

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

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

House Bill No. 8531



Introduced by Representatives JEFFREY SORIANO and JOCELYN P. TULFO

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill seeks to mandate the installation and maintenance of closed-circuit television (CCTV) systems in barangay posts and other strategic locations under the jurisdiction of local government units (LGUs) in order to enhance public safety, deter criminal activity, and strengthen community-based security mechanisms.

Barangays serve as the frontline units of governance and play a critical role in maintaining peace and order within communities. However, many barangays lack adequate technological resources to effectively monitor public spaces, respond to emergencies, and assist law enforcement agencies in crime prevention and investigation. The installation of CCTV systems in key areas such as barangay posts, public markets, entrances to barangay roads, covered courts, and evacuation centers will significantly improve surveillance capabilities and help ensure a safer environment for residents.

Visible monitoring devices can discourage unlawful activities, while recorded footage may provide valuable evidence to support law enforcement investigations and legal proceedings. Moreover, the presence of surveillance systems in high-traffic and incident-prone areas can facilitate faster response during emergencies and promote accountability in the management of public spaces.

The bill also provides clear provisions regulating the access, use, and storage of CCTV recordings. Access to footage shall be limited to authorized personnel and may only be disclosed for official investigations, court proceedings, or emergency response purposes. Furthermore, all recordings shall be managed in accordance with the Data Privacy Act of 2012 to ensure that personal data and privacy rights are protected.

In view of the foregoing, the immediate approval of this measure is earnestly sought.


HON. JEFFREY SORIANO


HON. JOCELYN P. TULFO

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House Bill No. **8531**

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AN ACT
MANDATING THE INSTALLATION OF CLOSED-CIRCUIT TELEVISION
SYSTEMS IN BARANGAY POSTS AND OTHER SPECIFIC LOCATIONS
UNDER THE JURISDICTION OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNITS TO
ENHANCE PUBLIC SAFETY AND SECURITY, AND APPROPRIATING 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 “*Barangay CCTV Surveillance Act.*”

SEC. 2. *Declaration of Policy.* — It is hereby declared the policy of the State to protect life, liberty, and property, and to maintain peace and order through modern and proactive public safety mechanisms. To this end, the State shall institutionalize the installation of security monitoring systems in all barangay posts and strategic public areas to deter crime, support law enforcement, and promote community safety.

SEC. 3 *Definition of Terms.* — For the purposes of this Act, the following terms are defined as follows:

a. Closed-Circuit Television (CCTV) refers to an electronic surveillance system that transmits video footage to a specific set of monitors for security and monitoring purposes;

b. Security Monitoring System refers to CCTV cameras, recording equipment, storage devices, and associated technologies designed to observe, record, and manage surveillance footage; and

c. Barangay Post refers to any physical office, outpost, or satellite facility established by a barangay government to carry out its administrative and law enforcement functions.

SEC. 4. *Installation of Security Monitoring Systems.* — All barangays across the country are hereby mandated to install and maintain high-quality CCTV systems in their respective barangay posts and other critical areas under their jurisdiction, including, but is not limited to, public markets, entrances to barangay roads, covered courts, and evacuation centers. CCTV units shall be capable of recording clear, high-definition footage suitable for identification and investigative purposes, with night vision and weather-resistant features where necessary. Each area under surveillance must also have visible signage clearly indicating the presence of CCTV cameras to inform the public and promote transparency.

SEC. 5. *Purposes of Security Monitoring.* — The use of CCTV systems under this Act shall serve the following purposes:

- a. Deter criminal activity and unlawful acts;
- b. Provide investigative support to law enforcement agencies;
- c. Monitor high-traffic public areas and incident-prone zones;
- d. Facilitate quick and coordinated response during emergencies; and
- e. Strengthen public trust and accountability in community governance.

SEC. 6. *Prohibited Acts.* — The following acts shall be prohibited:

- a. Tampering with, disabling, or destroying CCTV equipment;
- b. Unauthorized access to, or misuse of, recorded footage;
- c. Use of CCTV systems for political, commercial, or personal gain; and
- d. Filming of private areas such as inside homes or restrooms.

SEC. 7. *Access and Disclosure of Recordings.* — Access to CCTV recordings shall be restricted to authorized personnel and may only be disclosed for:

- a. *Official investigations by law enforcement agencies;*
- b. Legal proceedings upon court order; and
- c. Emergency response and public safety purposes.

SEC. 8. *Data Retention and Storage.* — Recorded footage shall be retained for a *minimum of sixty (60) days, unless required for ongoing investigations or judicial processes.* Storage devices must be secured and protected from tampering, theft, or unauthorized access.

SEC. 9. *Data Protection.* — All recordings shall be managed in accordance with the provisions of Republic Act No. 10173, otherwise known as the “*Data Privacy Act of 2012*”, and any applicable rules issued by the National Privacy Commission.

SEC. 10. *Penalties.* — Any person found guilty of violating any provision of this Act shall be penalized with imprisonment of not less than one (1) year but not more than three (3) years, and/or a fine of not less than Fifty Thousand Pesos (P50,000) but not more than Two Hundred Thousand Pesos (P200,000), without prejudice to any administrative or criminal liability under existing laws.

SEC. 11. *Appropriations.* — The amount necessary for the initial implementation of this Act shall be charged to the funds of the respective LGUs. Thereafter, the necessary funds shall be included in the annual budget of the LGUs. National government agencies may also provide supplemental funding and grants.

SEC. 12. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.* — Within sixty (60) days from the effectivity of this Act, the Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG), in coordination with the Department of Information and Communications Technology (DICT), National Privacy Commission (NPC), and other concerned agencies, shall promulgate the necessary rules and regulations for the effective implementation of this Act.

SEC. 13. *Separability Clause.* — If any portion or provision of this Act is declared invalid or unconstitutional, other provisions hereof shall remain in full force and effect.

SEC. 14. *Repealing Clause.* — All laws, presidential decrees, executive orders, rules and regulations which are inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or amended accordingly.

SEC. 15. *Effectivity.* — This Act shall take effect fifteen days (15) after its publication in the Official Gazette or in a national newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,