

NINETEENTH CONGRESS OF THE )  
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES )  
*First Regular Session* )



'22 SEP -5 P4 :51

**SENATE**  
**S. No. 1277**

RECEIVED BY: \_\_\_\_\_

---

INTRODUCED BY SENATOR JOSEPH VICTOR G. EJERCITO

---

**AN ACT**  
**MANDATING THE USE OF SURVEILLANCE CAMERAS FOR THE SECURITY**  
**AND SAFETY OF COMMERCIAL ESTABLISHMENTS**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Article II Section 5 of the 1987 Philippine Constitution states that the maintenance of peace and order, the protection of life, liberty, and property of all people.

According to the Philippine National Police Nationwide Crime Statistics Report for July 2022, the total crime incidents rose to 30,802 with an average monthly crime rate of 27.1.<sup>1</sup> The occurrence of theft, robbery, abductions, and other heinous crimes has been increasing around the country. The public has played an active participation in reporting crimes through video recordings from public or private surveillance cameras which helped law enforcements solve the crimes.

In May 18, 2022, the Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG) issued Memorandum Circular (MC) 2022-060. The Memorandum circular encouraging all local government units, specifically, cities and municipalities to enact ordinances on the installation of surveillance cameras. In the MC, the installation of CCTV Systems may be a requirement for the issuance of business permits to establishment catering

---

<sup>1</sup> Crime Statistics- July 2022: <https://pnp.gov.ph/crime-statistics/>

to a large number of customers, and to those that are at risk or hazard-prone. <sup>2</sup> The DILG believes that installation of surveillance cameras is a powerful tool than can help LGUs in ensuring public safety, deterring crimes, and identifying and apprehending culprits.

Thu, this measure seeks to address the rising crime incidence and to show the inadequacy of proper security systems in different establishments. The mandatory installation of surveillance cameras in commercial establishments can address any lack in security personnel and can also supplement existing security systems. Further, this measure aims to protect and empower the public against criminal elements that threaten the State's peace and order, and to ensure the safety of all.

In view of the foregoing, the swift passage of this bill is earnestly sought.



**JOSEPH VICTOR G. EJERCITO**

---

<sup>2</sup> DILG Memorandum Circular No. 2022-06 [https://www.dilg.gov.ph/PDF\\_File/issuances/memo\\_circulars/dilg-memocircular-2022519\\_d95149f39c.pdf](https://www.dilg.gov.ph/PDF_File/issuances/memo_circulars/dilg-memocircular-2022519_d95149f39c.pdf)

SENATE  
S. No. 1277

RECEIVED BY: 

---

INTRODUCED BY SENATOR JOSEPH VICTOR G. EJERCITO

---

**AN ACT  
MANDATING THE USE OF SURVEILLANCE CAMERAS FOR THE SECURITY  
AND SAFETY OF COMMERCIAL ESTABLISHMENTS**

*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 “**Surveillance Camera**  
2 **for Commercial Establishments Act of 2022**”.

3 Sec. 2. *Declaration of Policy.* – It is the policy of the State to maintain peace  
4 and order, to protect life, liberty and property, and to promote the general welfare of  
5 the general public. Towards this end, the surveillance and security of commercial  
6 establishments should be regulated to maintain safety and prevent criminal incidents  
7 in said establishments.

8 Sec. 3. *Definition of Terms.* - As used in this Act, the following terms shall  
9 mean:

- 10 a. *Surveillance Camera* refers to electronic devices used for recording images  
11 of a particular area, premises, or place, such as but not limited to closed  
12 circuit televisions (CCTVs);  
13 b. *Video Feed* refers to the live input of a surveillance camera;  
14 c. *Video Record or Video Recording* refers to the electronic record of the  
15 images captured by a surveillance camera;  
16 d. *Commercial Establishment* refers to any establishment used for commercial  
17 purposes and operating for, selling products to, or providing services to the

1 general public. The term refers to establishments including but not limited  
2 to retail stores, banks, financial institutions, supermarkets, schools,  
3 kindergartens, hotels and restaurants; and

- 4 e. *Covered Establishments* refers to any commercial establishment with work  
5 premises of not less than fifty (50) square meters.

