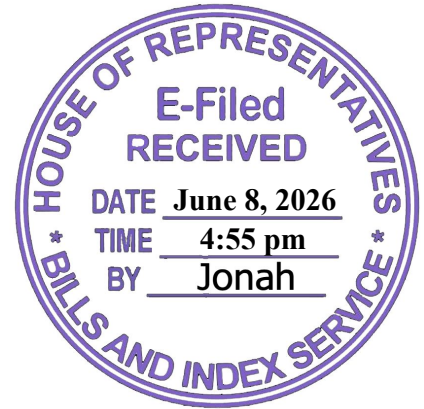


Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City, Metro Manila

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

House Bill No. 9839



Introduced by Representative JEFFREY SORIANO

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill seeks to require the installation of Closed-Circuit Television (CCTV) systems in government service counters and public areas. It strengthens Republic Act No. 6713, otherwise known as the "*Code of Conduct and Ethical Standards for Public Officials and Employees*," and also establishes accessible public service hotlines for reporting misconduct, unethical behavior, and violations committed by public officials and employees.

Public office is a public trust. Government agencies are expected to deliver services with integrity, accountability, transparency, and professionalism. However, complaints involving discourteous conduct, inefficiency, abuse of authority, solicitation of favors, and other forms of misconduct continue to erode public confidence in government institutions. In many instances, the absence of effective monitoring mechanisms and accessible reporting channels discourages citizens from reporting wrongdoing and seeking redress.

This bill institutionalizes the use of CCTV monitoring systems in government offices and establishes confidential reporting hotlines to promote greater accountability, improve service delivery, and strengthen public trust in government. It likewise ensures that all recorded footage and reports are handled in accordance with applicable privacy and data protection laws while supporting the effective enforcement of ethical standards in the public sector.

Integrity, transparency, and accountability are fundamental pillars of good governance. The adoption of modern mechanisms to enhance oversight and encourage public participation in reporting misconduct will help significantly in upholding the highest standards of ethical conduct in public service and in ensuring that government remains responsive to the people it serves.

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


HON. JEFFREY SORIANO

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

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

House Bill No. **9839**

Introduced by **Representative JEFFREY SORIANO**

AN ACT
MANDATING THE INSTALLATION OF CLOSED-CIRCUIT TELEVISION SYSTEMS AT GOVERNMENT TRANSACTION COUNTERS AND THE ESTABLISHMENT OF PUBLIC SERVICE HOTLINES, STRENGTHENING TRANSPARENCY, ACCOUNTABILITY, AND RESPONSIVENESS IN GOVERNMENT SERVICE DELIVERY, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 6713, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE "CODE OF CONDUCT AND ETHICAL STANDARDS FOR PUBLIC OFFICIALS AND EMPLOYEES"

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

Section 1. A new Section 5-A is hereby inserted after Section 5 of Republic Act No. 6713, otherwise known as the "*Code of Conduct and Ethical Standards for Public Officials and Employees*", to read as follows:

"SEC. 5-A. CCTV INSTALLATION AT TRANSACTION COUNTERS. - ALL GOVERNMENT OFFICES AND AGENCIES MUST INSTALL CLOSED-CIRCUIT TELEVISION (CCTV) CAMERAS AT THEIR SERVICE COUNTERS AND PUBLIC AREAS. THIS IS TO:

"(A) IMPROVE TRANSPARENCY IN GOVERNMENT TRANSACTIONS;

"(B) PREVENT AND RECORD CORRUPT OR UNETHICAL BEHAVIOR; AND

"(C) ENSURE THE SAFETY OF BOTH OFFICIALS AND CITIZENS.

"ONLY AUTHORIZED PERSONNEL CAN ACCESS RECORDED FOOTAGE, WHICH CAN ONLY BE USED FOR OFFICIAL INVESTIGATIONS INTO MISCONDUCT. THIS FOOTAGE MUST BE HANDLED ACCORDING TO DATA PRIVACY LAWS TO PROTECT INDIVIDUALS' RIGHTS.

"EACH OFFICE OR AGENCY MUST SUBMIT AN ANNUAL REPORT TO THE CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION DETAILING THE STATUS OF THEIR CCTV SYSTEMS, MAINTENANCE, AND ANY MISCONDUCT ISSUES REPORTED."

SEC. 2. A new Section 5-B shall be inserted after the new Section 5-A of the same Act to read as follows:

"SEC. 5-B. PUBLIC SERVICE HOTLINE FOR REPORTING MISCONDUCT. - ALL GOVERNMENT OFFICES AND AGENCIES MUST HAVE CLEAR AND EASILY ACCESSIBLE HOTLINES (BY PHONE, SMS, OR ONLINE) FOR THE PUBLIC AND EMPLOYEES TO REPORT UNETHICAL BEHAVIOR, MISCONDUCT, OR VIOLATIONS CONFIDENTIALLY.

"THESE HOTLINES WILL KEEP REPORTS CONFIDENTIAL AND PROTECT THE IDENTITIES OF THOSE REPORTING. REPORTS WILL BE SENT TO THE APPROPRIATE AUTHORITIES FOR INVESTIGATION."

SEC. 3. *Repealing Clause.* - All laws, decrees, executive orders, issuances, rules and regulations which may be inconsistent with any of the provisions of this Act are hereby deemed repealed, amended or modified accordingly.

SEC. 4. *Separability Clause.* - If any provision of this Act is held unconstitutional or invalid, such holding shall not affect other provisions not affected thereby.

SEC. 5. *Effectivity.* - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,