

SENATE
S. B. No. 3514

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Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

1 AN ACT
2 REQUIRING A DISCLOSURE STATEMENT ON THE USE OF GOVERNMENT
3 FUNDS FOR DISSEMINATING PUBLIC INFORMATION

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

4 SECTION 1. *Title.* – This Act shall be known as the “*Public Information*
5 *Disclosure Act of 2009.*”

6 SECTION 2. *Definition* – The terms used in this Act shall have the following
7 meanings:

8 a) “*Agency*” – shall mean any authority of the government and includes a
9 department, institution, board, bureau, commission, council, committee of
10 territorial government, branch, autonomous instrumentality or other public
11 entity of the government of the Philippines, whether or not it is within or
12 subject to review by another agency.

13 b) “*Public notice*”, “*advertisement*” or “*message*” – shall mean all forms of
14 media which includes but is not limited to print, radio, television or the
15 Internet.

16 SECTION 3. *Disclosure of Source of Payment* - Any website, public notice,
17 advertisement or message issued or published by an agency, or agencies, and paid for,
18 partially or fully, using government funds, shall include a disclosure statement that the
19 public notice, advertisement or message is paid for by government funds, and the name of
20 the department, agency or agencies paying for the notice.

21 SECTION. 4. *Penalties.* – Any director, officer or agent of the Government who
22 shall authorize, order or perform any of the acts or practices constituting in whole or in
23 part a violation of Section 3 of this Act, shall upon conviction, be subject to a fine of not
24 less than Ten thousand pesos (P10,000.00) but not more than One Hundred Thousand
25 pesos (P100,000.00) and imprisonment of not less than two (2) months but not more than
26 one (1) year, or both upon the discretion of the court.

27 In addition to the penalties provided in the preceding paragraph, the culprit shall
28 also suffer the penalty of special temporary disqualification.

29 SECTION 5. *Separability Clause.* – If any provision or part of this Act is held
30 invalid or unconstitutional, the remainder of the law or the provision not otherwise
31 affected shall remain valid and subsisting.

32 SECTION 6. *Repealing Clause.* – Any law, presidential decree or issuance,
33 executive order, letter of instruction, administrative order, rule or regulation contrary to,
34 or inconsistent with the provisions of this Act is hereby repealed, modified or amended
35 accordingly.

36 SECTION 7. *Effectivity Clause.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days
37 after its publication in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved.