


FOURTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC)
OF THE PHILIPPINES)
First Regular Session)

8 MAY -6 2008

SENATE

RECEIVED BY: 

S. No. **2248**

Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

1 AN ACT
2 TO REQUIRE HOSPITALS TO INSTALL CLOSED CIRCUIT TELEVISION (CCTV)
3 CAMERAS IN SELECTED PORTIONS OF THE HOSPITAL AND PENALIZING THE
4 PUBLICATION OF THE VIDEO TAKEN BY THIS CAMERAS WITHOUT A COURT
5 ORDER

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

7 SECTION 1. *Short Title.* – This Act shall be known as the “Hospital CCTV Act of
8 2008.”

9 SECTION 2. *Declaration of Policy.* – It is the policy of the state to protect and promote
10 the right to health of the people and instill health consciousness among them. Likewise, it is also
11 the declared policy of the state to respect the privacy of individuals. In this regard, CCTV
12 cameras will be required in selection portions of a hospital but to ensure that the privacy of
13 individuals concerned are protected, the video taken by these cameras can not be released
14 without a court order.

15 SECTION 3. *Installation of Closed Circuit Television Cameras (CCTV) in Hospitals.* –
16 All hospitals in the Philippines should install closed circuit television cameras in all their
17 entrance and exits, operating rooms, delivery rooms, intensive care units and nurseries.

18 SECTION 4. *Privacy Request Paramount.* – Notwithstanding Section 3, a patient or his
19 legal guardian can request that the CCTV camera be turned off during his stay in the rooms
20 mentioned in Section 3. In addition, in rooms with multiple occupants, a majority of the
21 occupants should make the request to turn the CCTV camera off during their stay provided that
22 whenever possible, the patient who does not want to be caught on CCTV camera may stay in a
23 portion of the room not covered by the CCTV camera.

1 SECTION 5. *Authorized Operator.* – Only the authorized operator and the hospital
2 director or his authorized representative is allowed access to the room where the footage of the
3 CCTV cameras are monitored and stored.

4 SECTION 6. *Prohibition on Unauthorized Publication.* – Before any still photo or video
5 caught by the CCTV cameras can be made public, a publication order from the Regional Trial
6 Court having jurisdiction over the hospital should be obtained. A photo or video is considered as
7 published when it is shown or made known to someone other than the proper administrative, law
8 enforcement or judicial authorities.

9 SECTION 7. *Penalties.* – Any person who violates any provision of this Act will be
10 punished by a minimum of five (5) years and a maximum of ten (10) years imprisonment and a
11 fine of Fifty Thousand Pesos (Php 50,000.00).

12 SECTION 8. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.* – The Department of Health, shall
13 prescribe the necessary rules and regulations to implement this act.

14 SECTION 9. *Separability Clause.* – If any provision, or part hereof is held invalid or
15 unconstitutional, the remainder of the law or the provision not otherwise affected shall remain
16 valid and subsisting.

17 SECTION 10. *Repealing Clause.* – Any law, presidential decree or issuance, executive
18 order, letter of instruction, administrative order, rule or regulation contrary to or inconsistent
19 with, the provisions of this Act is hereby repealed, modified, or amended accordingly.

20 SECTION 11. *Effectivity Clause.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its
21 publication in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

22 Approved,