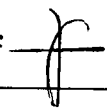


SENATE

S. No. 932

BY: 

Introduced by Senator Ralph G. Recto

AN ACT
TO FURTHER IMPROVE GOVERNMENT SERVICE DELIVERY, AMENDING FOR
THE PURPOSE SECTION 8 OF REPUBLIC ACT NUMBER 9485, OTHERWISE KNOWN
AS THE "ANTI-RED TAPE ACT OF 2007"

Explanatory Note

Bureaucratic bottlenecks need to be reduced, if not totally eliminated, to improve the level of competitiveness of the Philippines, reduce incidents of corruption, and minimize the compliance cost to government administrative requirements. The removal of such bureaucratic bottlenecks requires the delivery of public services in the most straightforward, judicious, transparent, effective and efficient way possible.

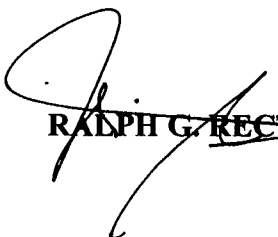
The policy to improve public service delivery is enshrined in Republic Act No. 9485, otherwise known as the Anti-Red Tape Act of 2007. The law called for a program to adopt simplified procedures with the intent of reducing red tape and expediting government transactions.

To date, the elimination of bureaucratic red tape is yet to be realized. While the Philippines ranked 47th among 140 economies in terms of competitiveness, the country ranked 101st with regard to the magnitude of government regulation burden¹. Such observation is unacceptable in this day and age given the level of available technology that could be utilized by the government and the increased amount of remuneration and benefits afforded to civil servants.

It is the intention of the bill to provide the citizenry with an efficient and speedy system for government service delivery. It seeks to amend the maximum action time prescribed in Republic Act No. 9485 from five (5) to three (3) working days in the case of simple transactions and from ten (10) to seven (7) working days in the case of complex transactions.

By doing so, this bill intends to improve the public service delivery, reduce cost of doing business, improve the productivity of the citizenry and the business establishment, and diminish the opportunities for graft and corrupt acts. In the end, it is hoped that through this intervention, the quality of social services in the country will become more efficient; the competitiveness of local industries and small businesses will be enhanced; and the development of the Philippine economy will be sustained.

In view of the foregoing, the swift passage of this measure is earnestly sought.


RALPH G. RECTO

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¹ World Economic Forum (2015). 2015-2016 Global Competitiveness Report. Geneva: World Economic Forum.

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

1 **SECTION 1.** Section 8, paragraph (b), sub-paragraph 1 of Republic Act Number 9485 is
2 hereby amended to read as follows:

3 "SEC. 8. *Accessing Frontline Services.* - The following shall be adopted by
4 all government offices and agencies:

5 "x x x

6 "(b) *Action of Offices* - (1) All applications and/or requests submitted shall
7 be acted upon by the assigned officer or employee during the period stated in the
8 Citizen's Charter which shall not be longer than [five] **THREE (3)** working days in
9 the case of simple transactions and [ten (10)] **SEVEN (7)** working days in the case of
10 complex transactions from the date the request or application was received.
11 Depending on the nature of the frontline services requested or the mandate of the
12 office or agency under unusual circumstances, the maximum time prescribed above
13 may be extended. For the extension due to the nature of frontline services or the
14 mandate of the office or agency concerned, the period for the delivery of frontline
15 services shall be indicated in the Citizen's Charter. The office or agency concerned
16 shall notify the requesting party in writing of the reason for the extension and the
17 final date of release for the extension and the final date of release of the frontline
18 service requested.

19 "x x x."

20 **SEC. 2. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.*** - Within sixty (60) days from the effectivity
21 of this Act, the Civil Service Commission shall promulgate the necessary rules and regulations to
22 effectively implement the provisions of this Act.

23 **SEC. 3. *Effectivity.*** - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days following its publication in
24 at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation or in the Official Gazette.

25 Approved,