



Republic of the Philippines  
**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**  
Quezon City

**TWENTIETH CONGRESS**  
First Regular Session



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**COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 352**

Submitted by the Committees on Public Information and Information and Communications Technology on May 26, 2026

Re: House Bill No. 9465

Recommending its approval in substitution of House Bills Numbered 251, 299, 520, 2697, 3472, 3799, 4160, 4544, 4562, 4965, 5241, 5330, 6314, 6969, 8817, and 8871

Sponsors: Representatives Lordan G. Suan, Miguel Luis R. Villafuerte, Antonino B. Roman III, and Agatha Paula Aguilar Cruz

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Mr. Speaker:

The Committees on Public Information and Information and Communications Technology, to which were referred House Bill No. **251**, introduced by Representatives Lani Mercado-Revilla, Bryan B. Revilla and Ramon Jolo B. Revilla III, entitled:

**“AN ACT CRIMINALIZING THE CREATION AND DISSEMINATION OF FAKE NEWS FOR THE PROTECTION OF ONLINE CONSUMERS FROM FALSEHOODS AND MANIPULATION, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE, REPUBLIC ACT NO. 10175, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE CYBERCRIME PREVENTION ACT OF 2012”**

House Bill No. **299**, introduced by Representative Salvador A. Pleyto, entitled:

**“AN ACT PENALIZING THE PUBLICATION AND DISSEMINATION OF FALSE CONTENT ON SOCIAL MEDIA PLATFORMS”**

House Bill No. **520**, introduced by Representative Reynante U. Arrogancia, entitled:

**“AN ACT PENALIZING THE CREATION AND DISSEMINATION OF DISINFORMATION, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE, REPUBLIC ACT NO. 10175, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE CYBERCRIME PREVENTION ACT OF 2012”**

House Bill No. **2697**, introduced by Representative Ferdinand Alexander A. Marcos, entitled:

**“AN ACT PENALIZING THE MALICIOUS AND DELIBERATE DISSEMINATION OF FALSE INFORMATION THAT UNDERMINES PUBLIC ORDER OR NATIONAL SECURITY, STRENGTHENING REGULATIONS ON FAKE NEWS THROUGH DIGITAL PLATFORMS, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”**

House Bill No. **3472**, introduced by Representative Jan “Atty. JP” Padiernos, entitled:

**“AN ACT ENSURING THE INTEGRITY AND RESILIENCE OF ONLINE INFORMATION BY DETERRING ALL FORMS OF ONLINE FALSEHOODS AND DISINFORMATION”**

House Bill No. **3799**, introduced by Representatives Rufus B. Rodriguez and Maximo B. Rodriguez Jr., entitled:

**“AN ACT PENALIZING THE MALICIOUS AND DELIBERATE DISSEMINATION OF FALSE INFORMATION THAT UNDERMINES PUBLIC ORDER OR NATIONAL SECURITY, STRENGTHENING REGULATIONS ON FAKE NEWS THROUGH DIGITAL PLATFORMS, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”**

House Bill No. **4160**, introduced by Representative Eduardo “Bro. Eddie” C. Villanueva:

**“AN ACT PENALIZING THE MALICIOUS DISTRIBUTION OF FALSE NEWS AND OTHER RELATED VIOLATIONS”**

House Bill No. **4544**, introduced by Representative Antonino B. Roman III, entitled:

**“AN ACT STRENGTHENING TRANSPARENCY, ACCOUNTABILITY, AND DIGITAL LITERACY TO COMBAT DISINFORMATION, MISINFORMATION, MALINFORMATION, AND COORDINATED INAUTHENTIC BEHAVIOR ONLINE, RECOGNIZING AN INDEPENDENT MULTI-SECTORAL ETHICAL BODY, WITHOUT INFRINGING ON FREEDOM OF SPEECH AND THE PRESS, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”**

House Bill No. **4562**, introduced by Representative Richard I. Gomez, DPA, entitled:

**“AN ACT RESTRAINING AND PENALIZING THE MALICIOUS AND DELIBERATE DISSEMINATION OF FALSE INFORMATION THAT UNDERMINES PUBLIC ORDER OR NATIONAL SECURITY, STRENGTHENING REGULATIONS ON FAKE NEWS THROUGH DIGITAL AND MAINSTREAM MEDIA PLATFORMS, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”**

House Bill No. **4965**, introduced by Representatives Eric Go Yap and Edvic G. Yap, entitled:

**“AN ACT PENALIZING THE MALICIOUS AND DELIBERATE DISSEMINATION OF FALSE INFORMATION THAT UNDERMINES PUBLIC ORDER OR NATIONAL SECURITY, STRENGTHENING REGULATIONS ON FAKE NEWS THROUGH DIGITAL PLATFORMS, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”**

House Bill No. **5241**, introduced by Representative Brian Raymund S. Yamsuan, entitled:

**“AN ACT PENALIZING THE MALICIOUS AND DELIBERATE DISSEMINATION OF FALSE INFORMATION THAT UNDERMINES PUBLIC ORDER OR NATIONAL SECURITY, STRENGTHENING REGULATIONS ON FAKE NEWS THROUGH DIGITAL PLATFORMS, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”**

