



Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 8224



Introduced by Representative JONATHAN KEITH T. FLORES

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The effective administration of criminal justice depends on the accuracy, reliability, and accessibility of criminal records. Currently, criminal records in the Philippines are maintained separately by various law enforcement agencies. This fragmented system creates gaps that allow offenders to evade accountability by transferring jurisdictions, using aliases, or claiming to be first-time offenders despite prior cases.

The proposed bill seeks to establish a “Centralized Database for Criminal Records” that will consolidate and integrate the records of the Philippine National Police (PNP), the National Bureau of Investigation (NBI), and the Philippine Drug Enforcement Agency (PDEA). The centralized database will enable prosecutors and courts to verify prior offenses, strengthen law enforcement coordination, and facilitate the efficient issuance of criminal record clearances.

The measure mandates standardized digital reporting and strict safeguards in accordance with the Data Privacy Act of 2012. Access will be limited to authorized officials, and mechanisms will be provided to protect the rights of individuals, including correction and removal of records wherein appropriate.

By streamlining the consolidation of criminal records, this measure aims to reinforce accountability, enhance the capacity of agencies to identify repeat offenders, and close gaps that offenders currently exploit, while ensuring that constitutional rights and data privacy standards are fully upheld.

In view of the foregoing, the passage of this bill is earnestly sought.

JONATHAN KEITH T. FLORES
2nd District of Bukidnon



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AN ACT
ESTABLISHING A CENTRALIZED DATABASE FOR CRIMINAL RECORDS,
APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR, 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 “Centralized Database for Criminal Records Act.”

SEC. 2. **Declaration of Policy.** – It is hereby declared the policy of the State to establish and maintain an efficient and integrated criminal justice system that ensures accountability and upholds the rule of law. The State shall strengthen coordination and information-sharing among law enforcement agencies, prosecutors, and the courts to prevent offenders from evading responsibility due to fragmented or incomplete records.

Toward this end, the State shall establish a centralized database for the accurate, timely, secure, and systematic consolidation of criminal records nationwide, while upholding constitutional rights and data privacy protections.

SEC. 3. **Creation of the National Criminal Records Database.** – There is hereby created a National Criminal Records Database (NCRD) which shall serve as a centralized repository of criminal records nationwide.

The NCRD shall consolidate and integrate criminal records from the following agencies:

- (a) The Philippine National Police (PNP);
- (b) The National Bureau of Investigation (NBI); and
- (c) The Philippine Drug Enforcement Agency (PDEA).

The NCRD shall be administered by the Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG), in coordination with the Department of Information and Communications Technology (DICT).

SEC. 4. **Mandatory Submission of Records.** – The PNP, NBI, and PDEA shall submit all relevant offender data to the NCRD within thirty (30) days from:

- (a) Apprehension or arrest;
- (b) Filing of charges;
- (c) Issuance of court warrants;
- (d) Promulgation of court judgment; or

- (e) Any change in the status of the criminal case.

Failure, without justifiable cause, to comply with the submission requirements shall subject the responsible officer to administrative sanctions under existing civil service rules.

SEC. 5. *Standardized Digital Format.* – All submissions to the NCRD shall follow a standardized digital format prescribed jointly by the DILG and DICT. The format shall ensure interoperability, data accuracy, biometric integration where applicable, and compatibility with existing investigative systems.

SEC. 6. *Integration with Existing Systems.* – The NCRD shall be integrated with existing PNP investigative tools and databases, including but not limited to:

- (a) The Investigation Solution Automatic Verification (ISAV) System;
- (b) The Crime Information Reporting and Analysis System (CIRAS);
- (c) The e-Rogue Gallery; and
- (d) The Enhanced e-Warrant System.

Such integration shall ensure real-time verification of identities and criminal records across local government units (LGUs).

SEC. 7. *Authorized Users.* – Access to the NCRD shall be strictly limited to:

- (a) Law enforcement officers conducting official investigations or background checks;
- (b) Judges and prosecutors handling criminal cases; and
- (c) Government agencies conducting security clearances and background checks for sensitive or high-security positions.

All access shall be logged and subject to audit to prevent misuse.

SEC. 8. *Use for Criminal Record Clearance.* – The NCRD shall be utilized to ensure the expeditious, systematic, and reliable issuance of criminal record clearances. All clearances issued shall reflect consolidated nationwide records.

SEC. 9. *Rights of Apprehended or Convicted Individuals.* – The rights of apprehended, accused, or convicted individuals shall at all times be respected. Such individuals shall have the right to:

- (a) Review and verify their records in the NCRD;
- (b) Seek correction of inaccurate or incomplete data; and
- (c) Seek removal or alteration of their records in cases where their conviction has been expunged or pardoned.

SEC. 10. *Confidentiality and Data Protection.* – All records maintained in the NCRD shall be treated as confidential and shall be processed in accordance with the Data Privacy Act of 2012 and other applicable laws and regulations.

Unauthorized access, disclosure, alteration, or misuse of data shall be penalized in accordance with existing laws and applicable administrative and criminal penalties.

SEC. 11. *Inter-Agency Cooperation.* – All government agencies concerned shall cooperate fully in establishing protocols for secure data transmission, verification, sharing, and release consistent with this Act.

SEC. 12. ***Implementing Rules and Regulations.*** – Within ninety (90) days from the effectivity of this Act, the DILG, in coordination with the DICT, PNP, NBI, PDEA, and the Department of Justice (DOJ), shall promulgate the necessary Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR).

SEC. 13. ***Appropriations.*** – The amount necessary for the implementation of this Act shall be included in the General Appropriations Act of the year following its enactment into law and thereafter.

SEC. 14. ***Separability Clause.*** – If any provision of this Act is declared unconstitutional or invalid, the other provisions not affected thereby shall remain in full force and effect.

SEC. 15. ***Repealing Clause.*** – All laws, decrees, orders, rules, and regulations inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SEC. 16. ***Effectivity.*** – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,