

SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS
OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
First Regular Session

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

House Bill No. **3054**

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES	
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REGISTRATION UNIT BILLS AND INDEX SERVICE	

Introduced by Representative Victor A. Yap

EXPLANATORY NOTE

In order to enhance Information and Communications Technology (ICT) throughout the Philippines, and to provide ICT services to the broadest number of Filipinos, it is necessary to establish shared utility corridors for fiber optic cables in road networks. This will promote wider access to Internet Services and allow the enhancement of road networks and major thoroughfares by the installation of closed circuit television (CCTVs) cameras, as well as other smart gadgets.

This bill shall establish the Philippine National Road and Fiber Optic Cable Network (to be known as the "Convergence Network") under the coordinated effort of the Department of Information and Communications Technology (DICT) and the Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH). The convergence network will be available for lease to authorized entities and will thus generate income that will recoup the costs in the long term.

This bill will significantly enhance our ICT system and provide wider access to all Filipinos, as well as creating opportunities for innovation in public service and security. We acknowledge that Sen. Paolo Benigno "Bam" Aquino filed this proposed measure in the Senate.

Hence, the passage of this bill is urgently sought.


VICTOR A. YAP
Representative, 2nd District of Tarlac

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
House Bill No. 3054

Introduced by Representative Victor A. Yap

AN ACT
PROVIDING FOR THE INSTALLATION OF INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATIONS
INFRASTRUCTURE AS PART OF THE CONSTRUCTION OF STRATEGIC NATIONAL
ROADS AND HIGHWAYS, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREOF AND FOR OTHER
PURPOSES

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

1 **SECTION 1. *Short Title.*** – This Act shall be known as the “*Shared Infrastructure for*
2 *Information and Communications Technology (ICT) Development Act*”.

3
4 **SEC. 2. *Declaration of Policy.*** – It is the policy of the State to maximize the use of existing
5 government assets and infrastructure by encouraging private sector investments and partnerships to
6 ensure efficient and effective information and communications technology (ICT) infrastructure and
7 systems.

8
9 **SEC. 3. *Shared Infrastructure of ICT Development.*** – The Department of Information and
10 Communications Technology (DICT) and the Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH)
11 shall collaborate to create:

- 12 a) **Philippine National Road and Fiber Optic Cable Network (Convergence**
13 **Network).** The DPWH and the DICT shall utilize the DPWH’s Philippine
14 National Roads as conduit for the deployment of the DICT fiber optic network.
15 The DPWH shall incorporate the installation of ducts/subducts on highways, new
16 road constructions, renovations and maintenance. The DPWH shall likewise
17 encourage local government units to do the same; and
18 b) **Training Program on the Use of the Fiber Optic Cables (FOC).** The DICT
19 shall prepare a training program covering the operation, use and maintenance of
20 the FOC network. The training program shall be provided to the DPWH and
21 other government agencies that are connected to the Convergence Network.
22

1 **SEC. 4. *Leasing of Shared Infrastructure.*** – The DPWH, in coordination with DICT, shall
2 make these Convergence Networks available for lease to entities. Priority shall be given to
3 government operations and private sector initiatives targeting underserved and marginalized sectors
4 that need government assistance to interconnect: *Provided,* That when there is an existing
5 Convergence Network, the DPWH shall no longer issue any permits to allow the construction of new
6 ICT infrastructure, unless the Convergence Network has already reached its carrying capacity.

7
8 The DICT shall reserve the right to allow legally authorized third parties with legal
9 qualifications to access or to use the ducts and subducts, without adversely affecting the fiber optics
10 installed by the DICT. Further guidelines, rules, and policies on the lease and use of the
11 Convergence Networks shall be issued by the DPWH in coordination with the DICT.

12
13 **SEC. 5. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.*** - Within sixty (60) days from the effectivity
14 of this Act, the DPWH and the DICT another relevant government agencies, shall promulgate the
15 necessary rules and regulations for the effective implementation of this Act.

16
17 **SEC. 6. *Repealing Clause*** – All laws, decrees, executive orders, rules and regulations or
18 other issuances, or parts thereof, inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed or modified
19 accordingly.

20
21 **SEC. 7. *Separability Clause.*** – If any portion or provision of this Act is declared
22 unconstitutional, the remainder of this Act or any provisions not affected thereby shall remain in
23 force and effect.

24
25 **SEC. 8. *Effectivity*** – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the
26 Official Gazette or two (2) newspapers of general circulation in the Philippines.

27
28 Approved,