

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City
TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session



HOUSE BILL NO. 6237

Introduced by **REP. BERNADETTE "DETTE" G. ESCUDERO**

AN ACT
MANDATING THE PHILIPPINE POSTAL CORPORATION TO ADOPT A
MODERNIZED ZONE IMPROVEMENT PLAN CODE SYSTEM

EXPLANATORY NOTE

A Zone Improvement Plan (ZIP) Code is a four-digit numerical identifier representing a specific locality. First introduced in the United States in 1963 and subsequently adopted by the Philippine Postal Corporation (PhilPost), ZIP codes are essential for efficient mail sorting and delivery, significantly minimizing errors caused by illegible or incomplete addresses. The current system, however, operates with approximately 1,400 codes assigned primarily at the city and municipality level. This lack of granularity is a significant operational limitation. While some large cities have multiple codes and specific institutions are assigned their own, the system remains inconsistent and ill-equipped for a modern, data-driven economy.

This proposed measure addresses this limitation directly by mandating the assignment of a unique ZIP code for each of the 42,011 barangays in the Philippines. This bill builds upon the wisdom of similar proposals, such as House Bill No. 11255 in the Nineteenth Congress, which recognized the need for a more precise location identification system. By transitioning from a municipal-level to a barangay-level system, this measure will not only enhance the accuracy of mail and logistics but, more importantly, will optimize the ZIP code system as a critical tool for the efficient delivery of basic public services, disaster-risk management, data management, and national planning.

The swift approval of this measure is earnestly sought.


HON. BERNADETTE "DETTE" G. ESCUDERO
Representative
1st District, Sorsogon

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City
TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 6237

Introduced by **REP. BERNADETTE "DETTE" G. ESCUDERO**

AN ACT
MANDATING THE PHILIPPINE POSTAL CORPORATION TO ADOPT A
MODERNIZED ZONE IMPROVEMENT PLAN CODE SYSTEM

Be it enacted by the Senate and 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 **Sec. 2. Declaration of Policy.** – it is hereby declared the policy of the State to
5 enable the economical and speedy transfer of mail and other postal matters, from sender
6 to addressee, with full recognition of their privacy or confidentiality.

7 Toward this end, and in recognition of the need to ensure that the collection,
8 sorting, storage, transporting, and delivery of letters, parcels, and other mail letters are
9 performed with utmost dispatch in the most economical, reliable and secure manner,
10 the Philippine Postal Corporation (PHLPOST) is hereby mandated to adopt and
11 institutionalize a modernized alphanumeric ZIP Code System to be adopted by all
12 national government agencies and instrumentalities.
13

14 **Sec. 3. Modernized ZIP Code System.** – The modernized alphanumeric ZIP
15 Code system shall be composed of two (2) alphabetic characters (A-Z), representing the
16 province, and five (5) Arabic numerals (0-9), representing the city or municipality and
17 barangay. Each of the current forty-two thousand and eleven (42,011) barangays shall
18 be assigned a unique alphanumeric zip code: *Provided*, That the PHLPOST shall ensure
19 that the system allows flexibility in accommodating the creation, division, merger, or
20 abolition of a barangay, through a law or ordinance, and shall regularly coordinate with
21 the Department of the Interior and Local Government and other concerned government
22 agencies: *Provided, further*, That the modernized ZIP Code System shall be adopted and
23 applied in the operations of all agencies and instrumentalities of government: *Provided*,
24 *finally*, That the government shall encourage the private sector to adopt and utilize the
25 modernized ZIP Code System in their transactions and operations.

1 **Sec. 4. ZIP Code Locator.** – Utilizing the modernized system, the PHLPOST
2 shall update its ZIP Code Locator to enable the public to locate and identify the ZIP Code
3 of any barangay in the Philippines. An online zipcode locator shall also be developed.
4

5 **Sec. 5. Transition Period.** – A transitory period of thirty-six (36) months
6 reckoned from the effectivity of this Act shall be set for all national government agencies,
7 local government units, government-owned or -controlled corporations, and private
8 sector entities to update their database using the new ZIP Code System.

9 Within ninety (90) days after the effectivity of this Act, the PHLPOST shall develop
10 and implement an information and education campaign on the modernized ZIP Code
11 System in collaboration with all government agencies concerned,.
12

13 **Sec. 6. Separability Clause.** – If any portion or provision of this Act is declared
14 unconstitutional, the remainder of this Act or any provision not affected thereby shall
15 remain in force and effect.
16

17 **Sec. 7. Repealing Clause.** – All other laws, acts, presidential decrees, executive
18 orders, issuances, presidential proclamations, rules and regulations or parts thereof,
19 which are contrary to and inconsistent with any provision of this Act, are hereby
20 repealed, amended or modified accordingly.
21

22 **Sec. 8. Effectivity.** – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its
23 publication in the *Official Gazette* or in a national newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,