

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
Second Regular Session

House Bill No. **10722**



Introduced by **Rep. ANGELO MARCOS BARBA**
2nd District, Ilocos Norte

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The Constitution mandates transparency and accountability in public service, specifically upholding the people's right to information on matters of public concern. These principles necessitate meaningful citizen access to information regarding the expenditure of public funds, particularly concerning government infrastructure projects.

Infrastructure projects consume a substantial portion of the annual national budget. Despite this, recurring reports of project delays, cost overruns, defective construction, abandoned sites, and alleged "ghost" projects continue to undermine public trust and deprive communities of essential infrastructure and services.

Over the years, the Commission on Audit (COA) consistently found significant implementation deficiencies. In its 2024 report on the Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH), the COA identified 747 projects worth approximately ₱6.5 billion as defective, unusable, idle, or incomplete.¹ Auditors reported that over ₱138 billion worth of projects remained delayed², suspended, or unimplemented due to inadequate planning, engineering, and monitoring.

Similar implementation failures persist across other government agencies, often exacerbated by weak inter-agency coordination and administrative bottlenecks.

More alarming are reports regarding "ghost" or non-existent infrastructure projects. Recent investigations identified hundreds of suspected

¹Flores, D. (2025, December 4). COA finds 747 'unusable, idle' DPWH projects in 2024. *PhilStar*. Retrieved from <https://www.philstar.com/headlines/2025/12/04/2491664/coa-finds-747-unusable-idle-dpwh-projects-2024>

²Salonga, K. (2025, December 3). COA: P138B in DPWH projects implemented inefficiently; P1.9B marked 'completed' found deficient. *ABS-CBN News*. Retrieved from <https://www.abs-cbn.com/news/nation/2025/12/3/coa-p138b-in-dpwh-projects-implemented-inefficiently-p1-9b-marked-completed-found-deficient-2058>

fraudulent flood control projects nationwide. Other inquiries revealed projects reported as completed despite a total absence of implementation on the ground.

These revelations have triggered widespread public outrage and urgent calls for enhanced transparency and accountability.

Clearly, a fundamental governance gap persists.

While existing laws mandate procurement and budgetary transparency, the government lacks a centralized, integrated, and publicly accessible platform to monitor infrastructure projects throughout their entire lifecycle—from planning and funding to procurement, implementation, and turnover.

This measure therefore seeks to establish a National Infrastructure Transparency, Accountability, and Project Lifecycle Monitoring System (NITAPMS) and create a specialized bureau under the Department of Information and Communications Technology (DICT) to implement, manage, and secure the system. The System shall function strictly as a transparency and interoperability platform, consolidating infrastructure data from existing government systems without supplanting procurement, audit, planning, or implementing authorities. It shall ensure that infrastructure data is publicly accessible, standardized, and continuously updated. In doing so, this Act strengthens transparency, promotes accountability, enhances public trust, and advances digital governance in infrastructure delivery.

By institutionalizing comprehensive transparency, this measure shall strengthen public trust, deter corruption, improve project delivery, and ensure the efficient utilization of public funds for the benefit of the Filipino people.

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



ANGELO MARCOS BARBA

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AN ACT
INSTITUTIONALIZING THE NATIONAL INFRASTRUCTURE
TRANSPARENCY, ACCOUNTABILITY, AND PROJECT LIFECYCLE
MONITORING SYSTEM, CREATING THE BUREAU OF
INFRASTRUCTURE TRANSPARENCY AND SYSTEMS
INTEGRATION UNDER THE DEPARTMENT OF INFORMATION
AND COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY,
AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

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

ARTICLE I
GENERAL PROVISIONS

SECTION 1. *Short Title.* — This Act shall be known as the "**National Public Infrastructure Transparency, Monitoring, and Accountability Act.**"

SECTION. 2. *Declaration of Policy.* — It is the policy of the State to uphold transparency, accountability, integrity, efficiency, citizen participation, and openness in governance. The State recognizes the people's right to information on matters of public concern and shall ensure timely public access to information relating to publicly funded infrastructure projects. Toward this end, the State shall establish a centralized, interoperable, technology-driven, and publicly accessible digital system for the disclosure, monitoring, verification, and oversight of government infrastructure projects.

