

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 6927

(In Substitution of House Bill No. 1248)

Introduced by Representatives Luis Raymund "LRay" F. Villafuerte, Victor A. Yap, Evelina G. Escudero, Abraham "Bambol" Tolentino, Joy Myra S. Tambunting, Frederick W. Siao, Carlito S. Marquez, Micaela S. Violago, Fernando T. Cabredo, Jose Enrique "Joet" S. Garcia III, Strike B. Revilla, Ramon C. Nolasco, Jr., Jose Francisco "Kiko" B. Benitez, John Reynald M. Tiangco, Enrico A. Pineda, Virgilio S. Lacson, Gabriel H. Bordado, Jr., Maricel G. Natividad-Nagano, Alyssa Sheena P. Tan, France L. Castro, Cristal L. Bagatsing, Teodorico T. Haresco, Jr., Edgar M. Chatto, "Kuya" Jose Antonio R. Sy-Alvarado and Sarah Jane I. Elago

AN ACT
ESTABLISHING THE E-GOVERNMENT, DEFINING ITS POWERS AND
FUNCTIONS, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

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 "E-Government Act".

2 SEC. 2. *Declaration of Policy.* — The State hereby adopts the following policies:

3 1) The State shall provide effective leadership for the development and
4 promotion of electronic government services and processes;

5 2) The State shall provide increased opportunities for citizen participation
6 in government;

7 3) The State shall promote inter-agency collaboration in providing electronic
8 government services;

9 4) The State shall promote the use of the Internet and emerging technologies
10 within and across government agencies to provide citizen-centric government
11 information and services;

12 5) The State shall ensure that costs and burdens are reduced for businesses
13 and other government entities;

1 6) The State shall promote better-informed decision-making by policy
2 makers;

3 7) The State shall promote access to high quality government information
4 and services across multiple channels; and

5 8) The State shall make the government more transparent and accountable.

6 SEC. 3. *Definition of Terms.* — As used in this Act:

7 a) *Information and Communications Technology or ICT* shall mean the
8 totality of electronic means to access, create, collect, store, process, receive,
9 transmit, present and disseminate information;

10 b) *Electronic Government or E-Government* shall mean the use of ICT by the
11 government and the public to enhance access to and delivery of
12 government services to bring about efficient, responsive, ethical,
13 accountable and transparent government service;

14 c) *ICT-Enabled Services* shall mean those engaged in providing services that
15 require the intrinsic use of ICTs including engineering or architectural
16 design, informatics service providers, offshoring and outsourcing service
17 providers such as call centers, back office processing, software
18 development, medical or legal transcription, animation, game
19 development, and other services that require the intrinsic use of a
20 networked information infrastructure;

21 d) *Chief Information Officer or CIO* shall mean a senior officer in all national
22 government agencies, including constitutional offices, state universities
23 and colleges, government-owned and controlled corporations, and
24 government financial institutions responsible for the development and
25 management of the agency's ICT systems and applications;

26 e) *Interoperability* shall mean the ability of different operating and software
27 systems, applications, and services to communicate and exchange data in
28 an accurate, effective, and consistent manner.

29 SEC. 4. *E-Government Master Plan.* — The Department of Information and
30 Communications Technology (DICT) shall establish and promote an E-Government
31 Master Plan to encourage excellence in facilitating the development and

1 enhancement of all E-Government services and processes. The E-Government
2 Master Plan shall be reviewed and revised every three years.

