

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City



EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 2562

Introduced by Rep. Precious Hipolito Castelo

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Some cities or similar local government units have issued ordinances regulating the use of closed-circuit television (CCTVs), hidden cameras, or similar digital gadgets as a form of self-protection or deterrent against unwanted intruders, attackers or criminals especially in many business establishments.

There are also mansions, houses, apartments, or residences whose owners have installed CCTVs in order to protect or drive away unwanted aggressors or at least to be able to monitor or record illegal or unlawful entries when they are absent from their own homes.

Under this bill, it is incumbent upon CCTV owners to preserve every information or recorded data captured in their protective gadgets especially whenever a crime was committed and that there are no witnesses when it happened but what was left were the images or sounds captured by said CCTV, hidden camera or similar digital recording gadget.

Therefore, when requested by the proper investigative body or competent court, it behooves the owner of the mansion, house, apartment or residence to volunteer or cause the submission of information or recorded data in order to facilitate the administration of justice and not obstruct it. It has now become admissible evidence in court the submission of the images or sounds captured on a CCTV or like gadget.

It is the view of this author and that denial, non-disclosure or possible tampering of evidence otherwise stored or recorded in a CCTV or like gadget during the commission of a crime is tantamount to obstruction of justice and could be construed as attempt at tampering of evidence, hence this submission.

The Immediate enactment of this bill is most earnestly sought.


PRECIOUS HIPOLITO CASTELO

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AN ACT
REQUIRING CLOSED-CIRCUIT TELEVISION (CCTV) OWNERS TO YIELD
INFORMATION OR RECORDED DATA ON THE COMMISSION OF A CRIME
UPON REQUEST OF THE PROPER INVESTIGATIVE BODY OR COMPETENT
COURT AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Be it enacted in the Senate and the House of Representatives of the Republic of the Philippines in Congress assembled:

SECTION 1: This Act shall be known as the "CCTV Recorded Data Act."

SEC. 2. It shall be legal obligation for every CCTV owner to yield information or recorded data on the commission of a crime especially when requested by the proper investigative body or competent court.

Denial or non-disclosure of the requested information or recorded data when a crime was committed shall obstruct prompt administration of justice and may be construed as spoliation or tampering of evidence.

SEC. 3. The Department of Justice shall issue appropriate guidelines, rules and regulations to effectively implement the provisions of this Act.

SEC. 4. All laws, decrees, issuances, executive orders, rules and regulations inconsistent with the provision of this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SEC. 5. This Act shall take effect upon its publication in the Official Gazette and in at least three newspapers of general circulation thirty (30) days upon its approval.

Approved,
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