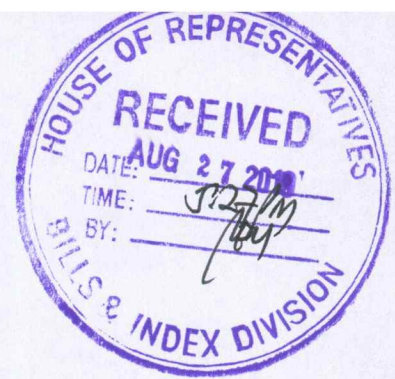


Republic of the Philippines  
**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**  
Quezon City, Philippines

**EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS**  
First Regular Session

**4208**

HOUSE BILL NO. \_\_\_\_\_



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**INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVE ALFRED VARGAS**

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**EXPLANATORY NOTE**

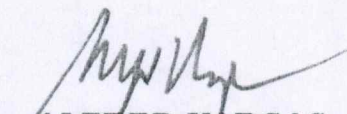
A CCTV (closed-circuit television video) system allows the use of videos cameras to monitor the interior and exterior of a property, transmitting the signal to a monitor or set of monitors. Some of the advantages of the installation of CCTV are: (1) To deter criminal activity; (2) To improve home insurance rates; (3) To gain peace of mind; and (4) To ensure cost-effective form of security.

In 2018, City Ordinance No. 2695 in Quezon City was passed, which amended Ordinance No. SP-2139, Series of 2012, which mandates all business establishments, including pawnshops and money changer shops, operating within the territorial jurisdiction of Quezon City to install Closed-Circuit Television Video (CCTV) and prescribes penalties for violations thereof.

In other countries, they have a CCTV monitoring system and their crime prevention has improved by at least 20 to 30 percent. Early this year, the Department of Interior and Local Government through its Secretary aims to reduce crime by means of CCTV in each local government unit.

Hence, this proposed legislation envisioned to impose the parameters to provide the guidelines in CCTV installation and access to its recordings to help ensure practice standards that are responsible and necessary to foster confidence in the use of the system.

Thus, the immediate passage of this bill is earnestly sought.

  
**ALFRED VARGAS**



Republic of the Philippines  
**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**  
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**EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS**  
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**INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVE ALFRED VARGAS**

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**AN ACT**  
**TO PROVIDE GUIDELINES FOR THE INSTALLATION OF THE CLOSED-**  
**CIRCUIT TELEVISION VIDEO (CCTV) AND THE PROCEDURE FOR**  
**ACCESS TO THE IMAGES**

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

SEC. 1. **Short Title.** - This Act shall be known as the "CCTV Act of 2019".

SEC 2. **Declaration of Policy.** - It is hereby the declared policy of the State to: (a) maintain peace and order, protect life, liberty and property and to promote general welfare; and (b) value the dignity of every Filipino and guarantee full respect for human rights.

SEC 3. **Objective of this Act.** - It is the objective of this Act to provide the guidelines for the installation, use and utilization of the Closed Circuit Television Videos (CCTV) in public, private and residential establishments with due regard to the privacy and civil rights of every individual by maintaining peace and order in the communities, promoting crime prevention and upholding public safety.

SEC. 4. **Definition of Terms.** - For the purpose of this Act, the following terms shall be defined as follows:

- a) CCTV - Shall refer to the use of video cameras to transmit a signal to a specific place, on a set of monitors/a television system that transmits images on a "closed loop" basis, where images are only available to those directly connected with to the transmission system;



- b) Video Surveillance - Shall refer to a closed-circuit television system for direct visual monitoring and/or recording of activities on the premises or in a specific place;
- c) Private Installations - shall refer to CCTV Cameras installed in private establishments such as but not limited to private subdivisions, condominiums and other residential areas, business hubs, malls and shopping centers;
- d) Pubic Installations - shall refer to CCTV Cameras installed in public places such as but not limited to government offices and instrumentalities, parks, streets and highways including public markets, airports and public transport terminals;
- e) Images - Shall refer to recorded images in the CCTV Cameras; and
- f) Persons in Authority - Shall refer to elements of the Philippine National Police, Barangay Chairman and the Barangay Tanods.

SEC. 5. **Functions of CCTV.** - The installation of CCTV in both private and public establishments shall have the following functions:

- a) Crime Prevention - the CCTV shall function as a tool of law enforcement and crime prevention by way of effective monitoring of public places, such as pathways and streets, parks and other areas;
- b) Traffic Monitoring - the CCTV shall enable the viewing of a wider range of data images on motorists, pedestrians and critical thoroughfares, to provide quicker apprehension of road safety violators and pinpoint causes of traffic build-up;
- c) Surveillance - the CCTV shall function as a surveillance tool that will allow security agencies to monitor private establishments and ensure the safety and security of individuals and the protection of private properties from theft and robbery;
- d) Household Affairs - the CCTV shall function to monitor households by way of monitoring health, security and safety of household members, unauthorized access to household premises and general conduct of household affair;
- e) Monitor Employees - the CCTV shall function as a tool to monitor the general administrative conduct of employees to aid in the review of employee workmanship and performance; and
- f) Documentation - the CCTV shall function as a tool to monitor the progress or development of data; or the sequences of events in a facility or institution.