House Bill No. **5330**, introduced by Representative Keith Micah “Atty. Mike” D.L. Tan, entitled:

**“AN ACT PENALIZING THE PUBLICATION AND PROLIFERATION OF FALSE CONTENT ON THE PHILIPPINE INTERNET”**

House Bill No. **6314**, introduced by Representatives Miguel Luis R. Villafuerte, Vincenzo Renato Luigi R. Villafuerte, Tsuyoshi Anthony “Hori” G. Horibata and Terry L. Ridon, entitled:

**“AN ACT PENALIZING THE MALICIOUS AND DELIBERATE DISSEMINATION OF FALSE INFORMATION THAT UNDERMINES PUBLIC ORDER OR NATIONAL SECURITY, STRENGTHENING REGULATIONS ON FAKE NEWS THROUGH DIGITAL PLATFORMS, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”**

House Bill No. **6969**, introduced by Representative Bai Dimple I. Mastura, entitled:

**“AN ACT AMENDING SECTIONS 3 AND 4 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 10175 OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE “CYBERCRIME PREVENTION ACT OF 2012”**

House Bill No. **8817**, introduced by Representative Juan Carlos “Arjo” C. Atayde, entitled:

**“AN ACT PENALIZING THE MALICIOUS AND DELIBERATE DISSEMINATION OF FALSE INFORMATION THAT UNDERMINES PUBLIC ORDER OR NATIONAL SECURITY, STRENGTHENING REGULATIONS ON FAKE NEWS THROUGH DIGITAL PLATFORMS, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”**

and House Bill No. **8871**, introduced by Representative Eduardo “Bro. Eddie” C. Villanueva, entitled:

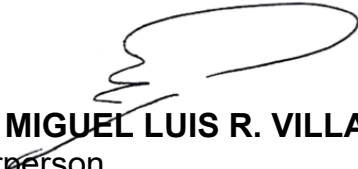
**“AN ACT PENALIZING THE MALICIOUS PUBLICATION OF FALSE NEWS AGAINST A PERSON”**

have considered the same and recommend that the attached House Bill No. **9465**, entitled:

**“AN ACT PROHIBITING THE DELIBERATE DISSEMINATION OF FALSE INFORMATION THAT POSES VERIFIABLE PUBLIC HARM OR SERIOUS THREAT TO NATIONAL SECURITY, ESTABLISHING DIGITAL PLATFORM ACCOUNTABILITY AND TRANSPARENCY MECHANISMS, AND PROMOTING MEDIA AND DIGITAL LITERACY”**

be approved in substitution of House Bills Numbered 251, 299, 520, 2697, 3472, 3799, 4160, 4544, 4562, 4965, 5241, 5330, 6314, 6969, 8817, and 8871 with Representatives Ferdinand Alexander A. Marcos, Antonino B. Roman III, Lordan G. Suan, Miguel Luis R. Villafuerte, Ruth M. Sakaluran, Brian Raymund S. Yamsuan, Charisse Anne C. Hernandez, Ma. Victoria Co-Pilar, Eduardo R. Rama Jr., Patrick Michael D. Vargas, Maria Rachel J. Arenas, Franz S. Pumaren, Lolita T. Javier, Howard A. Guintu, Lani Mercado-Revilla, Bryan B. Revilla, Ramon Jolo B. Revilla III, Noel “Bong” N. Rivera, Roy M. Loyola, Salvador A. Pleyto, Reynante U. Arrogancia, Steve Chiongbian Solon, Linabelle Ruth R. Villarica, Iris Marie Demesa Montes, Jan “Atty. JP” Padiernos, Rufus B. Rodriguez, Maximo B. Rodriguez Jr., Ramil Laurel Hernandez, Albert S. Garcia, Eduardo “Bro Eddie” C. Villanueva, Leody “Odie” F. Tarriela, Adrian E. Salceda, Arthur F. Celeste, Julienne “Jam” L. Baronda, Bernadette S. Barbers, Emerson D. Pascual, Marlo C. Bancoro, Juan Carlos “Arjo” C. Atayde, Esmael G. Mangudadatu, Angelo Marcos Barba, Eric L. Olivarez, Gil “Kabarangay Jr.” Acosta, Julius Cesar “Jay” V. Vergara, Alexandria “Queenie” Gonzales, Maria Vanessa “Vanvan” C. Aumentado, RN, Atty. Jennifer “Karen” A. Lagbas, Antolin A. Oreta III, Ma. Nina Francesca P. Lacson, Danilo “Danny” A. Domingo, Rodolfo “Ompong” M. Ordanes, Janice Degamo, Kenneth T. Gatchalian, JB Bernos, Julio A. Ledesma IV, Richard I. Gomez, DPA, Eric Go Yap, Edvic G. Yap, Nathaniel M. Oducado, Keith Micah “Atty. Mike” D.L. Tan, Vincenzo Renato Luigi R. Villafuerte, Tsuyoshi Anthony “Hori” G. Horibata, Terry L. Ridon, Ronaldo V. Puno, Anna Victoria Veloso-Tuazon, Bai Dimple I. Mastura, Jesus “Jess” R. Marquez, Bambi B. Emano, Francisco Paolo P. Ortega V, Ann Matibag, and Aniela Bianca D. Tolentino as authors thereof.

Respectfully submitted,



**Rep. MIGUEL LUIS R. VILLAFUERTE**  
Chairperson  
Committee on Information and  
Communications Technology



**Rep. LORDAN G. SUAN**  
Chairperson  
Committee on Public Information

**THE HONORABLE SPEAKER**  
House of Representatives  
Quezon City



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

**TWENTIETH CONGRESS**  
First Regular Session

**House Bill No. 9465**

(In substitution of House Bills Numbered 251, 299, 520, 2697, 3472, 3799, 4160, 4544, 4562, 4965, 5241, 5330, 6314, 6969, 8817, and 8871)

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Introduced by Representatives Ferdinand Alexander A. Marcos, Antonino B. Roman III, Lordan G. Suan, Miguel Luis R. Villafuerte, Ruth M. Sakaluran, Brian Raymund S. Yamsuan, Charisse Anne C. Hernandez, Ma. Victoria Co-Pilar, Eduardo R. Rama Jr., Patrick Michael D. Vargas, Maria Rachel J. Arenas, Franz S. Pumaren, Lolita T. Javier, Howard A. Guintu, Lani Mercado-Revilla, Bryan B. Revilla, Ramon Jolo B. Revilla III, Noel "Bong" N. Rivera, Roy M. Loyola, Salvador A. Pleyto, Reynante U. Arrogancia, Steve Chiongbian Solon, Linabelle Ruth R. Villarica, Iris Marie Demesa Montes, Jan "Atty. JP" Padiernos, Rufus B. Rodriguez, Maximo B. Rodriguez Jr., Ramil Laurel Hernandez, Albert S. Garcia, Eduardo "Bro Eddie" C. Villanueva, Leody "Odie" F. Tarriela, Adrian E. Salceda, Arthur F. Celeste, Julianne "Jam" L. Baronda, Bernadette S. Barbers, Emerson D. Pascual, Marlo C. Bancoro, Juan Carlos "Arjo" C. Atayde, Esmael G. Mangudadatu, Angelo Marcos Barba, Eric L. Olivarez, Gil "Kabarangay Jr." Acosta, Julius Cesar "Jay" V. Vergara, Alexandria "Queenie" Gonzales, Maria Vanessa "Van-van" C. Aumentado, RN, Atty. Jennifer "Karen" A. Lagbas, Antolin A. Oreta III, Ma. Nina Francesca P. Lacson, Danilo "Danny" A. Domingo, Rodolfo "Ompong" M. Ordanes, Janice Degamo, Kenneth T. Gatchalian, JB Bernos, Julio A. Ledesma IV, Richard I. Gomez, DPA, Eric Go Yap, Edvic G. Yap, Nathaniel M. Oducado, Keith Micah "Atty. Mike" D.L. Tan, Vincenzo Renato Luigi R. Villafuerte, Tsuyoshi Anthony "Hori" G. Horibata, Terry L. Ridon, Ronaldo V. Puno, Anna Victoria Veloso-Tuazon, and Bai Dimple I. Mastura, Jesus "Jess" R. Marquez, Bambi B. Emano, Francisco Paolo P. Ortega V, Ann Matibag, and Aniela Bianca D. Tolentino

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#### **AN ACT**

**PROHIBITING THE DELIBERATE DISSEMINATION OF FALSE INFORMATION THAT POSES VERIFIABLE PUBLIC HARM OR SERIOUS THREAT TO NATIONAL SECURITY, ESTABLISHING DIGITAL PLATFORM ACCOUNTABILITY AND TRANSPARENCY MECHANISMS, AND PROMOTING MEDIA AND DIGITAL LITERACY**

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

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**CHAPTER I  
GENERAL PROVISIONS**

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**SECTION 1.** *Short Title.* This Act shall be known as the "Digital Media Anti-False Information Act".

**SEC. 2.** *Declaration of Policy.* – The State upholds the freedom of speech, of expression, and of the press, as guaranteed under Article III, Section 4 of the Constitution. It also recognizes the need to protect the public and the State from serious, malicious, and demonstrable effects of the intentional dissemination of false information through digital media that poses verifiable public harm and serious threat to national security. This Act seeks to deter and penalize such conduct as well as establish transparency, accountability, due process, and risk-mitigation standards for digital platforms.

**CHAPTER II  
DEFINITION OF TERMS**

**SEC. 3.** *Definition of Terms.* – As used in this Act:

- (a) *Ad repository* refers to a searchable, publicly accessible database maintained by platforms that includes information on all paid advertisements, including the content, sponsor identity, payor, targeting criteria, expenditure, and dates of display;
- (b) *Adequate disclosure* refers to a clear and conspicuous notice that:
- i. identifies the content as synthetically generated, materially altered, or manipulated;
  - ii. is displayed in the content itself, in accompanying metadata, labeling, watermarking, captioning, or other reasonable effective means;
  - iii. is readily visible or accessible to an ordinary user prior to or during viewing of the content; and
  - iv. is not hidden, obscured, misleading or designed to be easily removed or overlooked;
- (c) *Certified out-of-court dispute settlement (ODS) body* refers to an independent institution accredited by the Department of Information and Communications

1 Technology (DICT) to provide accessible, impartial, and non-binding dispute  
2 resolution services for user appeals of platform decisions;

3 (d) *Content* refers to any text, image, audio recording, video, animation, or other  
4 digital material published on digital platforms;

5 (e) *Coordinated inauthentic behavior (CIB)* refers to the organized use of fake  
6 accounts, impersonation, bots, deceptive networks, or concealed sponsorship  
7 to manipulate public discourse, spread falsehoods, or interfere with democratic  
8 processes, which includes to troll, click, engagement and account farms;

9 (f) *Dark patterns* refers to deceptive, manipulative, or coercive interface designs  
10 that materially distort or impair a user's ability to make free, informed, and  
11 autonomous choices, such as misleading consent flows, hidden settings, or  
12 default opt-ins;

13 (g) *Digital media* refers to any form of communication or content that is created,  
14 stored, and distributed using electronic devices and computer networks;

15 (h) *Digital platform* refers to any online service such as a social media network,  
16 messaging service, search engine, and content-sharing platform that enables  
17 users to create, upload, access, rank, recommend, share, or disseminate  
18 content to users in the Philippines;

19 (i) *Disinformation* refers to false or misleading factual information deliberately  
20 created, materially altered, or disseminated with knowledge of falsity or reckless  
21 disregard for truth, and with intent to cause serious public harm;

22 (j) *Dissemination* refers to the act of spreading information or knowledge so that it  
23 reaches many people;

24 (k) *Fact-checking organization* refers to an independent, non-partisan entity  
25 accredited either by international fact-checking bodies such as the International  
26 Fact-Checking Network, or recognized Philippine media organizations to  
27 review, verify, and assess the accuracy of information published and  
28 disseminated in online platforms;

29 (l) *Fake account* refers to an account that intentionally misrepresents the identity  
30 of a real or fictitious person for the purpose of deceiving users regarding the  
31 source, authenticity, affiliation, or sponsorship of content;

32 (m) *False information* refers to any information that is fabricated, manipulated, or  
33 presented as fact, intending to mislead the public;

- 1 (n) *Independent audit* refers to an assessment carried out by an external, qualified,  
2 and independent auditor to evaluate a platform’s compliance with its obligations  
3 under this Act, including transparency, risk assessment, and mitigation  
4 measures;
- 5 (o) *Lawful excuse* refers to circumstances in which noncompliance results from:  
6 i. compliance with another applicable law, judicial order, or binding legal  
7 obligation;  
8 ii. force majeure or extraordinary events beyond reasonable control;  
9 iii. technical impossibility, cybersecurity risks, or system integrity  
10 concerns despite reasonable diligence;  
11 iv. materially defective, unauthorized, or legally insufficient government  
12 requests; or  
13 v. other comparable circumstances demonstrating good-faith inability  
14 rather than willful refusal to comply.
- 15 (p) *Malicious intent* refers to the deliberate or reckless disregard for truth, with the  
16 purpose of causing serious harm to the public or threat to national security;
- 17 (q) *Manipulated media* refers to digital content such as image, video, or audio that  
18 has been deliberately edited, synthesized, or generated by artificial intelligence  
19 (AI) to mislead viewers;
- 20 (r) *Materially assist* refers to knowingly providing substantial operational, financial,  
21 technical, or logistical support;
- 22 (s) *Notice-and-action mechanism* refers to a standardized electronic system  
23 operated by platforms that enables users to submit notices of allegedly illegal  
24 content and requires platforms to act upon and communicate the result of such  
25 notices;
- 26 (t) *Publication* refers to the act of uploading content on a digital platform with an  
27 intent to circulate particular information to the public;
- 28 (u) *Reckless disregard for truth* refers to publication despite serious doubts as to  
29 the truthfulness of the information, or deliberate avoidance of readily available  
30 facts indicating probable falsity. It does not include mere negligence, mistake,  
31 poor judgment, failure to investigate fully, reliance on a source later proven  
32 incorrect, or good-faith interpretation of incomplete or conflicting information;

- 1 (v) *Recommender system* refers to an automated system used by platforms to  
2 determine the ranking, ordering, or prioritization of information displayed to  
3 users, based on profiling, engagement, or other algorithmic criteria;
- 4 (w) *Risk assessment* refers to a structured evaluation conducted annually by the  
5 Very large online platform in the Philippines (VLP-PH) to identify, measure, and  
6 document systemic risks related to disinformation, manipulation, civic  
7 discourse, protection of minors, and election integrity;
- 8 (x) *Serious threat to national security* refers to any activity resulting in, or creating  
9 a clear and present danger that:
- 10 (1) compromise military operations, intelligence activities, or classified  
11 defense information;
- 12 (2) interfere with the conduct of free and fair elections, such as:
- 13 (i) disseminating false announcements that election day has been  
14 postponed;
- 15 (ii) publishing fake COMELEC advisories changing polling locations or  
16 voting procedures;
- 17 (iii) falsely announcing that a candidate has withdrawn or be disqualified;
- 18 (iv) disseminating fabricated election results intended to suppress voter  
19 turnout; or
- 20 (v) creating fake COMELEC websites, social media accounts, or official  
21 notices;
- 22 (3) materially impair the lawful operations of government through unlawful  
23 acts involving violence, sabotage, or fraud; or
- 24 (4) incite or facilitate violence, sabotage, or armed hostility.
- 25 (y) *Social media platform* refers to any online service, website, or application that:
- 26 (1) Enables users to create, upload, share, or disseminate user-generated  
27 content, including but not limited to text, images, videos, and live  
28 broadcasts; or
- 29 (2) Allows for the interaction of users through features such as likes,  
30 comments, shares, or similar mechanisms;
- 31 (z) *Verifiable public harm* refers to material, concrete, and objectively  
32 demonstrable injury to public health and public safety, and not based on mere

