

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

SENATE  
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

10 JUL 19 P5:16

SENATE  
S. No. **1618**

Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Numerous cases of missing pets are reported everyday. Many pets, which have been separated from their owners have remained unfound due to lack of information and assistance. Losing a pet can be a traumatic and stressful experience not only for the owners, but for the animals, especially ones that have been injured or frightened.

This bill seeks to create the first national pet registry and database for missing pets and found strays. The Registry will tie all pets' pertinent information into a national database. Through registration, shelters, vets, pet organizations and individuals will have the ability to notify the owner immediately should a missing pet end up in their care. Every pet will have an online profile with veterinary / medical records, emergency contacts, tattoos, photos, histories, medical logs, and certifications. On the other hand, the Missing Pets and Found Strays Database shall be equipped with a search engine so that all reports for lost pets can be uploaded and categorized, enabling users to find possible matches. The database will be readily accessible through the internet.

The internet can become a valuable tool in the search for missing pets. Its speed in information dissemination is incomparable. Its capacity to store vast amounts of digital records is an ideal way to manage the volume of files that are anticipated in these cases.


Through this tool, the Bureau of Animal Industry of the Dept. of Agriculture shall be able to assist families reunite with their beloved pets.<sup>1</sup>

*ac*   
MIRIAM DEFENSOR SANTIAGO

<sup>1</sup> This bill was originally filed in the Fourteenth Congress, Second Regular Session

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S. No. **1618**

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Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

AN ACT

TO DIRECT THE DIRECTOR OF THE BUREAU OF ANIMAL INDUSTRY TO  
ESTABLISH AND MAINTAIN A PUBLIC WEBSITE THROUGH WHICH INDIVIDUALS  
MAY FIND A PET REGISTRY AND A COMPLETE DATABASE OF MISSING PETS AND  
FOUND STRAYS

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

SECTION 1. *Short Title.* – This Act shall be known as the “National Pet Registry Act.”

SECTION 2. *Definitions.* – The purposes of this Act the term –

- A. MISSING PET - means any domesticated animal whose whereabouts is unknown to the reporting party.
- B. STRAY - means any domestic animal found at large whose owner is unidentified.
- C. DIRECTOR - means the Director of the Bureau of Animal Industry, unless otherwise indicated.

SECTION 3. *Pet Registry.* - Pet owners will be encouraged to register their pets through this website. This database shall contain information which can identify the pet including, but not limited to photographs, breed, colour, identifying marks such as tattoos, and will also include a profile with veterinary / medical records, emergency contacts, histories, medical logs, certifications. Each pet shall be assigned a custom and numbered ID tag. This tag will allow the pet to be immediately identified in case it is lost.

SECTION 4. *Establishment of a Missing Pets and Found Strays Database.* – The Director shall establish and maintain, in a public website, a database consisting of information on missing pets and found strays. The database will be engineered such that the general public will

1 be able to search for matches between missing pets and found stray records. Access to this  
2 database shall be free of charge.

3 SECTION 5. *Unidentified Found Stray Database.* – This database shall contain  
4 information entered by individuals, animal shelters and other agencies, which will include  
5 photographs, physical characteristics, and other information that will help in the identification of  
6 the found stray.

7 SECTION 6. *Useful links.* – The website shall contain links to various kennel clubs,  
8 animal welfare societies and veterinary organizations including but not limited to:

- 9 a. Philippine Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (PSPCA);
- 10 b. Philippine Animal Welfare Society (PAWS);
- 11 c. Protected Areas and Wildlife Bureau (PAWB) of the Department of  
12 Environment and Natural Resources (DENR);
- 13 d. Philippine Veterinary Medical Association (PVMA);
- 14 e. Veterinary Practitioners Association of the Philippines (VPAP);
- 15 f. Philippine Animal Hospital Association of the Philippines (PAHA);
- 16 g. Philippine Canine Club, Inc. (PCCI).

17 SECTION 7. *Dissemination of Information on Database.* - The Director shall take such  
18 actions as may be necessary on an ongoing basis, including sending notices to schools, welfare  
19 agencies, and other institutions, to disseminate information on the database established and  
20 maintained under this Act and to encourage its use by interested parties.

21 SECTION 8. *Appropriations.* –The amount necessary for the initial implementation of  
22 this Act shall be charged against the appropriations of the Department of Agriculture under the  
23 current General Appropriations Act. Thereafter, such sum as may be necessary for its full  
24 implementation shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act as a distinct and  
25 separate item.

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

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

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

9           Approved,

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