

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City, Metro Manila

NINETEENTH CONGRESS
Second Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 9194



**Introduced by Representatives FERDINAND ALEXANDER A. MARCOS,
IVAN HOWARD A. GUINTU, DEAN ASISTIO,
FAUSTINO "INNO" A. DY V, RALPH WENDEL P. TULFO,
and BRYAN B. REVILLA**

EXPLANATORY NOTE


Section 12, Article XIV of the 1987 Constitution provides, among others, that the State shall "promote the adaptation of technology from all sources for the national benefit."

Advancements in the realm of information and communications technology within the past century have brought the world into what is called the Information Age. Through these technological advancements, information has become more accessible to people. The storage, management and sharing of information have become more efficient with the use of digital platforms.


This proposed legislative measure seeks to apply these technological advancements to the record management of correctional and detention facilities by establishing a Digital Prison Records System (System), a computerized system designed to store, manage and share information related to persons deprived of liberty (PDLs), their cases, relevant court records and other related matters. Existing paper-based documents and records shall be digitalized and migrated to the System which shall be managed by the Bureau of Corrections and the Bureau of Jail Management and Penology.

The digitalization of the records of PDLs will greatly help towards a swifter administration of justice, as the courts, the legal counsels of PDLs and other relevant parties can efficiently and readily access relevant records pertaining to PDLs and thereby promoting efficiency in the management of pending cases as well as transparency in detention and correctional facilities.


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



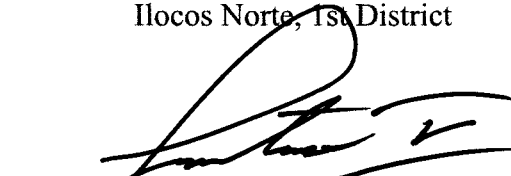
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Representative
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BRYAN B. REVILLA
Representative,
AGIMAT Partylist

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**AN ACT
PROVIDING FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A DIGITAL PRISON RECORD
SYSTEM BY THE BUREAU OF CORRECTIONS AND THE BUREAU OF JAIL
MANAGEMENT AND PENOLOGY, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR, AND
FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

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 “Digital Prison Record System Act.”

SEC. 2. *Declaration of Policy.* – It is the policy of the State to promote efficiency, transparency, and accuracy in the administration of justice. By harnessing technology, the government aims to improve the management of information and records concerning persons deprived of liberty.

SEC. 3. *Establishment of the Digital Prison Records System.* – The Bureau of Correction (BuCor) and the Bureau of Jail Management and Penology (BJMP) shall establish a computerized system to be known as the “Digital Prison Records System” (System) designed to store, manage and share information related to persons deprived of liberty, their cases, relevant court records and other related matters. Pursuant to this, the BuCor and the BJMP shall undertake the digitalization and migration to the System of their paper-based documents and records concerning persons deprived of liberty under their respective custody.

SEC. 4. *Accessibility and Integration.* – The System shall be accessible to law enforcement agencies and the courts through their duly authorized officers and agents and to the legal counsel of the persons deprived of liberty subject to the provisions of Republic Act No. 10173 or the Data Privacy Act. As far as practicable, the System shall be integrated to the

existing records management system of law enforcement agencies as well as the courts upon the assent of the Supreme Court.

SEC. 5. *Data Security and Privacy.* – The System shall be kept secure and free from interference and unauthorized access and for this purpose it shall be equipped with security measures to protect the integrity and confidentiality of the stored information and data. Personal and sensitive information shall be processed and shared in compliance with existing data protection laws and regulations.

SEC. 6. *Training and Capacity Building.* – The BuCor and the BJMP shall conduct regular training programs to equip authorized personnel with the skills and knowledge required for the efficient utilization of the System.

SEC. 7. *Appropriations.* – The amount necessary to cover the initial implementation of this Act shall be charged against the current year's appropriation of the BuCor and the BJMP. Thereafter, such sums as may be necessary for the implementation of this Act shall be included in the General Appropriations Act of the year following its enactment.

SEC. 8. *Implementing Rules and Regulation.* – The BuCor and the BJMP, in coordination with the Department of Information and Communications Technology, National Privacy Commission and other relevant agencies, shall promulgate the necessary rules and regulations to properly and efficiently implement this Act within ninety (90) days from the effectivity of this Act.

SEC. 9. *Separability Clause.* – If any provision or part of this Act, or the application thereof to any person or circumstance, is held unconstitutional or invalid, the remainder of this Act shall not be affected thereby.

SEC. 10. *Repealing Clause.* – All laws, presidential decrees, executive orders, proclamations, rules and regulations, or any part thereof, which are inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SEC. 11. *Effectivity.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days from its publication in the Official Gazette or in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,