



Senate
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SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS)
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
First Regular Session)

RECEIVED BY: _____

SENATE

Senate Bill No. 1267

Introduced by Senator Win T. Gatchalian

**AN ACT
ESTABLISHING A NATIONAL DATABASE SYSTEM AND THE
NATIONAL DATABASE AUTHORITY, PROVIDING ITS POWERS
AND FUNCTIONS, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill seeks to establish a modern, comprehensive and secure national database system that will streamline the process of obtaining common official documents and efficiently facilitate the transactions of the public while maintaining the integrity of government records or documents and promoting good governance.

Obtaining records and other documents from government agencies which are mandated to deliver basic services and social security benefits for the people remains a slow, inefficient and tedious process. The government should take advantage of technological advances to further improve efficiency in the delivery of services by streamlining the process of obtaining common official documents and facilitating succeeding transactions of the public in availing of basic services and social security benefits. In recent years, technology has rapidly evolved to enable electronic record creation and the construction of system linkages to cater to new requirements.

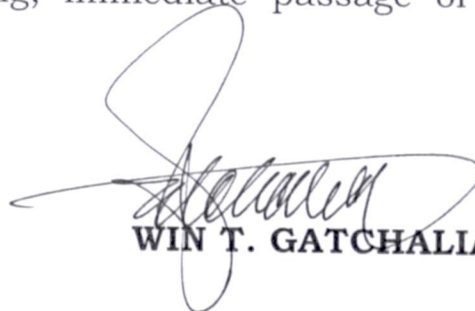
It is expedient and imperative for the government to establish a National Database System to be administered by a National Database Authority which utilizes a unique personal reference

number. The personal reference number will be generated by the Philippine Statistics Authority for every individual registered in the National Database System. The agencies where the public regularly conduct multiple transactions shall be prioritized for inclusion in the National Database System. These agencies are the Philippine Statistics Authority, Philippine Health Insurance Corporation, Home Development Mutual Fund or Pag-IBIG Fund, Social Security System, Government Service Insurance System, National Bureau of Investigation and Philippine National Police. The government shall also look into the possibility of including other government agencies in the National Database System particularly the Land Transportation Office and the Office of Consular Affairs of the Department of Foreign Affairs.

The advantages of establishing the National Database System include, among others, having a reliable identification reference system of citizens and other individuals residing in the Philippines and enhancing the efficiency and effectiveness of government agencies in the management and delivery of services. This measure also aims to minimize, if not entirely do away, with the need to go to different offices every time one needs to obtain a copy of a certain government document or record. This is also in line with President Rodrigo R. Duterte's promise during his first State of the Nation Address that there will be no more long lines when availing of government services.

The government shall endeavor to secure the proposed National Database System and ensure that data recorded and derived from the system shall only be used for the purposes intended by the provisions of this Act.

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



WIN T. GATCHALIAN



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AND FUNCTIONS, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

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

1 SECTION 1. **Short Title.** - This Act shall be known as the
2 “National Database System Act.”

3 SEC. 2. **Declaration of Policy.** – It is hereby declared the
4 policy of the State to ensure the efficient delivery of basic services to
5 the public. Pursuant to this policy, the State recognizes the need to
6 take advantage of technological advances to achieve efficiency in
7 public service. Towards this end, the State shall establish a
8 modern, comprehensive and secure national database system that
9 will be utilized to streamline the application for common official
10 documents and for availing basic services and social security
11 benefits while ensuring the integrity of the database system and
12 promoting good governance.

1 SEC. 3. ***National Database System; Purposes.*** – There is
2 hereby established a National Database System, which shall serve
3 as the primary database of government where all organized
4 collection of information, records and other documents from
5 government agencies mandated to deliver basic services and social
6 security benefits are stored. It shall gradually consolidate all
7 existing government-initiated information data systems into one
8 integrated national database system.

9 The National Database System is established for the following
10 purposes:

11 a) To enhance the efficiency and effectiveness of government
12 agencies in the management of certain government records and the
13 delivery of government services to the public which include, among
14 others, healthcare and social security services;

15 b) To have a modern, comprehensive, reliable and secure
16 national database system necessary for the efficient operation of
17 government agencies involved in the delivery of services to the
18 public by utilizing innovations and advances in technology;

19 c) To create linkages between databases of government
20 agencies involved in collecting personal identity information of the
21 public and the interconnection of agencies and offices providing
22 basic services;

23 d) To simplify the government's processes and eliminate
24 costs and other administrative tasks by reducing the need to
25 repeatedly register with the different government agencies during
26 transactions;

1 e) To strengthen national security and public safety
2 programs and assist in the fight against crime by providing the
3 relevant authorities access to a secure national database system
4 which stores civil or biological information of citizens and foreign
5 residents in the country; and

6 f) To enhance integrity of the government's reference
7 system and minimize the capacity for an individual to assume
8 multiple identities which has contributed to illegal activities.