1 offense, confusion, speculation, political disagreements, or reputational injury.

2 Verifiable public harm may include the following:

- 3 (1) imminent and demonstrable risk to life, health, or physical safety,  
4 including interference with emergency response, disaster warnings, or  
5 public health measures;
- 6 (2) substantial and measurable economic harm, including large-scale fraud,  
7 financial, or market manipulation; and
- 8 (3) obstruction of critical public services or infrastructure, including  
9 elections, emergency systems, utilities, or essential government  
10 functions.

11 (aa) *VLP-PH* refers to a digital platform designated by the DICT as reaching  
12 at least ten percent (10%) of the national population in average monthly active  
13 users, or such other risk-based threshold and methodology as the DICT may  
14 publish annually.

15 (bb) *Vetted researchers* refers to academics, journalists, or civil society  
16 organizations accredited by the DICT or the National Privacy Commission  
17 (NPC) to access platform data for the purpose of studying systemic risks,  
18 subject to strict privacy, cybersecurity, and confidentiality safeguards;

19  
20 **CHAPTER III**  
21 **PROHIBITED ACTS**  
22

23 **SEC. 4. *Prohibited Acts.*** - It shall be unlawful for any natural or juridical person  
24 to knowingly and willfully:

25 (a) Publish, disseminate, finance, direct, or materially assist in the dissemination  
26 of false information, with actual knowledge of its falsity or reckless disregard for  
27 its truth, and with specific intent to cause verifiable public harm or a serious  
28 threat to national security;

29 (b) Operate, finance, direct, or materially assist a CIB network, troll farm, bot  
30 network, fake account network, or deceptive digital operation intended to  
31 deceive the public and cause verifiable public harm or a serious threat to  
32 national security;

33 (c) Publish, or disseminate synthetic or materially manipulated media, without  
34 adequate disclosure, with actual knowledge of its deceptive character and

1 specific intent to cause verifiable public harm or a serious threat to national  
2 security;

3 (d) Act on behalf of, in coordination with, or under the substantial direction or  
4 control of a foreign state, foreign intelligence service, foreign military actor, or  
5 foreign-funded covert influence operation to disseminate disinformation that  
6 poses a serious threat to national security; or

7 (e) Impersonate a government agency, election body, emergency-response  
8 authority, public-health authority, court, law-enforcement agency, educational  
9 institution, media organization, or real person for the purpose of disseminating  
10 disinformation that causes verifiable public harm or a serious threat to national  
11 security.

12 Mere liking, sharing, forwarding, or reposting without actual knowledge of falsity  
13 and specific intent to cause verifiable public harm shall not be deemed dissemination  
14 under this Act unless the prosecution proves beyond reasonable doubt that the  
15 accused knowingly and materially participated in the prohibited conduct with the  
16 required mental state and specific intent.

17 **SEC. 5. *Protection of Free Speech, Legitimate Expression, and Other Related***  
18 ***Rights.*** – This Act shall not be construed to suppress protected expression, including  
19 political opinions, criticism of government, criticism of public officials or candidates,  
20 satire, journalistic inquiry, investigative reporting, editorial judgment, whistleblowing,  
21 public interest advocacy, commentary, opinion, academic discourse, artistic and  
22 religious expression, and other forms of protected speech. It shall also not be used to  
23 penalize inadvertent errors made in good faith and subsequently corrected,  
24 expressions clearly identified as humor or creative content, nor shall it target  
25 individuals or groups engaging in legitimate political organizing or online advocacy.

26  
27 **CHAPTER IV**  
28 **DIGITAL PLATFORM ACCOUNTABILITY**  
29

30 **SEC. 6. *Platform Obligations.*** – All digital platforms operating in the Philippines  
31 shall:

32 (a) Establish and maintain a legal entity or permanent representative office in the  
33 Philippines for compliance, coordination, regulatory and ethical accountability,

1 where they may be properly served with summons or notices by competent  
2 Philippine authorities;

3 (b) Disclose publicly and in real time sponsored content, political advertisements,  
4 and paid campaigns, and significant takedowns of networks or accounts  
5 engaged in CIB;

6 (c) Submit annual transparency reports to the DICT detailing actions taken against  
7 CIB, bot networks, and impersonation;