SECTION 3. *Objectives.* — This Act seeks to:

- (a) Institutionalize transparency throughout the infrastructure project lifecycle;

- (b) Strengthen public accountability and oversight;
- (c) Prevent corruption, fraud, ghost projects, project duplication, and wastage of public funds;
- (d) Improve infrastructure planning, monitoring, and implementation;
- (e) Enhance inter-agency coordination and project delivery;
- (f) Promote evidence-based policymaking and decision-making;
- (g) Establish a permanent national repository of infrastructure information; and
- (h) Advance the State's commitment to open government and digital governance.

SECTION 4. *Definition of Terms.* — As used in this Act:

- (a) *Infrastructure Project* refers to any construction, reconstruction, rehabilitation, repair, expansion, modernization, maintenance, or improvement project financed wholly or partially with public funds;
- (b) *Interoperability* refers to the standardized and secure exchange of data between government information systems;
- (c) *NIPIN* refers to the National Infrastructure Project Identification Number assigned to each covered project;
- (d) *Project Profile* refers to the complete digital record of an infrastructure project required under this Act;
- (e) *System* refers to the National Infrastructure Transparency and Project Lifecycle Monitoring System (NITAPMS); and
- (f) *Transparency Layer* refers to the public-facing digital platform that aggregates infrastructure data without exercising regulatory or adjudicatory authority.

ARTICLE II
**NATIONAL PUBLIC INFRASTRUCTURE TRANSPARENCY,
MONITORING, AND ACCOUNTABILITY SYSTEM**

SECTION 5. *Creation of the System.* — There is hereby established the National Public Infrastructure Transparency, Monitoring, and Accountability System (NPITMAS). The System shall serve as the official national digital platform and repository of information concerning all infrastructure projects covered by this Act. The System may utilize artificial intelligence, machine learning, predictive analytics, and other technologies for anomaly detection and monitoring purposes. No automated finding shall constitute conclusive evidence of wrongdoing without due process.

SECTION 6. *Coverage.* — This Act shall apply to all infrastructure projects undertaken, financed, procured, implemented, regulated, supervised, or administered by:

- (a) National Government Agencies;
- (b) Government-Owned or Controlled Corporations;
- (c) Government Financial Institutions;
- (d) State Universities and Colleges;
- (e) Constitutional Commissions;
- (f) Local Government Units;
- (g) Special Development Authorities;
- (h) Public-Private Partnership projects involving government participation; and
- (i) Other government instrumentalities.

SECTION 7. *Public Accessibility.* — The System shall be accessible to the public without charge through a dedicated web portal, mobile application, and other digital platforms as may be developed by the Bureau.

SECTION 8. *National Infrastructure Project Registry.* — All covered infrastructure projects shall be registered in the System. No covered infrastructure project shall proceed to procurement or implementation unless assigned a National Infrastructure Project Identification Number. No funds

shall be released for project implementation unless the project is registered in the System.

ARTICLE III

ESTABLISHMENT OF THE IMPLEMENTING BUREAU

SECTION 9. *Creation of the Bureau.* — There is hereby created under the Department of Information and Communications Technology (DICT) a line bureau to be known as the Bureau of Infrastructure Transparency and Systems Integration (BITSI). The Bureau shall be the principal implementing, operational, and technical authority responsible for the development, maintenance, integration, and security of the NITAPMS.

SECTION 10. *Mandate of the Bureau.* — The Bureau shall:

- (a) Develop, operate, maintain, and secure the NITAPMS;
- (b) Integrate infrastructure data from existing government systems;
- (c) Establish and enforce data standards, validation protocols, and interoperability frameworks;
- (d) Maintain a centralized national registry of all infrastructure projects;
- (e) Provide real-time and periodic public disclosure of infrastructure data;
- (f) Develop geospatial, analytical, and visualization tools for infrastructure monitoring;
- (g) Ensure cybersecurity, data integrity, and system reliability; and
- (h) Perform such other functions as may be necessary to implement this Act.

SECTION 11. *Limitation of Authority.* — The Bureau shall be strictly technical and administrative in nature and shall not exercise regulatory or licensing authority; or quasi-judicial powers.

