



Republic of the Philippines
House of Representatives
Quezon City, Metro Manila



Seventeenth Congress
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 3965

Introduced by Honorable Geraldine B. Roman

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill requires all cities and municipalities to inform and update all barangays within their jurisdiction of all laws passed by Congress and approved by the President.

The State recognizes the vital role of communication and information in nation building and the right of the Filipino people to information on matters of public concern as provided in Section 7, Article III of the 1987 Constitution, to wit:

"SEC. 7. The right of the people to information on matters of public concern shall be recognized. Access to official records, and to documents, and papers pertaining to official acts, transactions, or decisions, as well as to government research data used as basis for policy development, shall be afforded the citizen, subject to such limitations as may be provided by law."

Information is a tool to acquaint people about the quantitative and qualitative aspects of their community life and development. If no information will be available as the basis for planning at the local level, services required and development objectives will never be realized. This bill aims to afford the people their right to information by mandating all cities and municipalities to inform and update all barangays within their jurisdiction of all laws passed by Congress and approved by the President. Under this measure, the city or local chief executives are required to disseminate information on the approved laws by furnishing the

barangays copies of the approved laws and posting them in the city, municipal or barangay halls. The local chief executives are also mandated to conduct a periodic information campaign in the barangay to raise the awareness of the public on the laws being implemented and policies being pursued by the government. Further, they are required to keep a record of the approved laws and if possible, establish and maintain an information and communication system that will facilitate the electronic dissemination of information and provide electronic access and linkages on the approved laws in the barangays.

It is in the best interest of the people in the community that their actions and decisions are made with full knowledge and in accordance with the approved laws, rules and regulations

In view thereof, approval of this bill is earnestly recommended.


GERALDINE B. ROMAN



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HOUSE BILL NO. **3965**

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AN ACT

**REQUIRING ALL CITIES AND MUNICIPALITIES TO INFORM ALL
BARANGAYS WITHIN THEIR JURISDICTION OF ALL LAWS PASSED
BY CONGRESS AND APPROVED BY THE PRESIDENT**

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

SECTION 1. All cities and municipalities are hereby required to
inform and update all barangays within their jurisdiction of all laws passed by
Congress and approved by the President.

SEC. 2. The local chief executive of every city and municipality shall be
responsible for the dissemination of information on the approved laws and shall
perform the following:

a) Assign and direct any of the legal officer, information officer or the
development planning coordinator, within ninety (90) days from the effectivity of
the approved law, to furnish all barangays within its jurisdiction copies of the
approved law and cause the posting of same in the bulletin board at the entrance of

1 the city, municipal or barangay hall, and in at least two (2) conspicuous places in
2 the local government unit. The law shall be posted in Filipino or English and in
3 the language or dialect understood by the majority of the people in the barangay.
4 The local chief executive shall record such fact in a book kept for the purpose,
5 stating the dates of approval and posting.

6 b) Distribute materials and undertake a periodic information campaigns,
7 seminars and lectures to inform the residents of barangays on the approved laws.
8 The assigned city or municipal official shall organize a neighborhood discussion
9 group in different areas of the community and shall provide a venue for the
10 community to discuss the issues, situations, and facts to achieve better
11 understanding and right action on the approved laws being implemented.

12 c) Keep a record of the approved laws which must be available to the public
13 upon request without cost. If possible, the city or local government shall establish
14 and maintain an information and communication system that will facilitate the
15 transmission and dissemination of the approved laws to the barangays through
16 electronic means and provide electronic access and linkages for barangay residents.

17 SEC. 5. Any local chief executive who fails to comply with Section 4 of
18 this Act shall be subject to administrative sanctions under the Local Government
19 Code and civil service laws, rules and regulations.

20 SEC. 6. The amount necessary for the initial implementation of this Act
21 shall be charged against the current appropriations of the local government units.

1 Thereafter, such sum as may be necessary for its continued implementation shall
2 be included in the annual budget of the local government unit.

3 SEC. 7. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication
4 in the *Official Gazette* or in a newspaper of general circulation.

5 Approved,