HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 561

Introduced by Rep. Winston "Winnie" Castelo

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This measure contemplates what shall be known as the "local Government Disclosure Act" which would, in effect, allow public access to transactions involving the local government unit and the governors, city mayors, municipal mayors, treasurers, accountants, budget officers and other fund accountable officers involved in the utilization of public funds inasmuch as the principle accountability shall take highest precedence in a wide range of governmental and developmental affairs at the local level.

Therefore, it is not as if the provisions of Section 352 of Republic Act No. 7160 also known as the Local Government Code of 1991 have been enough. In other words, under this proposed measure, other items of expenditures and disbursements would now need to be posted in various effective ways such as but not limited to websites, newspapers, or other publicly accessible or conspicuous places to demonstrate the government's resolve to make "public office a public trust" and to do justice in the principle of "public accountability in the administration of public funds."

A whole range of fiscal matters or items of expenditures have now to be posted to serve public notice how timely and prompt disclosure will effectively plug possible holes of graft and corruption in the local bureaucratic level. More importantly, public trust is the basic ingredient in the government's menu of transparency, accountability, and good governance.

This bill aims to introduce a new bureaucratic culture that will squeeze more bang out of every buck, as if it were. The immediate passage of this bill is therefore most earnestly sought, hence this submission.

WINNIE CASTELO

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 561

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AN ACT
MANDATING FULL PUBLIC DISCLOSURE BY GOVENORS, CITY MAYORS, MUNICIPAL MAYORS, TREASURERS, ACCOUNTANTS, BUDGET OFFICERS AND OTHER FUND ACCOUNTABLE OFFICERS OF THE LOCAL BUDGET AND FINANCES OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNIT THEREBY AMENDING SECTION 352 OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT CODE OF 1991

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 "Local Government Transactions Disclosure Act of 2016."

SEC. 2. In addition to the provisions of Section 352 of Republic Act No. 7160 otherwise known as the "Local Government Code of 1991," the following fiscal items shall be made mandatory for full disclosure and posting, as follows:

1. Annual Budget
2. Quarterly Statement of Cash Flows
3. Statement of Receipts and Expenditures
4. Trust Fund Utilization
5. Special Education Fund Utilization
6. 20% Component of the IRA Utilization
7. Gender and Development Fund Utilization
8. Statement of Debt Service
9. Annual Procurement Plan or Procurement List
10. Items to Bid
11. Bid Results on Civil Works, Goods and Services
12. Abstract of Bids Calculated

SEC. 3. Said fiscal items in accordance with the forms, procedures, and schedules prescribed by the Department of Budget and Management as well as those that may be jointly issued with the Commission on Audit and other cognizant agencies shall fully disclose and post the same in three (3) publicly accessible and conspicuous places aside from posting them on websites or publication in newspapers.

SEC. 4. The Department of Budget and Management in collaboration with the Commission on Audit shall issue rules, regulations, promulgations and guidelines for the effective implementation of the provisions of this Act.

SEC. 5. This Act shall take effect thirty (30) days after its publication in the Official Gazette.

Approved,