SECTION 12. *Organizational Structure of the Bureau.* — The Bureau shall be composed of the following offices:

- (a) Office of the Director General. It shall be responsible for the overall direction, supervision, strategic management, and coordination of the Bureau, including liaison with the Infrastructure Transparency

Governing Council and oversight of all operational units;

(b) Infrastructure Data Systems, Registry, and Analytics Office. It shall serve as the central data and intelligence backbone of the Bureau and shall be responsible for the following:

(1) Development, operation, and continuous enhancement of the National Infrastructure Transparency and Project Lifecycle Monitoring System;

(2) Establishment and enforcement of data standards, interoperability protocols, and structured reporting requirements across all covered agencies;

(3) Maintenance and administration of the National Infrastructure Project Registry, including the assignment and management of the National Infrastructure Project Identification Number;

(4) Integration, validation, cleansing, and consolidation of infrastructure project data from all participating government systems;

(5) Generation of infrastructure analytics, performance monitoring reports, and predictive trend assessments;

(6) Development and maintenance of geospatial mapping, visualization dashboards, and real-time monitoring tools; and

(7) Ensuring consistency, accuracy, and completeness of all infrastructure-related datasets within the System.

(c) Cybersecurity, Data Protection, Systems Integrity, and Operations Office. This Office shall be responsible for the secure and reliable operation of the entire System infrastructure, including both technical security and operational continuity. It shall have the following functions:

(1) Implementation of cybersecurity frameworks, encryption protocols, and access control systems;

(2) Protection against unauthorized access, data breaches, system manipulation, and cyber threats;

(3) Enforcement of data privacy and information security standards;

- (4) Continuous monitoring of system integrity, uptime, and operational performance;
 - (5) Disaster recovery planning, backup systems, and business continuity management; and
 - (6) Coordination with national cybersecurity and law enforcement agencies when necessary.
- (d) Public Transparency, Citizen Engagement, and Communications Office. This Office shall be responsible for the public-facing dimension of the Bureau's mandate and shall ensure that infrastructure data is accessible, understandable, and actionable to the public. It shall have the following functions:
- (1) Management of the public transparency portal of the System;
 - (2) Design and dissemination of infrastructure data visualizations, reports, and public dashboards;
 - (3) Administration of citizen reporting, feedback, and grievance mechanisms;
 - (4) Facilitation of public engagement, consultations, and transparency initiatives; and
 - (5) Communication of infrastructure performance information in clear, standardized, and accessible formats.
- (e) Legal, Compliance, and Policy Office. The Legal, Compliance, and Policy Office shall be responsible for ensuring that all operations of the Bureau are consistent with applicable laws, rules, and institutional mandates. It shall perform the following functions:
- (1) Legal review of all internal issuances, technical standards, and operational guidelines;
 - (2) Lead and act as the primary Secretariat of the Governing Council;
 - (3) Drafting and review of data-sharing agreements, memoranda of understanding, and inter-agency coordination instruments;
 - (4) Monitoring compliance with procurement, audit, data privacy, cybersecurity, and administrative law frameworks;

- (5) Coordination with oversight bodies, including the Commission on Audit, the Office of the Ombudsman, and the Department of Justice, as may be necessary; and
- (6) Provision of legal advisory services to the Director General and all offices of the Bureau; and
- (f) Administrative, Finance, and Human Resource Management Office. The Administrative, Finance, and Human Resource Management Office shall be responsible for internal administrative operations, including personnel services, budget preparation support, procurement for internal requirements, records management, and general administrative services.

SECTION 13. *Director General and Deputies of the Bureau.* — The Bureau shall be headed by a Director General, appointed by the President of the Philippines upon recommendation of the Secretary of the DICT. The Director General shall have the rank, emoluments, and privileges equivalent to an Undersecretary and shall possess at least fifteen (15) years of relevant experience in digital governance, law, information systems, public administration, infrastructure management, or related fields.

The Director General shall be assisted by two (2) Deputy Directors General, each with the rank equivalent to Assistant Secretary, and shall possess at least ten (10) years of relevant experience in digital governance, law, information systems, public administration, infrastructure management, or related fields.

SECTION 14. *Infrastructure Transparency Governing Council.* — There is hereby created an Infrastructure Transparency Governing Council to provide policy direction and inter-agency coordination. The Council shall be composed of the Secretary of Information and Communications Technology as Chairperson and the following as members:

- (a) Secretary of the of Public Works and Highways;**
- (b) Secretary of Budget and Management;**
- (c) Secretary of the Department of Economy, Planning, and Development;**
- (d) Secretary of the Interior and Local Government;**

(e) Executive Director of the Government Procurement Policy Board; and

(f) Two (2) representatives from duly recognized civil society organizations engaged in transparency, governance reform, or infrastructure accountability.

They may designate a permanent representative not lower than Assistant Secretary or its equivalent.

The Bureau shall serve as the permanent Secretariat of the Governing Council.

ARTICLE IV NATIONAL INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECT REGISTRY

SECTION 15. *Mandatory Registration.* — All infrastructure projects shall be registered in the System and assigned a permanent NIPIN prior to implementation.

No covered infrastructure project shall proceed without registration.

SECTION 16. *Required Project Data.* — Each project shall include:

- (a) Project identification, description, and location;
- (b) Implementing agency and funding source;
- (c) Approved Budget for the Contract and total project cost;
- (d) Procurement and contractor information via interoperable systems under Republic Act No. 12009 (R.A. No. 12009) or the New Government Procurement Act;
- (e) Implementation status, milestones, and completion data;
- (f) Variations, suspensions, delays, and post-completion reports; and
- (g) Such other information as may be required by the Council.

SECTION 16-A. *Real-Time Reporting and Updating.* — Covered agencies shall update project information within ten (10) working days from the occurrence of any material event affecting project implementation.

Failure to comply without justifiable cause shall constitute neglect of duty and shall subject the responsible officials to administrative liability.

SECTION 16-B. *Mandatory Disclosure of Variation Orders and Project Extensions.* — All variation orders, contract amendments, supplemental agreements, scope modifications, cost adjustments, and project extensions shall be uploaded to the System within five (5) working days from approval.

SECTION 17. *Accountability Mapping.* — Each project shall disclose institutional roles limited to official functions, including:

- (a) Implementing agency;
- (b) Funding authority;
- (c) DEPDev planning linkage;
- (d) Procurement entity;
- (e) Supervising and inspection offices; and
- (f) Such other institutions and institutional roles as may be required by the Council.

ARTICLE V SYSTEM INTEROPERABILITY

SECTION 18. *Integration Principle.* — The System shall function as a transparency and interoperability layer and shall integrate data from procurement systems under RA 12009; DBM budget and disbursement systems; DEPDev planning systems; agency monitoring systems; and local government reporting systems.

SECTION 19. *Non-Preemption Clause.* — Nothing in this Act shall amend procurement laws; diminish DEPDev authority; affect COA independence; impair LGU autonomy; or establish a parallel regulatory authority.

SECTION 20. *Data Privacy and Cybersecurity Compliance.* — Only publicly released COA reports may be linked in the System. The System shall not interfere with audit independence or processes. Further, only necessary institutional and project-related data shall be disclosed. Nothing in this Act shall authorize the disclosure of information protected under the

Constitution, the Data Privacy Act, banking laws, procurement confidentiality provisions, trade secret protections, national security laws, or other applicable laws.

ARTICLE VI PUBLIC ACCESS AND PARTICIPATION

SECTION 21. *Transparency Portal.* — The System shall provide public access to the following:

- (a) Infrastructure project registry;
- (b) Geospatial mapping;
- (c) Budget tracking;
- (d) Contractor profiles; and
- (e) Project lifecycle status.

SECTION 22. *Citizen Reporting.* — Citizens may report infrastructure concerns such as delays, defects, or irregularities, subject to validation and agency referral.

ARTICLE VII PROHIBITED ACTS AND LIABILITY

SECTION 23. *Prohibited Acts.* — The following acts shall be prohibited:

- (a) Falsification of infrastructure data;
- (b) Suppression of required disclosures;
- (c) Tampering with official records;
- (d) Obstruction of public access; and
- (e) Failure to register covered projects.

Administrative liability shall attach under civil service laws, and criminal liability shall apply under applicable penal statutes for fraud, falsification, or corruption.

ARTICLE VIII
FINAL PROVISIONS

SECTION 24. *Appropriations.* — The amount necessary for the initial implementation of this Act shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

SECTION 25. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.* — Within one hundred twenty (120) days from the effectivity of this Act, the Council shall promulgate the necessary rules and regulations.

SECTION 26. *Separability Clause.* — If any provision of this Act is declared unconstitutional, the remaining provisions shall remain in full force and effect.

SECTION 27. *Repealing Clause.* — All laws, executive orders, rules, and regulations inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed, amended, or modified accordingly.

SECTION 28. *Effectivity.* — This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,