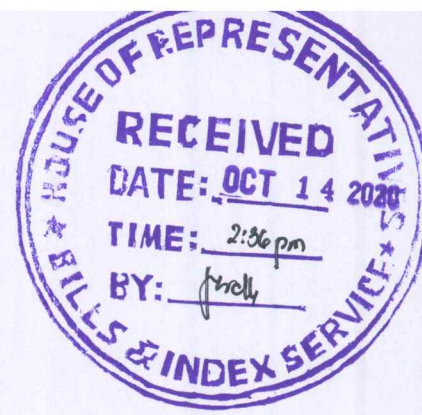


Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
Second Regular Session



HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 1290

BY HONORABLE CHERYL P. DELOS-O-MONTALLA

RESOLUTION

URGING THE LEADERSHIP OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES TO IMMEDIATELY UPGRADE THE INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY SERVICE (ICTS) OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES INTO A BUREAU-LEVEL OFFICE

WHEREAS, the Information and Communications Technology Service (ICTS) is responsible for the overall planning, development and implementation of Information and Communications Technology (ICT) plans, policies and programs of the House of Representatives (HRep);

WHEREAS, the ICTS provides vital and highly specialized support functions for the HRep to efficiently perform its constitutional mandate, together with the Senate of the Philippines, of laying down policies of the government;

WHEREAS, ICTS provides expert technical assistance for and/or oversees all ICT initiatives of the House Secretariat to ensure that these initiatives effected smoothly as part of the exercise of the HRep of its functions under the constitution;

WHEREAS, administratively, the ICTS under the Knowledge Management Systems Bureau (KMSB) which in turn directly reports to the Secretary General of the House of Representatives;

WHEREAS, Republic Act No. 10844 declared that the state should “ensure that provision of a strategic, reliable, cost-efficient and citizen-centric information and communications technology infrastructure, systems and resources as instrument of good governance and global competitiveness”;

WHEREAS, the ongoing CoViD-19 pandemic has shown the world the importance of expansive, stable, reliable and innovative digital interventions in our concerted efforts to contain the spread of the disease caused by SARS-CoV-2;

WHEREAS, under the “new normal” approach of combating the virus, the House of Representatives has been conducting virtual plenary sessions, committee meetings and events, as well as the electronic transmittal of documents;

WHEREAS, the recent events which led to the change in the leadership of the House of Representatives has shown us that the ICTS, under the auspices of a leadership whose goal is for personal aggrandizement, can take advantage of the current inherent flaws of the ICTS in order to silence the voice of the Honorable Members of the House of Representatives and curtail the voice of the people of the legislative districts and sectoral parties which we represent;

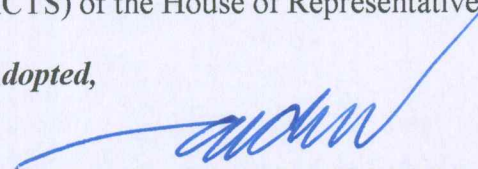
WHEREAS, this travesty must not be repeated as this undermines the discharge of the Members of the House of Representatives of their constitutionally-mandated functions;

WHEREAS, an Information and Communications Technology Bureau must be established in the House of Representatives whose shared objective is to continually transform the House Secretariat into a forward-looking and/or innovative workforce through the (a) prudent adoption and/or use of available modern ICT equipment and software, (b) attraction and retention of competent ICT professionals, and (c) strengthening of enabling environment for civil servants' professional growth;

WHEREAS, above and beyond the cited reasons for the establishment of an Information and Communications Technology Bureau is the urgent necessity for this stand-alone bureau to observe and maintain its integrity and credibility particularly in the activities of the House of Representatives as an institution where the collective voice of the individual members are required and necessitated;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives to urge its leadership to immediately upgrade the Information and Communications Technology Service (ICTS) of the House of Representatives into a bureau-level office.

Adopted,



CHERYL P. DELOSOS-MONTALLA
Representative
2nd District, Zambales