9 SEC. 4. ***National Database Authority.*** – The National
10 Database Authority, hereinafter referred to as the Authority, is
11 hereby established to design, develop and administer the National
12 Database System and is placed under the policy, technical and
13 administrative supervision of the Department of Information and
14 Communications Technology (DICT). The Authority shall perform
15 the following functions:

16 a) Establish the National Database System (NDS), a reliable
17 database system of citizens and other individuals residing in the
18 Philippines, with a unique personal reference number (PRN) as the
19 primary key identifier of each individual registered in the system;

20 b) Establish and maintain multi-purpose databases, data
21 warehouses, networks, and interface of databases and related
22 facilities and services suitable for utilization by the government
23 agencies included in the NDS;

24 c) Adopt and prescribe standards for the maintenance of
25 the NDS;

1 d) Manage the NDS and ensure its integrity by providing
2 adequate safeguards for protection and confidentiality of data or
3 information contained in the NDS;

4 e) Coordinate and provide technical assistance and logistics
5 solution for the management of government databases included in
6 the NDS and the effective linkages of the various database systems;

7 f) Review the efficiency of the NDS and the adequacy of the
8 safeguards to protect the integrity of the system;

9 g) Conduct research, studies, surveys, experiments and
10 other investigations necessary to achieve the purposes of this Act;

11 h) Submit annual reports to the Congress of the Philippines
12 with respect to the performance and exercise of its functions,
13 powers and its accomplishments;

14 i) Prescribe and charge reasonable fees for services
15 rendered to the public; and

16 j) Perform such acts and other functions as may be
17 necessary to implement the provisions of this Act as may be
18 authorized by the Secretary of Information and Communications
19 Technology.

20 SEC. 5. **Head of Organization; Qualifications.** – The
21 Authority shall be headed by an Administrator who shall report
22 directly to the DICT Secretary. The Administrator shall be assisted
23 by two (2) Deputy Administrators.

24 The Administrator and Deputy Administrators shall be
25 appointed by the President of the Philippines upon the
26 recommendation of the Secretary of Information and

1 Communications Technology. They shall hold office for six (6) years
2 unless sooner removed for cause. Appointment to any vacancy
3 shall only be for the unexpired term of the predecessor.

4 The Administrator and Deputy Administrators must be
5 Filipino citizens and at least thirty-five (35) years of age. In addition,
6 they shall be persons of good moral character, unquestionable
7 integrity and known probity, and have attained competence in the
8 field of computer science, information technology, law, finance,
9 management, or economics.

10 SEC. 6. ***Inter-Agency Coordinating and Oversight***
11 ***Committee.*** – An Inter-Agency Coordinating and Oversight
12 Committee, hereinafter referred to as the Committee, is hereby
13 created which shall facilitate the coordination among the
14 government agencies which shall be initially included in the NDS
15 and serve as an oversight committee for the effective
16 implementation of this Act.

17 The Committee shall be responsible in proposing the
18 organizational structure of the Authority.

19 The Committee shall be composed of the following:

- 20 a) Secretary of Information and Communications
21 Technology, as chairperson;
22 b) National Statistician, as vice chairperson;
23 c) Director-General of the National Economic and
24 Development Authority;
25 d) Secretary of the Interior and Local Government;

1 e) President of the Philippine Health Insurance Corporation
2 (Philhealth);

3 f) Director-General of the National Bureau of Investigation;

4 g) President of the Government Service Insurance System;

5 h) President of the Social Security System; and

6 i) President of the Home Development Mutual Fund, as
7 members.

8 The members of the Committee may designate their duly
9 authorized representatives to attend the meetings of the Committee.

10 SEC. 7. **Secretariat.** – The Secretary of Information and
11 Communications Technology shall designate personnel from the
12 DICT to serve as secretariat to the Committee and as such shall
13 provide administrative and technical support to the Committee.

14 SEC. 8. **Personal Reference Number.** – The Philippine
15 Statistics Authority shall generate a personal reference number
16 (PRN) which shall serve as the common reference number for each
17 individual registered in the NDS. The PRN shall be used to establish
18 a linkage among the agencies included in the NDS.

19 SEC. 9. **Linkage Among Government Agencies.** – The
20 agencies where the public regularly conduct multiple transactions
21 shall be prioritized for inclusion in the NDS. The following agencies
22 shall be included in the initial phase of implementation of this Act:

23a) Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA);

24b) Philippine Health Insurance Corporation (Philhealth);

25c) Home Development Mutual Fund or Pag-IBIG Fund (Pag-IBIG);

26d) Social Security System (SSS);

- 1e) Government Service Insurance System (GSIS);
- 2f) National Bureau of Investigation (NBI); and
- 3g) Philippine National Police (PNP).

4 The Authority shall, in consultation with the Committee,
5 coordinate with the aforementioned agencies in establishing the
6 standards and design of an effective and efficient information
7 technology (IT) system to be used for the NDS, as well as the
8 piloting and rolling out of the system.

