


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

7 JUL -3 AM 1988

SENATE  
S.B. No. 742

RECEIVED BY: 

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Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

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EXPLANATORY NOTE

The 1987 Constitution, Article 3, Section 7 states that:

“Section 7. The right of the people to information on matters of public concern shall be recognized. Access to official records, and to documents and papers pertaining to official acts, transactions, or decisions, as well as to government research data used as basis for policy development, shall be afforded the citizen, subject to such limitations as may be provided by law.”

The government should be accessible to the public. To ensure that the public gets the right information in getting in touch with any government agency, disclosure of their contact details should be included first and foremost in their official stationeries.<sup>1</sup>

  
MIRIAM DEFENSOR SANTIAGO

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<sup>1</sup> This bill was originally filed in the Thirteenth Congress, Third Regular Session.

7 JUL -3 AM 1:38

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AN ACT

TO REQUIRE GOVERNMENT OFFICES, BUREAUS, AGENCIES,  
INSTRUMENTALITIES AND AFFILIATES, INCLUDING GOVERNMENT-OWNED  
AND CONTROLLED CORPORATIONS, TO DISCLOSE CONTACT  
INFORMATION

*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 “Government Contact  
Act of 2007.”

SECTION 2. *Declaration of Policy.* – It is hereby declared the policy of the  
State to be accessible to the public in order to better administer its duties and  
responsibilities.

SECTION 3. *Definition of Terms.* – The term “government offices, bureaus,  
agencies, instrumentalities, affiliates, including government-owned and controlled  
corporations” refer to an administrative unit of the government, including all the agencies  
of the government.

SECTION 4. *Requirement for Government Offices, Bureaus, Agencies,  
Instrumentalities, Affiliates, Including Government-Owned and Controlled Corporations  
to Include Addresses, Phone Numbers and Mobile Phone Numbers, on their Stationeries.*

– Each government offices, bureaus, agencies, instrumentalities, affiliates, including  
government-owned and controlled corporations shall include its addresses, website  
addresses, phone numbers and mobile phone numbers, on their official stationeries. In the  
case of correspondence originating from a regional or local office of a government

1 agency, the agency shall include the address and phone number of the regional or local  
2 office on the stationery.

3 SECTION 5. *Exception.* This shall not apply in any case in which compliance  
4 with Section 4 would not be in the national security interests of the Republic of the  
5 Philippines, as determined by the head of the agency.

6 SECTION 6. *Separability Clause.* – If any provision or part hereof, is held invalid  
7 or unconstitutional, the remainder of the law or the provision not otherwise affected shall  
8 remain valid and subsisting.

9 SECTION 7. *Repealing Clause.* – Any law, presidential decree or issuance,  
10 executive order, letter of instruction, administrative order, rule or regulation contrary to,  
11 or inconsistent with the provisions of this Act is hereby repealed, modified or amended  
12 accordingly.

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

Approved,

spsc/5-28-07