8 (d) Provide anonymized and aggregate data necessary for oversight, consistent  
9 with Republic Act (RA) No. 10173 or the “Data Privacy Act of 2012”, RA No.  
10 10175 or the “Cybercrime Prevention Act of 2012”, and internationally accepted  
11 cybersecurity standards; any access beyond aggregate/anonymized data shall  
12 require DICT pre-approval and, where personal or content data are involved,  
13 judicial authorization;

14 (e) Maintain an accessible Notice-and-Action mechanism for users to report  
15 allegedly unlawful content;

16 (f) Provide an SoR to affected users for any restriction, suspension, or removal of  
17 content or accounts, stating the decision taken, the legal or policy basis, the  
18 facts relied upon, whether automation was used, and available redress.  
19 Anonymized SoRs shall be transmitted to a DICT Transparency Portal within  
20 twenty-four (24) hours;

21 (g) Provide users with an internal complaint-handling system and access to  
22 certified ODS bodies under the DICT for unresolved disputes;

23 (h) Maintain a searchable public ad repository that contains, at minimum, the ad  
24 creative, sponsor, payor, targeting criteria, spend, and dates of display;

25 (i) Ensure that advertisements are not targeted at minors and are not targeted  
26 using sensitive personal information as defined by the Data Privacy Act of 2012;

27 (j) Provide transparency on recommender systems and offer users a clearly  
28 accessible option to view content feeds not based on profiling; and

29 (k) Refrain from deploying manipulative interface designs or “dark patterns” that  
30 materially distort or impair user autonomy, decision-making, or choice.

31  
32 No digital platform, hosting provider, intermediary, officer, employee, or  
33 representative shall be held liable under this Act solely by reason of hosting,

1 transmitting, indexing, ranking, recommending, or moderating third-party content,  
2 absent proof beyond reasonable doubt of knowing, active, and material participation  
3 in the prohibited conduct under Section 4 of this Act.

4 Failure to comply with platform obligations under this Act shall be subject only  
5 to administrative penalties, unless the platform or its responsible officers knowingly  
6 directed, financed, or materially participated in the prohibited conduct.

7 **SEC. 7. Platform Obligations of VLP-PH.** -- VLP-PHs designated by the DICT,  
8 in addition to Section 6 of this Act shall:

- 9 (a) Conduct and publish annual systemic risk assessments addressing, at  
10 minimum, disinformation, manipulation, civic discourse, protection of minors,  
11 public health emergencies, disaster response, and election integrity;
- 12 (b) Publish and implement proportionate risk-mitigation plans;
- 13 (c) Undergo an independent annual audit, filing full results with DICT and a public  
14 summary;
- 15 (d) Appoint a senior compliance officer based in the Philippines responsible for  
16 obligations under this Act;
- 17 (e) Provide vetted researchers, accredited by the NPC or the DICT, with secured  
18 access to data necessary for studying system risks, subject to strict privacy  
19 and cybersecurity standards;
- 20 (f) Designate a duly authorized liaison officer to the DICT, who shall serve as the  
21 official point of contact of the platform on the following:
  - 22 (i) Compliance with this Act and other cyber-related laws;
  - 23 (ii) Coordination on takedown or moderation requests involving malicious  
24 disinformation that threatens national security or public order;
  - 25 (iii) Emergency responses during critical events such as elections, disasters,  
26 or public health crises; and
  - 27 (iv) Reporting obligations and transparency measures as may be required  
28 by the DICT or Congress.
- 29 (g) Publish and enforce transparent policies and procedures designed to mitigate  
30 the risks posed by CIB, impersonation, bot networks, manipulated media,  
31 concealed sponsorship, and the algorithmic amplification of content  
32 determined through established review mechanisms. Platforms may employ  
33 proportionate visibility-reduction measures, contextual labeling, fact-check

1 notices, and algorithmic de-amplification for content determined through  
2 established review mechanisms to be demonstrably and likely to cause  
3 verifiable public harm or seriously threaten national security;

4 (h) Maintain publicly accessible page and advertising transparency, including  
5 sponsor identification and ad placement disclosures; and

6 (i) Engage with independent third-party fact-checking organizations in providing  
7 context, labeling, or verification, and with academic, professional, and civil  
8 society organizations, to promote media and information literacy.

9 **SEC. 8. *Data Access and Technical Cooperation*** – In connection with Section  
10 7 (c) and (e), platforms shall provide reasonable technical cooperation, including  
11 access to application programming interfaces (APIs), metadata, and transparency  
12 dashboards, to support oversight and audits, subject to privacy and cybersecurity  
13 safeguards.

14  
15 **CHAPTER V**  
16 **PENALTIES**  
17

18 **SEC 9. *Penalties.*** – Any person found guilty of violating Section 4 of this Act  
19 shall suffer the penalty of imprisonment of six (6) years to twelve (12) years and a fine  
20 of not less than Five hundred thousand pesos (P500, 000) but not more than Two  
21 million pesos (P2, 000, 000), or both, at the discretion of the court.