3 SEC. 5. *E-Government Programs.* - The E-Government Master Plan shall include
4 the following programs:

- 5 1) *Philippine Government Interoperability Framework.* — A framework shall be
6 developed to guide and govern basic technical and informational interoperability
7 of government ICT systems. Such framework shall guide all shared operations
8 and services of the Philippine government - between and among its various
9 agencies, as well as for these agencies, in dealing with their various
10 constituencies.
- 11 2) *Archives and Records Management Information System.* — A system shall be
12 designed to systematically and efficiently manage government documents and
13 records. This includes the digitization of paper-based documents and records and
14 the development of systems that will manage these documents, — from creation,
15 routing, tracking, and archiving to disposal, — while adhering to existing
16 policies, laws and the standards of the International Organization for
17 Standardization.
- 18 3) *Government Online Payment System.* — An Internet-based electronic payment
19 facility and gateway that will enable citizens and businesses to remit payments
20 electronically to government agencies shall be created. It shall render services
21 through various delivery channels, which include debit instructions accounts
22 (debit cards), credit instructions (credit cards) and mobile wallets (SMS).
- 23 4) *Citizen Frontline Delivery Services.* — Services that are needed to facilitate
24 business registration-related transactions shall be made efficient by integrating
25 all agencies involved in business registration, such as the Department of Trade
26 and Industry, Securities and Exchange Commission, Cooperative Development
27 Authority, Bureau of Internal Revenue, Social Security System, Home
28 Development Mutual Fund, Philippine Health Insurance Corporation, Local
29 Government Units (LGUs) and other permit/license-issuing agencies.
- 30 5) *Public Financial Management.* — Various financial systems in government such
31 as taxation, payment systems, accounting, business registries, shall be
32 harmonized and managed.

1 6) *Procurement System* - An online and real-time service that encompasses all
2 procurement processes involving bidding, contract agreements, and payment for
3 services or supplies shall also be developed.

4 The E-Government Master Plan shall likewise include the following:

- 5 1) Inventory and purchase of hardware and software of all government offices;
- 6 2) Utilization of servers, network connections and data centers in all government
7 offices;
- 8 3) Security, disaster recovery plans and archiving considering existing services and
9 capabilities, as well as future information systems; and
- 10 4) Standardization of systems across government agencies to promote
11 interoperability and database management.

12 *SEC. 6. DICT Secretary as E-Government Head.* —The Secretary of the DICT shall
13 head the E-Government initiative. The Secretary is expected to spearhead all
14 aspects of implementation of the E-Government Master Plan to catalyze the
15 optimum use of ICT in government to expand and improve public services,
16 government operations and capabilities.

17 *SEC. 7. Chief Information Officers.* — Chief Information Officers shall be assigned
18 and deployed to national and key governmental units and perform the following
19 functions:

- 20 1) Advise agencies on how best to leverage ICTs to optimize the delivery of public
21 services, and achieve efficient and cost effective operations;
- 22 2) Develop, maintain and manage the agency's information systems;
- 23 3) Manage and supervise the implementation of ICT-based projects, systems and
24 processes;
- 25 4) Formulate and implement processes in relation to the adoption of ICT-based
26 solutions as provided by the E-Government plan;
- 27 5) Manage operational risks related to ICT in coordination with the agency's
28 management and stakeholders; and
- 29 6) Ensure that the ICT programs and operations are consistent with national
30 policies and standards.

31 *SEC. 8. Local Government Unit (LGU) ICT Officers.* - Each LGU shall have an ICT
32 Officer assigned to manage and supervise its adoption of the E-Government Plan.

1 The LGU ICT Officer is likewise tasked to spearhead seminars and other means of
2 educating the community to maximize E-Government initiatives.

3 SEC. 9. *E-Government Status Report*. - Each agency and LGU shall compile and
4 submit an annual E-Government Status Report on: (a) the status of the
5 implementation of electronic government initiatives; (b) compliance by the agency
6 with this Act; and (c) performance in delivering programs through the E-
7 Government to constituencies.

8 SEC. 10. *Implementing Rules and Regulations*. — The DICT shall, in coordination
9 with relevant agencies and upon consultation with stakeholders, issue within sixty
10 (60) days from the effectivity of this Act, the necessary rules and regulations for the
11 effective implementation of this Act.

12 SEC. 11. *Separability Clause*. — If any provision of this Act shall be declared
13 unconstitutional or invalid, the other provisions not otherwise affected shall remain
14 in full force and effect.

15 SEC. 12. *Repealing Clause*. — All laws, decrees, executive orders, rules and
16 regulations and other issuances or parts thereof which are inconsistent with this
17 Act are hereby repealed, amended or modified accordingly.

18 SEC. 13. *Effectivity Clause*. — This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its
19 publication in a newspaper of general circulation.

20 Approved