9 Within three (3) years from the effectivity of this Act, the
10 Administrator of the Authority shall recommend to the President of
11 the Philippines, through the Secretary of Information and
12 Communications Technology, the feasibility and practicability of
13 including other government offices and agencies in the NDS
14 particularly the Land Transportation Office and the Office of
15 Consular Affairs of the Department of Foreign Affairs.

16 SEC. 10. ***Identity Verification.*** – The PSA, Philhealth, Pag-
17 IBIG, SSS, GSIS, NBI, PNP and other government agencies that will
18 be included in the NDS shall use the data which may be derived
19 from the NDS to verify the identity of a person transacting or
20 availing of the benefits from their respective offices without need of
21 further proof.

22 The data to be derived from the NDS shall be limited to
23 biological information and solely used for identification purposes.
24 Any data outside of the personal information such as records of
25 premium payments and name of beneficiaries necessary for a
26 member to avail of the benefits of Philhealth, Pag-IBIG, SSS, and

1 GSIS may be included in the NDS. Information indicated in the NBI
2 and PNP clearance shall also be included in the NDS.

3 SEC. 11. **Inter-agency One-Stop Shop.** – The Authority shall,
4 in consultation with the Committee, establish an inter-agency one-
5 stop-shop system wherein the public can request and obtain any of
6 the following documents and other official documents from the PSA,
7 Philhealth, Pag-IBIG, SSS, GSIS, NBI and PNP using the NDS:

8 a) Civil registry documents of birth, marriage, death and
9 certificate of no marriage in security paper;

10 b) Philhealth membership records including premium
11 payments and name of beneficiaries;

12 c) Pag-IBIG membership records including premium
13 payments and name of beneficiaries;

14 d) SSS membership records including premium payments
15 and name of beneficiaries;

16 e) GSIS membership records including premium payments
17 and name of beneficiaries;

18 f) NBI clearance; and

19 g) PNP clearance.

20 SEC. 12. **Confidentiality of Information.** – The Authority
21 shall ensure the confidentiality of the data encoded and derived
22 from the NDS.

23 Only the authorized Authority officers and employees shall be
24 allowed to access the NDS. Upon the inclusion of other government
25 agencies in the NDS, the Committee shall promulgate the
26 appropriate rules and regulations which may include authorization

1 for personnel from among government agencies included in the NDS
2 to access the NDS.

3 Data encoded and derived from the NDS shall only be
4 furnished to the person to whom the data pertains, or to another
5 person upon the written consent of the person to whom the data
6 pertains, or upon the order of a competent court.

7 SEC. 13. ***Prohibited Acts and Penalties.*** – Any person who:

8 a) Willfully provides false information or data which forms
9 part of the NDS shall be punished with a fine of Fifty thousand
10 pesos (P50,000.00) or imprisonment for a period of not less than
11 one (1) year, or both, at the discretion of the court.

12 b) Being an employee of the Authority, PSA, Philhealth, Pag-
13 IBIG, SSS, GSIS, NBI, PNP or a government agency included in the
14 NDS, publishes or communicates to any person other than those
15 mentioned in Section 12 of this Act any information acquired in the
16 course of employment, shall be punished with a fine of One
17 hundred thousand pesos (P100,000.00) or imprisonment for a
18 period of not less than three (3) years, or both, at the discretion of
19 the court;

20 c) Directly or indirectly performs an act, which
21 compromises the integrity of the NDS shall be punished with a fine
22 of Five hundred thousand pesos (P500,000.00) or imprisonment for
23 a period of not less than six (6) years, or both, at the discretion of
24 the court.

1 In cases where the offender is a public official or employee,
2 punishment under this Act shall be without prejudice to any
3 administrative penalties that may also be imposed.

4 SEC. 14. **Appropriations.** – The amount of One hundred
5 million pesos (P100,000,000.00) shall be set aside from any
6 available funds of the National Treasury, and is hereby
7 appropriated and authorized to be released for the organization and
8 initial operations of the NDA. Thereafter, such sum as may be
9 necessary for the continued implementation of this Act shall be
10 included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

11 SEC. 15. **Implementing Rules and Regulations.** – Within
12 ninety (90) days from the approval of this Act, the Committee shall
13 formulate the necessary rules and regulations for the effective
14 implementation of this Act.

15 SEC. 16. **Separability Clause.** - If any provision or part of
16 this Act is declared invalid or unconstitutional, the remaining parts
17 or provisions not affected shall remain in full force and effect.

18 SEC. 17. **Repealing Clause.** – All other laws, decrees,
19 executive orders, proclamations, rules and regulations, or parts
20 thereof inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby
21 amended, repealed or modified accordingly.

22 SEC. 18. **Effectivity.** - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15)
23 days after its publication in the *Official Gazette* or in a national
24 newspaper of general circulation.

25
26 Approved,