

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

SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 1051

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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Introduced By: REPRESENTATIVE MAGNOLIA ROSA C. ANTONINO

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The installation of Closed Circuit Televisions Surveillance Cameras (CCTVs) in public places in the United Kingdom and many countries in Europe has generated raging controversy for the reason that it is violative of the right to privacy of citizens. Law enforcement authorities in these countries justified that CCTVs are valuable tools which contribute to public safety and security and in protecting both people and property. These facts therefore outweigh the issue on the invasion of privacy.

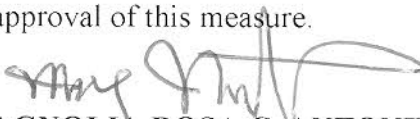
The popularity of using CCTV surveillance cameras has increased tremendously over the past few years. In the United States, the heated debates on the issue of privacy had been toned down when the culprits in the recent terrorist attack at the Boston Marathon had been identified as the action was caught on a surveillance camera that led to immediate solution of the crime.

In our country when record of crime incidents is at its highest level, the installation of CCTV surveillance cameras will certainly help not only to reduce the crime rates but also to solve crimes.

It is therefore the paramount objective of this bill to require commercial establishments to install, operate and maintain CCTVs within their premises in order to deter individuals from committing crime. And if in case the crime has been consummated, the possibility of apprehending the culprit is high with the aid of surveillance cameras.

It is worthy to emphasize that this bill was first filed in the Sixteenth Congress but due to lack of material time and other factors, it did not see the light of day.

The foregoing reasons warrant the approval of this measure.


MAGNOLIA ROSA C. ANTONINO
Representative
Fourth District, Nueva Ecija

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HOUSE BILL NO. 1051

Introduced By: REPRESENTATIVE MAGNOLIA ROSA C. ANTONINO

AN ACT
REQUIRING CERTAIN COMMERCIAL ESTABLISHMENTS TO INSTALL
AND MAINTAIN CLOSED CIRCUIT TELEVISION CAMERAS (CCTVs)
WITHIN THEIR PREMISES AND PROVIDING PENALTIES THEREFOR

*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 “*CCTV Act of 2016*”.

SEC. 2. *Declaration of Policy.* – It is hereby declared the policy of the State to maintain peace and order, protect life, liberty and property and promote the general welfare of the people. Toward this end, it is necessary to require commercial establishments to install and maintain Closed Circuit Televisions Cameras (CCTVs) in strategic places in their respective premises in order to deter the possible commission of crime for fear of apprehension or in case the crime has been committed, there is a bigger chance that such device will be instrumental in the solution of the crime for the benefit of the citizenry.

SEC. 3. *Mandatory Installation and Maintenance of Closed Circuit Television Cameras (CCTVs).* – All commercial establishments employing five (5) or more workers are hereby mandated to install, operate twenty four (24) hours a day and maintain Closed Circuit Televisions Cameras (CCTVs) in strategic places within their premises, like entrance and exit points, or within the perimeter of the workplace, etc.: *Provided, however,* no CCTV shall be installed in a place that may violate the privacy of the employee or worker.

All commercial establishments shall keep or store in a safe place such video recordings for a period of not less than thirty (30) days from the date of recording.

SEC. 4. *Definition of Term.* – As used in this Act, the term “commercial establishments” shall include, but not limited to, convenience stores, hospitals, malls or shopping centers, movie houses, amusement places, supermarkets, grocery stores, warehouses or similar establishments.

SEC. 5. *Pre-requisite to the Issuance of Business Permit.* – No business permit shall be issued by any local government unit or agency of the government unless Closed Circuit Televisions Cameras (CCTVs) have been installed in such commercial establishments.

SEC. 6. *Notice of Surveillance.* – The owner or chief executive officer of the commercial establishment shall ensure that clearly visible and readable signs are posted to make the public aware that cameras are in use in the premises.

SEC. 7. *Confidentiality and Non-Disclosure of Recordings; Exceptions.* - The owner or chief executive officer of the commercial establishment shall not be allowed to disclose the video feeds or recording to any person, media or to upload in the internet except upon written request from government authorities and for legal objective or in aid of law enforcement purposes as in the following instances:

- a. In connection with an investigation or prosecution of an offense punishable by law or regulation to ascertain the identity of the perpetrator of the crime; and
- b. In connection with any administrative, civil or criminal proceeding.

SEC. 8. *Penalties.* – Any person who violates any provision of this Act shall be liable on conviction to imprisonment for a term not exceeding six (6) months or a fine not exceeding fifty thousand pesos (P50,000.00) or both at the discretion of the court.

If the offense is committed by a corporation, partnership or any other organization or entity, the penalty provided herein shall be imposed on the president or chief operating officer, whichever the case may be.

SEC. 9.. *Rules and Regulations.* – The Department of Interior and Local Government, in coordination with the Philippine National Police (PNP) and the Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE), shall issue the necessary rules and regulations to implement this Act.

SEC. 10. *Repealing Clause.* – All laws, decrees, executive orders, rules and regulations, which are inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed, amended or modified accordingly.

SEC. 11. *Separability Clause.* – If for any reason, any part or provision of this Act is held invalid, the remaining provision not affected thereby, shall remain in full force or effect.

SEC. 12. *Effectivity.* -This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved.