State promotes transparency, accountability, and good governance through the effective use of information and communication technologies (ICT). This Act ensures the public's right to timely, accurate, and accessible information on government programs and officials, harmonizing e-governance and transparency laws to boost citizen participation, prevent corruption, and enhance service delivery.

SECTION 3. Article 20 of Republic Act No. 12254 (E-Governance Act of 2015), is hereby amended to read as follows:

“Section 20. *Government Website and Electronic Bulletin (E-Bulletin) Board.* - ALL National government agencies, offices, and instrumentalities, including GOVERNMENT-OWNED OR CONTROLLED CORPORATION (GOCCS) AND local governments, are HEREBY mandated to ESTABLISH AND MAINTAIN OFFICIAL WEBSITES AND ELECTRONIC BULLETIN BOARDS AS PRIMARY PLATFORMS ~~consistently enhance their existing websites and establish an e-Bulletin Board~~ for efficient information dissemination, CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT, AND PUBLIC ACCOUNTABILITY. The website and e-bulletin board SHALL BE CONSISTENTLY ENHANCED AND REGULARLY UPDATED AT LEAST ONCE EVERY FIFTEEN (15) CALENDAR DAYS. THEY MUST ~~should~~ be interactive, ~~well designed, functional,~~ USER-FRIENDLY, and mobile-friendly RESPONSIVE, ~~prioritizing security~~ WITH INTERFACES THAT COMPLY WITH INTERNATIONAL STANDARDS FOR accessibility, INCLUDING THE NEEDS OF PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES. ~~Regular updates to website content shall also be required.~~

THESE PLATFORMS MUST ALSO BE SECURE AND FUNCTIONAL, EMPLOYING UP-TO-DATE CYBERSECURITY PROTOCOLS AND REDUNDANCY SYSTEMS TO ENSURE DATA PROTECTION AND UPTIME. THEIR CONTENT SHALL BE COMPREHENSIVE, CONTAINING AT A MINIMUM: THE AGENCY OR OFFICE MANDATE, FUNCTIONS, AND ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE; AN UPDATED DIRECTORY OF KEY OFFICIALS WITH POSITIONS, OFFICIAL CONTACT DETAILS. AND OFFICE LOCATIONS; ANNUAL AND SUPPLEMENTAL BUDGETS. INCLUDING EXPENDITURES AND AUDIT REPORTS; A LIST AND STATUS OF ONGOING AND COMPLETED PROGRAMS, PROJECTS, AND INITIATIVES; PROCUREMENT PLANS, NOTICES OF BIDDING, CONTRACT AWARDS. AND IMPLEMENTATION STATUS; ANNUAL PERFORMANCE REPORTS, STRATEGIC PLANS, AND EVALUATION SUMMARIES; PUBLIC SERVICE HOTLINES, CITIZEN FEEDBACK MECHANISMS, AND GRIEVANCE PROCEDURES; AND E-SERVICES AND DOWNLOADABLE FORMS FOR FRONTLINE SERVICES. IN ADDITION TO TRADITIONAL FORMS OF PUBLICATION, ALL PUBLIC NOTICES, ANNOUNCEMENTS, AND REQUIRED DISCLOSURES SHALL BE PUBLISHED ON THE AGENCY’S OFFICIAL WEBSITE, E-BULLETIN BOARD, AND VERIFIED OFFICIAL SOCIAL MEDIA PLATFORMS.”

SECTION 4. Article 22 of Republic Act No. 12254 (E-Governance Act of 2015), is hereby amended to read as follows:

“Section 22. Information Dissemination Through Website and E-Bulletin Board. - ALL Government offices, agencies, and instrumentalities, GOVERNMENT-OWNED AND CONTROLLED CORPORATIONS (GOCCS), AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNITS required by law or rules to share public notices, documents, or OFFICIAL information shall publish the same on their OFFICIAL websites, e-bulletin boards, and verified official government social media accounts, UNDER A CLEARLY DESIGNATED “PUBLIC NOTICES OR “TRANSPARENCY SECTION,” USING ACCESSIBLE AND STANDARDIZE FORMATS. THIS SHALL BE in addition to traditional publication methods.

~~Except as provided by law, publication of notices, documents, or any other information on the website and e-bulletin board shall be construed as sufficient notice for purpose of this Act. Date of publication shall be reckoned from the date on which the notice, document, or information was first uploaded and made accessible to the public.~~ THE DIGITAL PUBLICATION MUST BE TIMELY, SEARCHABLE, AND ACCESSIBLE, AND SHALL REMAIN AVAILABLE ON THE AGENCY’S ONLINE PLATFORMS FOR A MINIMUM OF ONE (1) YEAR, UNLESS OTHERWISE PROVIDED BY LAW OR SUPERSEDED BY A MORE RECENT VERSION. FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH THIS PROVISION WITHOUT VALID JUSTIFICATION SHALL BE SUBJECT TO ADMINISTRATIVE SANCTIONS, IN ACCORDANCE WITH CIVIL SERVICE RULES AND APPLICABLE LAWS.”

SECTION 5. Harmonization with Related Transparency Laws. -- To unify and streamline transparency requirements, all government agencies shall consolidate and publish information as mandated by the following laws and issuances on their official digital platforms: Republic Act No. 10155 on transparency in government projects; Republic Act No. 12254 or the E-Governance Act of 2023; and the Department of Budget and Management (DBM) National Budget Circulars and other pertinent issuances relating to transparency seals and public access to information.

1 **SECTION 6. *Establishment of a Centralized Transparency Portal.*** — The
2 Government Digital Service, or the appropriate agency designated by the Office of the
3 President, shall establish and maintain a centralized transparency portal that aggregates,
4 monitors, and publicly displays the compliance status of government agencies in updating and
5 maintaining mandated information. This portal shall provide a one-stop platform for citizens to
6 access comprehensive, transparent government data, send automated reminders and compliance
7 reports to agencies, and publish quarterly and annual compliance ratings to incentivize
8 adherence to transparency regulations.

9 **SECTION 7. *Capacity Building and Support.*** - The Civil Service Commission (CSC),
10 in coordination with the Department of Information and Communications Technology (DICT),
11 shall conduct regular training, provide technical assistance, and develop guidelines to support
12 government agencies and LGUs in maintaining compliant and secure digital platforms.

13 **SECTION 8. *Appropriations.*** - The amount necessary for the implementation of this
14 Act shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

15 **SECTION 9. *Separability Clause.*** - If any provision of this Act is declared
16 unconstitutional or invalid, the remaining provisions shall remain in full force and effect.

17 **SECTION 10. *Repealing Clause.*** - All laws, decrees, executive orders, or regulations
18 inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

19 **SECTION 11. *Effectivity.*** - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its
20 publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

21 *Approved,*