The data to be collected shall be relevant, adequate and not excessive for the purposes for which they are obtained.



SEC. 6. **Guiding Principles** - This Act shall have the following guiding principles:

- a) The CCTV shall at all times be operated with respect to people's privacy and their right to conduct or engage in lawful activities;
- b) The owner/operator of the CCTV shall be publicly known to ensure appropriate accountability and shall be appropriately registered before the Philippine National Police;
- c) Signage informing the public of the existence of CCTV cameras shall be erected. It shall be visible, distinctive and located in areas with good lighting;
- d) The premise for use of CCTV as crime deterrent shall mobilize a quick and adequate response unit from the persons of authority such as but not limited to the local ponce force or barangay watchmen on reported incidents;
- e) Persons of Authority shall develop a system for addressing complaints to receive and investigate complaints about alleged violations of privacy;
- f) A recorded material shall not be released to the media except only to acquire relevant information on the identity and whereabouts of an individual wanted for a criminal offense, and provide the general public information of critical concern in the community. In such cases, the recognizable characteristics of other people in the footage shall be obscured; and
- g) Tapes or still photographs shall be disposed of in a manner which does not allow the reproduction of any of the recorded material.

SEC 7. **Prohibited Acts and Recordings**. - It shall be unlawful for any person or establishment to perform the following acts:

- a) Install or use the CCTV on someone else's property;
- b) Install or use the CCTV cameras in any restroom, toilet, bathroom, changing mom and other similar areas utilized for private activities;
- c) Use CCTV with a device to overhear events, conversations or sounds without the permission of the people involved shall not be allowed;
- d) Install CCTV's in public places without the display of due notice on the walls or at the entrance of the establishment;
- e) Install a CCTV in the external part of one's residential or private property that encroaches on the private property of another or of a neighbor;
- f) Install CCTV to monitor the conduct or performance in a workplace without due notice to all employees;
- g) Install and use CCTV as surveillance tool of particular individuals on behalf of 3rd parties or paying clients covered by a contract of engagement more than the duration specified by the Philippine National Police;



- h) Install and use CCTV inside a residence to manage one's family without notice given to the staff and members of the household;
- i) To sell or publish any recorded material or still photographs for commercial purposes; and
- j) To upload any image, recording or stills from the CCTV on the Internet for entertainment purposes.

SEC. 8. ***Procedure for Access and Disclosure of Recordings.*** - Only authorized persons shall have access to images and recordings from CCTV, Viewing of the images and recordings shall take place in a restricted area or in private conditions. All access allowed or granted under the circumstances must be documented and for limited or prescribed circumstances The use, viewing, copying or disclosure of images and recordings performed in accordance with this Act shall only be allowed in the following instances only:

- a) Upon a written request from a person in authority in connection with and limited to an investigation for the prosecution of an offense punishable by law;
- b) Upon lawful order of the court, in connection with a pending criminal or civil proceeding;
- c) To determine whether an offense has been committed against a person or property and to ascertain the identity of the perpetrator and the manner by which the crime was committed;
- d) Any person whose image has been recorded may make an application in writing for a copy of the recording or its still images;
- e) Upon compliance with the Rules of Procedure set by security agencies operating under the management of clients.
- f) Law Enforcement Agencies shall not be allowed to release images or recordings from the to the media, except only when the circumstances warrant to help identify the perpetrator of a crime or locate his whereabouts, or as a matter of public information.

The use, copying or disclosure of images and recordings shall be authorized within twenty-four (24) hours after submission of the request, as herein specified.

SEC. 9. ***Retention, Storage and Preservation.*** — Unless otherwise reserved for a specific purpose to review the events of a crime or that the information needs to be studied further for any number of reasons, data of recordings shall not be kept for more than 30 days and should be automatically overwritten or deleted beyond said period.

SEC. 10. ***Penalties.*** - Any act or omission by the owner and/or operator of the CCTV in violation of the provisions of this Act shall be punishable with an imprisonment of not less than six (6) months but not exceeding six (6) years, or a fine not less than Ten Thousand Pesos (Php10,000.00) but not more than One Hundred Thousand Pesos



(Php100,000,00) or both such fine and imprisonment at the discretion of the court.

SEC. 11. **Implementing Rules and Regulations.** - The Director General of Philippine National Police in close coordination with the Secretary Department of Interior and Local Government, the Secretary of National Defense, the Secretary of Transportation and Communications, the Secretary of Justice, the National Security Adviser, and the Director of National Bureau of Investigation shall issue the necessary rules and regulations for the effective implementation of this Act.

SEC. 12. **Repealing Clause.** - All laws, presidential decrees, executive orders, rules and regulations or part thereof, contrary to or inconsistent with the provisions of this Act, are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SEC. 13. **Separability Clause.** - If any section or provision of this Act is held unconstitutional or invalid, all other sections or provisions shall remain in full force and effect

SEC. 14. **Effectivity Clause** - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette and/or in at least two (2) newspapers of general publication.

**Approved,**