6 *Sec. 4. Duties of Covered Establishments.* - It shall be the duty of all covered  
7 establishments to:

- 8 a. Install and maintain good working condition and high-quality resolution  
9 surveillance cameras inside and outside their premises frequented by the  
10 public or where people usually transact business of their work area;  
11 b. Ensure that the surveillance cameras are able to monitor the perimeters of  
12 the establishment that it can delineate the activity and physical features of  
13 individuals and areas being recorded;  
14 c. Ensure that surveillance cameras are turned on and recording for twenty-  
15 four hours (24) per day and for seven (7) days per week;  
16 d. Ensure that the video feeds are being monitored by security employees or  
17 personnel specifically tasked to do so;  
18 e. Keep a deposit of video recordings for a period of not less than thirty (30)  
19 days from the date of recording; and  
20 f. Make video recordings available within a reasonable period upon request  
21 and to allow copies thereof to be made, at the expense of the requesting  
22 party on instances covered under Section 8 of this Act.

23 The licensing office of every city or municipality shall require the installation of  
24 surveillance cameras or video surveillance system as a mandatory requirement before  
25 the issuance of a business permit or permit to operate, and the renewal thereof.

26 *Sec. 5. Notice of Surveillance.* – The general public shall be informed that  
27 surveillance cameras have been installed in an establishment through a written notice  
28 displayed in the entrance of the establishment or in other conspicuous area of the  
29 covered establishment.

30

1           Sec. 6. *Prohibited Surveillance.* – The installation of surveillance cameras in any  
2 restroom, toilet, shower, bathroom, changing room, and other such areas where there  
3 is reasonable expectation of privacy shall be prohibited.

4           Sec. 7. *Confidentiality and Non-disclosure of Recordings.* – The owner and/or  
5 manager of the commercial establishment shall maintain the privacy and  
6 confidentiality of the video feeds and records obtained as a result of establishment  
7 surveillance performed in accordance with this Act. As such, said owner and/or  
8 manager shall prohibit any use, viewing, disclosure, or publication of said video  
9 recordings.

10          Sec. 8. *Allowed Use and Disclosure.* – The use, copying, or disclosure of video  
11 records obtained pursuant to establishment surveillance performed in accordance with  
12 this Act shall only be allowed in the following instances:

- 13           a. Use, copying, or disclosure to a member or officer of a law enforcement  
14 agency in connection with and limited to the investigation or prosecution of  
15 an offense punishable by law or regulation;
- 16           b. Use, copying, or disclosure to further and in connection with any pending  
17 criminal or civil proceeding;
- 18           c. Use or disclosure that may be necessary to avoid an imminent threat to  
19 persons or property; or
- 20           d. Use of disclosure that may be necessary for persons to determine whether  
21 or not an offense was committed against their person or property, to  
22 ascertain the identity of a criminal perpetrator, and to determining the  
23 manner by which an offense was consummated.

24          It shall be the responsibility of the owner and/or manager, or their agents to  
25 ensure that the conditions for use, copying, or disclosure of video recordings are  
26 reasonably established before giving access to requesting parties. The extent of video  
27 recordings to be viewed, used, copied, or disclosed shall be limited to the images  
28 pertaining to the above-mentioned instances.

29          Sec. 9. *Penal Clause.* – Any act or omission causing the violation of duties  
30 ascribed to commercial establishment under this Act shall be punishable with  
31 imprisonment not exceeding six (6) months, or a fine not exceeding Ten Thousand



1 Pesos (Php 10,000.00), or both; without prejudice to other civil or criminal liabilities  
2 that may arise therefrom.

3 The owner and/or manager of the establishment shall likewise be answerable  
4 for violations of this Act; provided that it is shown that the violation was due to his/her  
5 direct participation, lack of supervision, or negligence.

6 Sec. 10. *Implementing Agency.* – The Department of Interior and Local  
7 Government (DILG) and the respective local government units with jurisdiction over  
8 the area wherein a covered establishment is located shall ensure implementation and  
9 enforcement of this Act.

10 Sec. 11. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.* – Withing sixty (60) days from  
11 the effectivity of his Act, the Secretary of the DILG, in consultation with the appropriate  
12 government agencies and other stakeholders, shall promulgate the necessary rules  
13 and regulations for the proper implementation of this Act.

14 Sec. 11. *Separability Clause.* – If any provision of this Act is declared invalid or  
15 unconstitutional, the provisions not affected thereby shall continue to be in full force  
16 and effect.

17 Sec. 12. *Repealing Clause.* – All laws, decrees, orders, rules and regulations or  
18 parts thereof which are contrary to or inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are  
19 hereby amended, repealed or modified accordingly.

20 Sec. 13. *Effectivity.* – This Act shall take effect immediately after fifteen (15)  
21 days from its publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general  
22 circulation.

*Approved,*