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

Introduced by Senator Juan Miguel F. Zubiri

S. No

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Corruption is the major evil that prevents our country from developing, it is been considered as the "cancer" that kills our nation and putting our government as one of the worst in the world. Funds that are for the delivery of the basic and necessary services are kept and being utilized by greedy and crooked public officials for their own benefits to the detriment of the people particularly the lower classes.

One key solution to battle this major evil is transparency. Transparency is an initial step towards the battle against corruption, giving the people the power to be knowledgeable about the funds, revenues, expenses as well as the different transactions that their government is entering into. Being more translucent to the people will lessen any doubt and distrust to the government. To effectively achieve this, we must start with the smallest and most concerted government units, the provincial, city, municipal and even up to the barangay level, which in a way will largely, if not totally eradicate the dishonesty and bribery in the bureaucracy as a whole.

This is the reason why this bill aims to amend Sections 352 and 513 of Republic Act No. 7169 otherwise known as "The Local Government Code of 1991", making the local chief executives instead of the treasurers, accountants, budget officers and other accountable officers responsible and liable for the posting of the summary of income and expenditures, for after all these local chief executives are the ones the public entrust the management of their concerned local units. They are directly liable to the electorate that put them into power to manage and utilize their own money through the taxes they are paying.

Hence, approval of this bill is earnestly requested.

JUAN MIGUEL F. ZUBIRI

FIFTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES First Regular Session

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S. No. 2171

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Introduced by Senator JUAN MIGUEL F. ZUBIRI

AN ACT

AMENDING SECTIONS 352 AND 513 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7160, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS "THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT CODE OF 1991"

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

Section 1. Section 352 of Republic Act No. 7160, otherwise known as "The Local
Government Code of 1991", is hereby amended to read as follows:

"SEC, 352. Posting of the Summary of Income and Expenditures. - [Local 3 treasurers, accountants, budget officers and other accountable officers] ALL 4 PROVINCIAL GOVERNORS, CITY AND MUNICIPAL MAYORS AND 5 **PUNONG BARANGAY** shall, within thirty (30) days from the end of each fiscal 6 year, post IN THE PROVINCIAL CAPITOL BUILDING, THE CITY, MUNICIPAL 7 AND BARANGAY HALLS, AND in at least three (3) publicly accessible and . 8 conspicuous PUBLIC places in the local government unit [a summary of all 9 revenues collected and funds received including the appropriations and 10 disbursements of such funds] FOR AT LEAST TWO (2) CONSECUTIVE 11 WEEKS. PROVINCIAL GOVERNORS, CITY AND MUNICIPAL MAYORS 12 SHALL PUBLISH ONCE IN A NEWSPAPER OF GENERAL CIRCULATION 13 OR IN A NEWSPAPER OF NATIONAL CIRCULATION OR IN A 14 NEWSLETTER WITHIN THE TERRITORIAL JURISDICTION OF THE LOCAL 15 **GOVERNMENT ALL INCOMES AND REVENUES FROM BOTH PUBLIC AND** 16 PRIVATE SOURCES, INCLUDING (A) LOANS, CREDIT AND OTHER FORMS 17 OF INDEBTEDNESS SECURED BY THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNITS; (B) 18 PROCEEDS FROM THE ISSUANCE OF BONDS AND OTHER LONG-TERM 19 SECURITIES; (C) LOANS, GRANTS AND SUBSIDIES FROM OTHER LOCAL 20 GOVERNMENT; (D) GRANTS, SUBSIDIES AND LOANS FROM FOREIGN 21 SOURCES GUARANTEED BY THE NATIONAL GOVERNMENT AND (E) 22 OTHER GRANTS, SUBSIDIES, DONATIONS AND LOANS FROM PRIVATE, 23

FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC SOURCES RECEIVED BY THE PROVINCE, 1 CITY, MUNICIPALITY OR BARANGAY AND THE CORRESPONDING 2 DISBURSEMENT, EXPENDITURES AND UTILIZATION OF THE FUNDS 3 during the preceding fiscal year: PROVIDED, THAT WITHIN THIRTY (30) 4 DAYS FROM THE END OF EACH QUARTER, THE SUMMARY OF INCOME 5 AND REVENUE AS WELL AS THE LIST OF DISBURSEMENTS, 6 EXPENDITURES AND UTILIZATION OF FUNDS FROM THE PRECEDING 7 QUARTER SHALL BE POSTED FOR AT LEAST TWO (2) CONSECUTIVE 8 WEEKS IN THE PROVINCIAL CAPITOL BUILDING AND IN EACH CITY OR 9 MUNICIPAL AND BARANGAY HALL AND IN AT LEAST THREE (3) 10 CONSPICUOUS PUBLIC PLACES WITHIN THE PROVINCE: PROVIDED, 11 FURTHER, THAT IN THE CASE OF PROVINCES WHERE THERE ARE NO 12 LOCAL NEWSPAPER OF GENERAL CIRCULATION, THE SUMMARY 13 SHALL BE PUBLISHED IN A NEWSPAPER OF NATIONAL CIRCULATION 14 **OR IN A NEWSLETTER WITHIN THEIR LOCALITIES.** 15

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SEC. 2. *Form.* - The summary of income and expenditures referred to in the preceding section shall be prepared and signed by the local accountant and attested by the local treasurer and shall be in such form, style and content and under such regulation as the Commission on Audit may prescribe.

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SEC. 3. Penalties. - Section 513 of the same Act is hereby amended to read as
follows:

"SEC. 513, Failure fo Post and Publish the Itemized [Monthly] 24 QUARTERLY AND ANNUAL Collections and Disbursements. - Failure by the 25 [local treasurer or the local chief accountant] LOCAL CHIEF EXECUTIVE to 26 post the itemized [monthly] QUARTERLY AND ANNUAL collections and 27 disbursements of the local government unit concerned within [ten (10)] THIRTY 28 (30) days following the end of every [month] QUARTER AND FISCAL YEAR 29 and for at least two (2) consecutive weeks at prominent places in the main office 30 building of the local government unit concerned, its plaza and main street, and 31 to publish said itemization in a newspaper of general circulation OR IN A 32 33 NEWSPAPER OF NATIONAL CIRCULATION OR IN A NEWSLETTER, where available, in the territorial jurisdiction of such unit, shall be punished by a fine 34 [not exceeding Five hundred pesos (P500)] OF AT LEAST THIRTY 35 THOUSAND PESOS (P30,000.00) BUT NOT EXCEEDING FIFTY THOUSAND 36 PESOS (P50,000.00) or by imprisonment [not exceeding one (1) month] OF AT 37 LEAST THREE (3) MONTHS BUT NOT EXCEEDING SIX (6) MONTHS or both 38

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- such fine and imprisonment, at the discretion of the court. FURTHERMORE, SAID OFFENDER SHALL BE SUBJECT TO TEMPORARY 2 DISQUALIFICATION TO HOLD OR BE A CANDIDATE FOR ANY PUBLIC 3 OFFICE DURING THE TERMS OF SENTENCE. " 4
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SEC. 4. Repealing Clause. - All laws, executive orders, presidential decrees, 6 rules and regulations or parts thereof which are inconsistent with any of the provisions 7 of this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly. 8

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SEC. 5. Effectivity Clause. - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its 10 complete publication in the Official Gazette or in at least two (2) national newspapers of 11 general circulation. 12

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Approved, 14