22 **SEC. 10. *Penalties for Non-Compliance by Platforms.*** – After due notice and  
23 hearing, any platform that, without lawful excuse, fails or refuses to comply with  
24 obligations under Sections 6, 7, and 8, shall be subjected to the following penalties:

25 (a) First offense - written warning and compliance order from the DICT, and

26 (b) Second and subsequent offenses – penalty of not less than One million  
27 pesos (P1, 000, 000) but not more than Ten million pesos (P10, 000, 000),  
28 depending on the gravity of the offense.

29 For VLP-PHs, the DICT may additionally impose an administrative penalty  
30 of up to six percent (6%) of Philippine annual gross revenue for grave or  
31 repeated violations.

32 The DICT shall publish an annual list of non-compliant platforms for public  
33 transparency.



1 and assessment systems shall be developed in consultation with civil society, the  
2 academe, and media organizations to ensure proper implementation.

3 **SEC 16. *Government Communication Standards.*** – All national government  
4 agencies, and, where feasible, local government units, shall maintain open data  
5 portals containing verifiable public information. They shall also correct erroneous or  
6 misleading public statements within a reasonable time upon discovery, indicating the  
7 nature of the error and the source of the verified information.

8 **CHAPTER IX**  
9 **FINAL PROVISIONS**  
10

11 **SEC. 17. *Joint Congressional Oversight Committee (JCOC).*** - There shall be  
12 created a Joint Congressional Oversight Committee which shall monitor and ensure  
13 the effective implementation of this Act. It shall determine weaknesses and loopholes  
14 in the law, recommend the necessary remedial legislation or administrative measures  
15 and perform such other duties and functions as may be necessary to attain the  
16 objectives of this Act.

17 The JCOC shall be composed of five (5) Members from the Senate and five (5)  
18 Members from the House of Representatives with the Chairperson of the Committee  
19 on Public Information and Mass Media of the Senate, and the Chairpersons of the  
20 Committees on Public Information and Information and Communications Technology  
21 of the House of Representatives as Co-Chairpersons of the JCOC: *Provided*, That one  
22 (1) Member from each chamber shall come from the minority party or bloc.

23 **SEC. 18. *Sunset Review.*** - Within two (2) years after the effectivity of this Act,  
24 or as the need arises, the JCOC shall conduct a sunset review. For purposes of this  
25 Act, the term "sunset review" shall mean a systematic evaluation by the JCOC of the  
26 accomplishments and impact of this Act, as well as the performance of the agencies  
27 responsible for its implementation, for purposes of determining remedial legislation.

28 **SEC. 19. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.*** - Within ninety (90) days from  
29 the effectivity of this Act, the DICT shall, in consultation with relevant government  
30 agencies, the private sector and civil society organizations, promulgate the  
31 implementing rules and regulations for the effective implementation of this Act.

32 **SEC. 20. *Separability Clause.*** – If any section or part of this Act is held  
33 unconstitutional or invalid, the other sections or provisions not otherwise affected shall

1 remain in full force and effect.

2           **SEC. 21. Repealing Clause.** – All laws, decrees, executive order, rules and  
3 regulations, issuances, or any part thereof inconsistent with the provisions of this Act  
4 are deemed repealed.

5           **SEC. 21. Effectivity.** – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its  
6 publication in the *Official Gazette* or in a newspaper of general circulation.

*Approved,*

## FACT SHEET

(Approved by the Committee on 26 May 2026)

House Bill No. 9465

(In substitution of House Bills Numbered 251, 299, 520, 2697, 3472, 3799, 4160, 4544, 4562, 4965, 5241, 5330, 6314, 6969, 8817, and 8871)

### **“AN ACT PROHIBITING THE DELIBERATE DISSEMINATION OF FALSE INFORMATION THAT POSES VERIFIABLE PUBLIC HARM OR SERIOUS THREAT TO NATIONAL SECURITY, ESTABLISHING DIGITAL PLATFORM ACCOUNTABILITY AND TRANSPARENCY MECHANISMS, AND PROMOTING MEDIA AND DIGITAL LITERACY”**

