

REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
Quezon City

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS  
First Regular Session

House Bill No. 1970



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Introduced by **MAGDALO Party-List Representative**  
**HON. MANUEL DG. CABOCHAN III**

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**EXPLANATORY NOTE**

Every April of each year, millions of Filipinos line up to fill out their tax returns and send a portion of their hard-earned money for the government to spend. These taxpayers, however, do not have any idea where their money went after paying their appropriate taxes. With news and stories involving millions of pesos being lost by the government to graft and corruption, taxpayers have the right to know how their money is being spent and if they are getting the right value for it.

Further, Article 2, Sections 27 and 28 of the Constitution provides:

*SEC 27. The State shall maintain honesty and integrity in the public service and take positive and effective measures against graft and corruption.*

*SEC 28. Subject to reasonable conditions prescribed by law, the State adopts and implements a policy of full public disclosure of all its transactions involving public interest.*

Our people need a new tool to hold the government accountable for spending decisions. Thus, this bill aims to increase accountability and reduce incentives for wasteful spending by providing the public with information about how their taxes are spent thru a searchable website which would foster a culture of openness, transparency, and accountability throughout the whole bureaucracy.

In view of the foregoing, the immediate approval of this measure is earnestly sought.

  
**MANUEL DG. CABOCHAN III**  
*Representative*  
Magdalo Para sa Pilipino Party-List

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AN ACT  
REQUIRING THE FULL DISCLOSURE OF ALL ENTITIES AND  
ORGANIZATIONS RECEIVING GOVERNMENT FUNDS THRU A SEARCHABLE  
DATABASE WEBSITE

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

1       **SECTION 1. Short Title.** -This act shall be known as the "Government Funding  
2       Accountability and Transparency Act of 2016".

3  
4       **SEC. 2. Definition of Terms.** - As used in this Act, the term-

5  
6       (1) "Entity" - the term entity –

7  
8       (A) Includes –

- 9  
10               (i) A corporation;  
11               (ii) An association;  
12               (iii) A partnership;  
13               (iv) A limited liability company;  
14               (v) A limited liability partnership  
15               (vi) Any other legal business entity  
16               (vii) Any other grantee or contractor that is not included in subparagraph (2)  
17                       or (3); and  
18               (viii) Local government Units; and

19  
20       (B) Does not include-

- 21  
22               (i) An individual recipient of government assistance;  
23               (ii) A government employee; or  
24               (iii) A grant or contract of a nature that could be reasonably expected to cause  
25                       damage to national security.

26  
27       (2) "Government Funding" means Government financial assistance and expenditures that  
28       include grants, contracts, sub-grants, subcontracts, loans, awards and other forms of  
29       financial assistance.

1 (3) "Searchable Database Website" means a website that allows the public to:

2  
3 A) Search government funding by name of entity, parent entity, or type of industry,  
4 geography, including location of the entity and the primary location of the  
5 performance, amounts and types of government funding, program sources, type  
6 of activity being performed, time factors such as fiscal years or multiple fiscal  
7 years, and other relevant information; and  
8

9 B) Download data included in subparagraph (A) including outcomes from searches.  
10

11 **SEC. 3. *Website.*** - The database website established by this section-

12  
13 (1) Shall not be considered in compliance if it links to the Philippine Government Electronic  
14 Procurement System (PhilGEPS) or other existing web sites and databases, unless each of  
15 those sites has information from all agencies and each category of information required to  
16 be itemized can be searched electronically by field in a single search;  
17

18 (2) Shall provide an opportunity for the public to provide input about the utility of the site  
19 and recommendations for improvements; and  
20

21 (3) Shall be updated not later than thirty (30) days after the award of any assistance requiring  
22 a posting.  
23

24 **SEC. 4. *Full Disclosure of Entities Receiving Government Funding.*** -  
25

26 (1) Effective beginning January 1, 2011 and subject to paragraphs (2) and (3), the  
27 Department of Budget and Management (DBM) shall ensure the existence and operation  
28 of a single updated searchable database website accessible by the public at no cost that  
29 includes for each entity receiving Government funding -  
30

31 (a) The name of the identity;  
32

33 (b) The amount of any government funds that the entity has received in each of the  
34 last ten (10) fiscal years;  
35

36 (c) An itemized breakdown of each transaction, including funding agency, program  
37 source, and a description of the purpose of each funding action;  
38

39 (d) The location of the entity and primary location of performance, including the city,  
40 congressional district, and country;  
41

42 (e) A unique identifier for each such entity and parent entity, should the entity be  
43 owned by another entity; and  
44

45 (f) Any other relevant information.  
46

47 (2) Effective January 1, 2011, the website shall include data for fiscal years 2009 and 2008.  
48

49 (3) Not later than January 1, 2011, information required by this section shall be posted on the  
50 website for fiscal years 2000 through 2010.

1       **SEC. 5. *Agency Responsibility.*** - The Secretary of the DBM shall provide guidance to  
2 agency heads to ensure compliance with this section.  
3

4       **SEC. 6. *Implementation Report.*** - The Secretary of the DBM shall annually report to  
5 the Senate and the House of Representatives with regard to the implementation of the website  
6 that shall include data about the usage and public feedback on the utility of the site, including  
7 recommendations for improvements. The annual report shall be made publicly available on  
8 the website.  
9

10       **SEC. 7. *Appropriations.*** - To carry out the provisions of this Act, such amount as  
11 hereby necessary is hereby authorized to be appropriated to the National Treasury.  
12

13       **SEC. 8. *Separability Clause.*** - If any provision of this Act is declared  
14 unconstitutional or invalid, the remainder thereof not affected thereby shall continue to be in  
15 full force and effect.  
16

17       **SEC. 9. *Repealing Clause.*** - All laws, decrees, orders, rules and regulations or other  
18 issuance or parts thereof inconsistent with the provision of this Act are hereby repealed,  
19 amended or modified accordingly.  
20

21       **SEC. 10. *Effectivity.*** - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication  
22 in the Official Gazette or at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

*Approved,*