

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



Senate
Office of the Secretary

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SENATE

Senate Bill No. 1549

RECEIVED BY:

INTRODUCED BY SEN. JINGGOY EJERCITO ESTRADA

EXPLANATORY NOTE

To enhance transparency and accountability in government, this bill seeks to direct all government corporations to prepare their respective assets and liability management guidelines that will define the parameters and/or limits of their financial and operational capabilities for central control and monitoring by the Department of Finance.

The financial guidelines shall serve as tools to anticipate, prevent and/or minimize certain eventualities that may adversely affect the financial condition of the corporation. Additionally, these guidelines seek to limit borrowing, lending and guaranteeing any form of financial transaction while the operational guidelines seek to inhibit the corporation from engaging in activities outside its defined capabilities.

With the passage of this bill, the parameters and limits of the operational and financial capabilities of government corporations will be clearly defined thus safeguarding the scarce public resources.

In view of the foregoing, the early passage of this bill is earnestly sought.

JINGGOY EJERCITO ESTRADA
Senator

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AN ACT
DIRECTING ALL GOVERNMENT CORPORATIONS TO PREPARE THEIR
RESPECTIVE ASSET AND LIABILITY MANAGEMENT GUIDELINES THAT
WILL DEFINE THE PARAMETERS AND/OR LIMITS OF THEIR FINANCIAL
AND OPERATIONAL CAPABILITIES FOR CENTRAL CONTROL AND
MONITORING BY THE DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE

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

SECTION 1. It is hereby declared a national policy to require all government corporations to clearly define the parameters and/or limits of their financial and operational capabilities consistent with their established mandates and charters.

SEC. 2. The definition of these limits shall be embodied in their respective Asset and Liability Management Guidelines, which is a universally accepted management tool whereby financial and operational activities are automatically confined within clearly defined limits.

SEC. 3. Foremost among the financial guidelines are the limits on borrowing, lending and guaranteeing any form of financial transaction, risk and/or commitment.

SEC. 4. Foremost among the operational guidelines are the recognition and acceptance of the limits of in-house talents and capabilities thereby inhibiting said corporation from engaging in activities outside its defined capabilities or in cases where it is necessary to engage in such transactions or activities, the mandatory requirement to tap outside talents preferably from other government agencies or institutions.

SEC. 5. These guidelines shall be used primarily as a tool to anticipate, obviate, prevent and/or minimize certain eventualities that may adversely affect the financial condition of individual corporations. As a standard requirement, however, it is seen as a vital instrument to stabilize and solidify the country's overall financial condition.

SEC. 6. Adherence to these asset and liability guidelines shall be the responsibility of the Department under which these corporations belong. The Department covered shall prescribe their respective policies and procedures including penalties for their violations, in order to ensure that such guidelines are strictly complied with.

SEC. 7. In line with the national policy of transparency and public disclosure, all government corporations are henceforth, required to publish their quarterly financial statements in any newspaper of major circulation.

SEC. 8. The central monitoring and control of the overall financial condition of these government corporations shall be made by the Department of Finance which shall consolidate all related figures into one report.

SEC. 9. *Separability Clause.* If, for any reason, any provisions of this Act is declared unconstitutional, invalid, such sections or parts not affected thereby shall remain in force and effect.

SEC. 10. *Repealing Clause.* All laws, decrees, executive orders, rules and regulations, or parts hereof inconsistent with the provision of this Act are hereby repealed, amended or modified accordingly.

SEC. 11. *Effectivity Clause.* This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the *Official Gazette* or in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation whichever comes earlier.

Approved,