*Introduced by: REPRESENTATIVES FERDINAND ALEXANDER A. MARCOS, ANTONINO B. ROMAN III, LORDAN G. SUAN, MIGUEL LUIS R. VILLAFUERTE, RUTH M. SAKALURAN, BRIAN RAYMUND S. YAMSUAN, CHARISSE ANNE C. HERNANDEZ, MA. VICTORIA CO-PILAR, EDUARDO R. RAMA JR., PATRICK MICHAEL D. VARGAS, MARIA RACHEL J. ARENAS, FRANZ S. PUMAREN, LOLITA T. JAVIER, HOWARD A. GUINTU, LANI MERCADO-REVILLA, BRYAN B. REVILLA, RAMON JOLO B. REVILLA III, NOEL “BONG” N. RIVERA, ROY M. LOYOLA, SALVADOR A. PLEYTO, REYNANTE U. ARROGANCIA, STEVE CHIONGBIAN SOLON, LINABELLE RUTH R. VILLARICA, IRIS MARIE DEMESA MONTES, JAN “ATTY. JP” PADIERNOS, RUFUS B. RODRIGUEZ, MAXIMO B. RODRIGUEZ JR., RAMIL LAUREL HERNANDEZ, ALBERT S. GARCIA, EDUARDO “BRO EDDIE” C. VILLANUEVA, LEODY “ODIE” F. TARRIELA, ADRIAN E. SALCEDA, ARTHUR F. CELESTE, JULIENNE “JAM” L. BARONDA, BERNADETTE S. BARBERS, EMERSON D. PASCUAL, MARLO C. BANCORO, JUAN CARLOS “ARJO” C. ATAYDE, ESMAEL G. MANGUDADATU, ANGELO MARCOS BARBA, ERIC L. OLIVAREZ, GIL “KABARANGAY JR.” ACOSTA, JULIUS CESAR “JAY” V. VERGARA, ALEXANDRIA “QUEENIE” GONZALES, MARIA VANESSA “VANVAN” C. AUMENTADO, RN, ATTY. JENNIFER “KAREN” A. LAGBAS, ANTOLIN A. ORETA III, MA. NINA FRANCESCA P. LACSON, DANILO “DANNY” A. DOMINGO, RODOLFO “OMPONG” M. ORDANES, JANICE DEGAMO, KENNETH T. GATCHALIAN, JB BERNOS, JULIO A. LEDESMA IV, RICHARD I. GOMEZ, DPA, ERIC GO YAP, EDVIC G. YAP, NATHANIEL M. ODUKADO, KEITH MICAH “ATTY. MIKE” D.L. TAN, VICENZO RENATO LUIGI R. VILLAFUERTE, TSUYOSHI ANTHONY “HORI” G. HORIBATA, TERRY L. RIDON, RONALDO V. PUNO, ANNA VICTORIA VELOSO-TUAZON, BAI DIMPLE I. MASTURA, JESUS “JESS” R. MARQUEZ, BAMBI B. EMANO, FRANCISCO PAOLO P. ORTEGA V, ANN MATIBAG, and ANIELA BIANCA D. TOLENTINO*

*Committee Referral: **COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC INFORMATION (Primary)**  
Committee Chairperson: Rep. LORDAN G. SUAN*

*Committee Referral: **COMMITTEE ON INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATIONS  
TECHNOLOGY (Secondary)**  
Committee Chairperson: Rep. MIGUEL LUIS R. VILLAFUERTE*

## **OBJECTIVES:**

- To protect the public and the State from serious, malicious, and demonstrable effects of the intentional dissemination of false information through digital media that poses verifiable public harm and serious threat to national security.
- To establish transparency, accountability, due process, and risk-mitigation standards for digital platforms.
- To uphold and protect the constitutional guarantees of freedom of speech, of expression, and of the press.

## **KEY PROVISIONS:**

- Prohibits willful publication and dissemination of disinformation intended to cause verifiable public harm or seriously threaten national security; operation of troll farms or coordinated inauthentic behavior networks to deceive the public; distribution of undisclosed synthetic or manipulated media with malicious intent; coordination with foreign state actors or military intelligence for covert influence operations; and impersonation of government agencies or public authorities to spread disinformation;
- Explicitly exempts political opinions, criticism of government, criticism of public officials or candidates, satire, journalistic inquiry, investigative reporting, editorial judgment, whistleblowing, public interest advocacy, commentary, opinion, academic discourse, and artistic and religious expression;
- Provides a comprehensive definition of terms that serves as a legal foundation for the implementation of this Act;
- Mandates digital platforms to establish and maintain a legal entity or representative office in the Philippines where they may be properly served with summons or notices by competent Philippine authorities;
- Outlines the accountability of digital media platforms, requiring them to disclose sponsored and political content, submit annual transparency reports, maintain mechanisms for reporting unlawful content, and provide users with explanations for content restrictions or removals, and mechanisms for redress;
- Provides clear guidelines on judicial recourse and appeal;

- Mandates the integration of media and digital literacy into school curricula to emphasize critical thinking, fact-checking, and responsible online behavior;
- Requires national government agencies to maintain open data portals containing verifiable information and promptly correct any erroneous or misleading public statements;
- Creates a Joint Congressional Oversight Committee which shall monitor and ensure the effective implementation of this Act as well as conduct a sunset review to evaluate the accomplishments and impact of this Act; and
- Mandates the Department of Information and Communications Technology to promulgate the implementing rules and regulations for the effective implementation of this Act, in consultation with relevant government agencies, the private sector, and civil society organizations.

#### **RELATED LAWS:**

- Article III, Section 4 (Freedom of Speech, of Expression, or of the Press) of the 1987 Philippine Constitution
- Articles 154 (Unlawful Use of Means of Publication) and 353-356 (Libel Provisions) of Act No. 3815 or the “Revised Penal Code”
- Batas Pambansa Blg. 881 or the “Omnibus Election Code of the Philippines”
- Republic Act No. 10173 or the “Data Privacy Act of 2012”
- Republic Act No. 10175 or the “Cybercrime Prevention Act of 2012”
- COMELEC Resolution No. 11064 or the “Guidelines on the Use of Social Media, Artificial Intelligence, and Internet Technology, for Digital Election Campaign, and the Prohibition and Punishment of its Misuse for Disinformation, and Misinformation, in Connection with the 2025 National and Local Elections and the BARMM Parliamentary Elections