

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

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS  
First Regular Session



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**COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 300**

Submitted by the Committee on People's Participation on MAR 12 2020

**Re** : **House Bill No. 6599**  
Recommending its approval in substitution of House Bills Numbered 1677 and 3238

**Sponsors** : Deputy Speaker Luis Raymund "Lray" F. Villafuerte, Jr.,  
Representatives Florida "Rida" P. Robes, and Rosanna  
"Ria" Vergara

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Mr. Speaker:

The Committee on People's Participation to which were referred House Bill No. 1677 introduced by Deputy Speaker Luis Raymund "Lray" F. Villafuerte, Jr., entitled:

"AN ACT PROVIDING A FRAMEWORK FOR CITIZEN PARTICIPATION  
IN THE LEGISLATIVE PROCESS THROUGH THE USE OF THE  
INTERNET AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES"

and

House Bill No. 3238, introduced by Representative Florida "Rida" P. Robes, entitled:


"AN ACT ESTABLISHING A FRAMEWORK FOR CITIZENS  
PARTICIPATION IN LEGISLATION AND RULE-MAKING THROUGH  
THE USE OF INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATIONS  
TECHNOLOGY PLATFORMS"

has considered the same and recommends that the attached **House Bill No. 6599** entitled:

**"AN ACT ESTABLISHING A FRAMEWORK FOR CITIZENS  
PARTICIPATION IN LEGISLATIVE POLICYMAKING THROUGH THE USE  
OF INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY  
PLATFORMS"**

be approved in substitution of House Bills Numbered 1677 and 3238 with Deputy Speaker Luis Raymund "Lray" F. Villafuerte, Jr. and Representative Florida "Rida" P. Robes as authors and Representatives Rosanna "Ria" Vergara, Glona G. Labadlabad, Yasser Alonto Balindong, Solomon R. Chungalao, Ma. Lourdes Acosta-Alba, Macnell M. Lusotan and Gabriel H. Bordado, Jr. as co-authors thereof.

Respectfully submitted,



**FLORIDA "RIDA" P. ROBES**  
Chairperson  
Committee on People's Participation

THE HONORABLE SPEAKER  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
QUEZON CITY

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

**EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS**  
**First Regular Session**

House Bill No. 6599  
(In substitution of House Bills Numbered 1677 and 3238)

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Introduced by Deputy Speaker Luis Raymund F. Villafuerte, Jr., Representatives Florida “Rida” P. Robes, Rosanna “Ria” Vergara, Glona G. Labadlabad, Yasser Alonto Balindong, Solomon R. Chungalao, Ma. Lourdes Acosta-Alba, Macnell M. Lusotan, and Gabriel H. Bordado, Jr.

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**AN ACT ESTABLISHING A FRAMEWORK FOR CITIZENS PARTICIPATION IN  
LEGISLATIVE POLICYMAKING THROUGH THE USE OF INFORMATION  
AND COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY PLATFORMS**

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

1 **SECTION 1. Short Title.-** This Act shall be known as the “Crowdsourcing in Legislative  
2 Policymaking Act”

3 **SEC. 2. Declaration of Policy.-** The Philippines is a democratic and republican State.  
4 Sovereignty resides in the people and all government authority emanates from them. The State  
5 should harness the potential to consult its citizens from all over the world in all fields of social,  
6 economic, and political discourse, including legislation and rule-making. This principle is  
7 extended to the right of citizens to participate in the legislative process through the use of  
8 information and communication technology platforms.

9 **SEC. 3. Definition of Terms.-** As used in this Act:

10 a. **Crowdsourcing** refers to the practice of engaging individuals or a group towards  
11 a common goal, often at innovation, problem solving, or efficiency in the delivery  
12 of services. Powered by new technologies, social media and the development of the  
13 worldwide web 2.0, the individuals or groups are able to contribute to the  
14 formulation, improvement, and creation of laws that are beneficial to the nation;



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- 2           b. **Information and communications technology** refers to the totality of electronic
- 3           means to access, create, collect, store, process receive, transmit, present and
- 4           disseminate information;
- 5           c. **Online** refers to a location accessed through a connection to or services by a
- 6           central computer network or telecommunication systems, such as the internet,
- 7           citizens anywhere in the world as opposed to a physical location, or the condition
- 8           of being connected to a network of computers or other devices;
- 9           d. **Portal** refers to the homepages of the Philippine Senate and the House of
- 10          Representatives or the Presidential Legislative Liaison Office (PLLO) maintained
- 11          by their respective Secretariats for purposes of this Act; and
- 12          e. **Web 2.0 or the Participative and Social Web** refers to the second generation of
- 13          the World Wide Web (www) characterized especially by the change from static
- 14          web pages to user-generated content, ease of use, inter-operability for end users,
- 15          and which encourages a participatory culture as typified by social media users.

16   **SEC. 4. Crowdsourcing in the Senate and the House of Representatives.** - This Act allows

17   the citizens and the public at large to participate in the legislative process through the internet

18   or telecommunication platforms. The crowdsourcing process shall be as follows:

- 19          a. On First Reading – Upon the filing of a national measure, the Secretariats of the
- 20          House and the Senate shall post a copy of the measure in the Congress Websites and
- 21          shall give the public fifteen (15) working days, except for bills certified as urgent
- 22          by the President, to submit their comments upon referral of the measure on First
- 23          Reading. The comments from the public shall be part of the inputs to the committee
- 24          deliberations.

