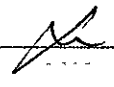


SENATE
S. No. 97



Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The Constitution, Article 3, Section 7 provides that:

SEC. 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.¹

acc 
MIRIAM DEFENSOR SANTIAGO

¹ This bill was originally filed in the Thirteenth Congress, Third Regular Session.

SENATE
S. No. 97

Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

1 AN ACT
2 TO REQUIRE GOVERNMENT OFFICES, BUREAUS, AGENCIES, INSTRUMENTALITIES
3 AND AFFILIATES, INCLUDING GOVERNMENT-OWNED AND CONTROLLED
4 CORPORATIONS, TO DISCLOSE CONTACT INFORMATION
5

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

8 SECTION 1. *Short Title.* -This Act shall be known as the "Government Contact Act."

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

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

14 SECTION 4. *Requirement for Government Offices, Bureaus, Agencies, Instrumentalities,*
15 *Affiliates, Including Government-Owned and Controlled Corporations to Include Addresses,*
16 *Phone Numbers and Mobile Phone Numbers, on their Stationeries,* - Each government offices,
17 bureaus, agencies, instrumentalities, affiliates, including government-owned and controlled
18 corporations shall include its addresses, website addresses, phone numbers and mobile phone
19 numbers, on their official stationeries. In the case of correspondence originating from a regional
20 or local office of a government agency, the agency shall include the address and phone number
21 of the regional or local office on the stationery.

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

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

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

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

12 Approved,

/apm062210