



Salient Features of Proposed Civil Registration and Vital Statistics Bill

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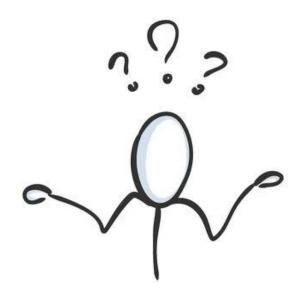
Executive Director ImagineLaw

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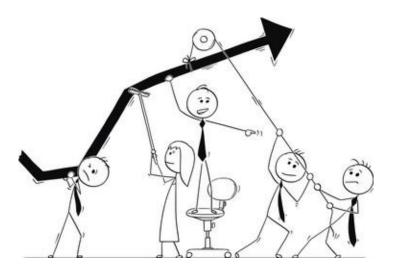




Why do we need to reform the Philippine CRVS System?







"To make people count, we first need to be able to count people."

- Lee Jong Wook, WHO Director General 2003-2006, Address to WHO Staff, July 21, 2003.



THE PHILIPPINE CRVS SYSTEM

- There have been significant policy developments since the Philippine Civil Registration Law or Act No. 3753 was enacted.
 - . 1987 Constitution
 - . Family Code
 - Local Government Code
 - . Philippine Statistical Act
 - Philippine Identification System Act
 - Other laws concerning the civil status of persons
- There have also been significant societal changes





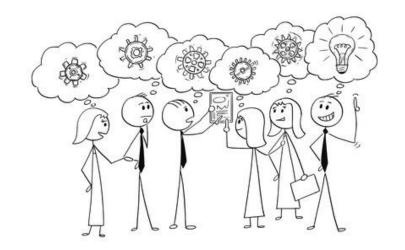
Policy Gaps in the Philippine CRVS System

- Structure and processes have evolved significantly over time
 - Relationship between PSA and local civil registrars, shari'a circuit / district registrars, and foreign service officers not defined
 - Practices between LGUs with respect to fees and registration of deaths vary
 - Role of local health officers and medicolegal officers in registration and medical certification of deaths are not clear
 - No mechanisms to ensure high-quality civil registration data through monitoring and supervision
 - PSA is unable to scale implementation of PhilCris / IT









Proposed Civil Registration and Vital Statistics Bill





PROCESS

June 2023

December 2022 Health sector consultative workshop on CRVS legal

reform

January 2023 Workshop to develop the Philippine CRVS Strategic Plan

2023 - 2028

March 2023 DOH-PSA workshop to develop CRVS bill framework

Workshop to validate Philippine CRVS Strategic Plan

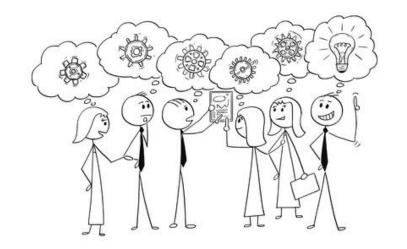
2023-2028

July 14, 2023 IAC-CRVS 2nd Quarterly Meeting

September 2023 Consultation meetings with PSA to revise CRVS bill







Salient Features of the Proposed CRVS Bill





Salient Features - Structure

- Clarifies the mandates of the CRG, LCRs, circuit / district registrars and FSOs
- Proposes the reorganization of the Civil Registration Service to make it more responsive to the increasing civil registration needs of the public
- Clarifies the relationship and power of the CRG vis-à-vis stakeholders performing civil registration functions
- Institutionalizes the IAC-CRVS as a coordination and implementation mechanism





Salient Features - Access

- Activates Barangay Secretaries and institutionalizes the Barangay Civil Registration System
- Mandates CRG and LCRs to establish mechanisms to address GIDAs, IDPs, Filipinos at-risk of statelessness, undocumented Filipinos and other vulnerable groups
- Prohibits fees for timely birth and death registration
- Grants CRG and LCR power to waive fees for indigents



Salient Features - Inclusivity

- Institutionalizes policies on registration of Muslim marriages and customary marriages
- Provides mechanism for registration / annotation of Hajj title/name
- Enables voluntary registration of ethnic, indigenous, or religious affiliation





Salient Features - Processes

- Introduces a one-step registration process for births and deaths
- Enables use of a universal identity code from birth to death
- Clarifies procedure for death registration and certification of cause and manner of death
- Institutionalizes and clarifies supplemental reporting procedures
- Enables administrative amendments for medicolegal cases
- Mandates health facilities and funeral parlors to keep a record of births and deaths for monitoring
- Clarifies procedure for issuing permits to dispose dead bodies
- Mandates establishment of mechanisms for registration of unidentified bodies





Salient Features - Modernization

- Authorizes PSA to establish IT system to enable digitalization and digitization (LCRs, FSOs, and health facilities)
- Enables real-time sharing of anonymized data to DOH for policymaking
- Enables linking of CRS with PhilSys
- Enables E-Filing System for petitions under RA 9048 as amended
- Ensures sustainability by holding all fees collected in trust for civil registration services and local civil registration modernization

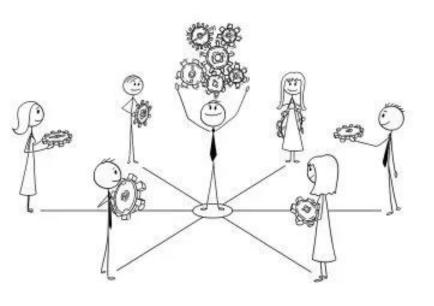


Salient Features – Offenses and Penalties

- Provides penalties for:
 - Public Forgery, submitting false information, using falsified or illegally obtained certificates, or refusal to provide information
 - Government officials Intentionally preparing or issuing certificates containing false information, disclosing confidential information, making unauthorized alterations, and refusal to report vital event
 - Health facilities refusing to report a vital event due to non-payment of hospital fees.







Comments / suggestions?







Thank you!

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