25          A standing or special committee may incorporate the comments submitted by the

26          public and issue a crowdsourcing feedback report online to inform the proponent of

27          the action taken by the standing or special committee.

- 28          b. On Second Reading – Upon the submission of a committee report by the concerned
- 29          standing or special committee to the Committee on Rules, the public is given three
- 30          (3) working days to submit its comments on the measure, except for bills certified

1 as urgent by the President, before the Committee on Rules includes the report in the  
2 Calendar of Business.

- 3 c. On Third Reading – After the measure is approved on Third Reading, but before a  
4 Conference Committee is created, the public is given three (3) working days to  
5 submit its comments and the concerned committee shall review the same for  
6 consideration at the Conference Committee level. Only comments germane to the  
7 measure approved on Third Reading shall be considered.

8 **SEC. 5. Crowdsourcing Through the Presidential Legislative Liaison (PLLO) Office.-** This  
9 Act allows all citizens and the public at-large to participate in the legislative process through  
10 the legislative liaison system via the internet or telecommunication platforms. The homepage of  
11 the PLLO shall serve as the portal for the department legislative liaison system for  
12 crowdsourcing purposes.

13 The PLLO website shall provide a platform through the internet where people can start a  
14 campaign or petition to review, amend and repeal a law or create a bill, the result of which may  
15 be transmitted to any member of both Houses for appropriate action. The PLLO shall also  
16 provide for a crowdsourcing feedback report online to inform the proponent of the action taken  
17 thereto.

18 **SEC. 6. Procedure of Registration.** – A citizen who would like to start a campaign or petition  
19 to review, amend and repeal a law or create a bill, shall register online, consistent with the  
20 provisions of Republic Act 10173, otherwise known as the “Data Privacy Act of 2012” and  
21 other applicable laws.

22 **SEC. 7. Monitoring and Evaluation** – There shall be a feedback mechanism that will guide the  
23 post-facto crowdsourcing exercise. This will enable legislators to understand public sentiments  
24 for improved grounding of their legislative duties and to ensure that concerns raised by the  
25 public are acted upon by appropriate entities. The concerned committees shall provide the  
26 result of feedback consultations to a central secretariat of the Planning and Management  
27 Information Service of both Houses of Congress and the Office of the President, that will  
28 analyze the data for emergent issues and concerns.

29 **SEC. 8. Sunset Review.-** Six (6) years from its enactment, Congress shall review and  
30 recommend amendments to this Act to attune it to developments in technology, and to

1 determine if the same can be implemented in provinces and highly urbanized cities that have  
2 adopted telecommunications and information technology convergence.

3 **SEC. 9. Implementing Rules and Regulations.-** Within sixty (60) days from the effectivity of  
4 this Act, the Secretariat of both Houses of Congress and the PLLO shall, in coordination with  
5 the Department of Information and Communications Technology (DICT), National Economic  
6 and Development Authority (NEDA) and concerned civil society organizations (CSOs),  
7 promulgate the necessary rules and regulations for the effective implementation of this Act.

8 **SEC. 10. Separability Clause.-** In case any provision or part of this Act is declared invalid or  
9 unconstitutional, the remaining parts or provisions not affected shall remain in full force and  
10 effect.

11 **SEC.11. Repealing Clause.-** All laws, decrees, executive orders, rules and regulations which are  
12 inconsistent with any provision of this Act are hereby repealed, amended or modified  
13 accordingly.

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

Approved,



## **FACT SHEET**

**House Bill No.** 6599

(In substitution of House Bills Numbered 1677 and 3238)

### **"AN ACT ESTABLISHING A FRAMEWORK FOR CITIZEN PARTICIPATION IN LEGISLATIVE POLICYMAKING THROUGH THE USE OF INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY PLATFORMS"**

*Introduced by:* **DEPUTY SPEAKER LUIS RAYMUND "LRAY" F. VILLAFUERTE, JR. AND REPRESENTATIVE FLORIDA "RIDA" P. ROBES**

*Committee Referral:* **COMMITTEE ON PEOPLE'S PARTICIPATION**

*Committee Chairperson:* **REPRESENTATIVE FLORIDA "RIDA" P. ROBES**

#### **OBJECTIVE:**

- To allow the public to participate in the legislative process through online crowdsourcing and with the use of information and communications technology.

#### **KEY PROVISIONS:**

- Allows the crowdsourcing process in different stages of legislation and rule-making through the Websites of the Senate, House of Representatives and the Presidential Legislative Liaison Office (PLLO)
- Designates the PLLO website as the portal for the department legislative liaison system and for the executive departments and agencies
- Requires the online registration of citizens who would like to submit comments on any legislative measure or rule being formulated
- Provides a feedback mechanism that will guide the post-facto crowdsourcing exercise
- Mandates Congress to review and amend this Act after six (6) years of its implementation, if necessary
- Mandates both Houses of Congress and the PLLO, in coordination with the concerned agencies and civil society organizations (CSOs), to promulgate the necessary rules and regulations to implement this Act.

**RELATED LAWS:**

Republic Act No. 10844, otherwise known as the "*Department of information and Communications Technology Act of 2015*"

Republic Act No. 10173, otherwise known as the "*Data Privacy Act of 2012*"