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Reconstructing the Regulatory Framework for E-Government in Regional People's Representative Councils to Enhance Public Aspiration Management

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Original Article

Abstract

The advancement of electronic government (e-government) has strengthened transparency, accountability, and public participation in public administration. However, the legal framework governing its implementation, particularly the mechanism for accommodating public aspirations through Regional People's Representative Councils (DPRDs), remains insufficient. This study analyzes the legal framework for e-government implementation and evaluates the effectiveness of the E-Recess application based on the principles of good governance, the Electronic-Based Government System (SPBE), and the representative function of the DPRD. The research employs a normative legal method using statutory, conceptual, and analytical approaches supported by a comprehensive review of primary, secondary, and tertiary legal materials. The findings indicate that existing regulations have not comprehensively governed electronic mechanisms for public aspiration that ensure meaningful participation, transparency, and accountability. Although the E-Recess application improves administrative efficiency, it has not fully promoted digital democracy because of limited public accessibility and inadequate system integration. Strengthened regulation and governance are therefore essential.

Keywords: *E-government, E-Recess, Public Aspiration, Good Governance, Electronic-Based Government System (SPBE)*

Abstrak

Perkembangan digital pemerintahan melalui electronic government (e-government) mendorong peningkatan transparansi, akuntabilitas, dan partisipasi masyarakat, namun pengaturan hukum implementasinya dalam mekanisme penyerapan aspirasi masyarakat oleh DPRD masih belum optimal. Penelitian ini bertujuan menganalisis pengaturan hukum implementasi e-government serta mengevaluasi efektivitas aplikasi E-Recess berdasarkan prinsip good governance, Sistem Pemerintahan Berbasis Elektronik (SPBE), dan fungsi representasi DPRD. Penelitian menggunakan metode hukum normatif dengan pendekatan peraturan perundang-undangan, konseptual, dan analitis melalui studi kepustakaan terhadap bahan hukum primer, sekunder, dan tersier. Hasil penelitian menunjukkan bahwa kerangka regulasi telah tersedia, namun belum mengatur secara komprehensif mekanisme aspirasi berbasis elektronik yang menjamin partisipasi, transparansi, dan akuntabilitas. E-Recess meningkatkan efisiensi administrasi, tetapi belum mengoptimalkan demokrasi digital karena keterbatasan akses publik dan integrasi sistem. Penelitian menyimpulkan bahwa diperlukan penguatan regulasi dan tata kelola E-Recess agar implementasi e-government mampu memperkuat fungsi representasi DPRD serta mewujudkan pemerintahan daerah yang partisipatif, transparan, dan akuntabel.

Kata kunci: *E-Government, E-Recess, Penyerapan Aspirasi*

1. INTRODUCTION

The application of information technology in public governance has transformed the paradigm of public administration from a conventional bureaucratic system into a model of digital governance characterized by greater transparency, efficiency, participation, and accountability. The concept of electronic government (e-government) has evolved beyond the mere digitalization of public services to become a strategic instrument of bureaucratic reform that strengthens the relationship between government institutions and citizens through the effective utilization of information and communication technologies (ICT).

From the perspective of contemporary democratic governance, e-government serves not only to improve administrative performance but also to expand public access to government information, enhance citizen participation in public decision-making, and reinforce governmental accountability.¹ Consequently, the success of digital transformation should be assessed not solely in terms of administrative efficiency but also by its capacity to promote open, responsive, participatory, and democratic governance.

Indonesia's commitment to digital transformation is reflected in the implementation of the Electronic-Based Government System (Sistem Pemerintahan Berbasis Elektronik—SPBE) under Presidential Regulation No. 95 of 2018. This regulatory framework establishes that electronic-based governance is intended to create a clean, effective, transparent, and accountable public administration while improving the quality of public services. In addition, SPBE aims to strengthen interagency coordination, integrate digital government services, and expand public access to electronically delivered public services. Accordingly, digital transformation extends beyond technological modernization by supporting the realization of open government, in which citizens are positioned as active participants rather than passive recipients of public services.

These principles are particularly relevant to the implementation of the representative function of the Regional People's Representative Council (Dewan Perwakilan Rakyat Daerah—DPRD) as a regional legislative institution. Pursuant to the 1945 Constitution of the Republic of Indonesia and Law No. 23 of 2014 on Regional Government, the DPRD performs legislative, budgeting, and oversight functions while simultaneously exercising its representative function as an expression of popular sovereignty at the regional level. One of the principal mechanisms for fulfilling this representative function is the recess period, during which DPRD members visit their electoral constituencies to receive, document, and follow up on citizens' aspirations and

¹ Riyan Dwi Yulian Prakosos and Suherlan Suherlan, "The Role of Civic Engagement and E-Government in Enhancing Accountability and Transparency in Metropolitan City Management," *Journal of Contemporary Administration and Management* 3, no. 2 (2025): 668–76, <https://doi.org/10.61100/adman.v3i2.284>.

concerns.² In practice, however, the conventional recess mechanism continues to encounter significant challenges, including limited transparency regarding recess outcomes, insufficient public access to monitor the follow-up of submitted aspirations, and inadequate accountability of DPRD members to their constituents.

Advances in digital technology have encouraged the development of innovative platforms such as the E-Recess application, which facilitates the electronic submission, documentation, and management of public aspirations. The application is expected to improve transparency, accelerate the processing of aspiration data, strengthen coordination between the DPRD and regional governments, and provide a more effective mechanism for monitoring the implementation of public proposals.

Despite these expected benefits, the implementation of the E-Recess system within the Sragen Regency DPRD continues to face substantial limitations. Access to the system is restricted primarily to DPRD members and the DPRD Secretariat, preventing citizens from directly monitoring the progress of the aspirations they have submitted. Moreover, the aspirations recorded through the system remain predominantly focused on budgetary proposals, indicating that the broader representative function of the DPRD has not yet been fully realized. This condition reflects a discrepancy between the normative objectives of SPBE—which emphasize transparency, public participation, and accountability—and implementation practices that remain largely oriented toward internal administrative processes.

Research on e-government implementation has expanded considerably in Indonesia in response to increasing demands for transparent, accountable, and citizen-centered governance. Most previous studies have examined the effectiveness of information technology in improving public service quality, bureaucratic efficiency, administrative transparency, government performance, and citizen participation in public administration.

For example, Kurniasih et al. found that e-government implementation contributed 54.85% to improvements in the performance of government officials in the City of Cimahi, identifying organizational communication, resource availability, implementers' commitment, and bureaucratic structure as critical determinants of successful digital policy implementation.³ Likewise, Nurhakim conceptualized e-government as an instrument of democratic governance capable of expanding citizen participation in the formulation and oversight of public policies.⁴ Nevertheless, these

² Fiqi Nurman Gazali et al., "Efektivitas Kebijakan Pelaksanaan Kegiatan Reses Anggota Dewan Dalam Menampung Aspirasi Masyarakat Di Provinsi Jawa Timur," *Wissen: Jurnal Ilmu Sosial Dan Humaniora* 3, no. 1 (2025): 375–88, <https://doi.org/10.62383/wissen.v3i1.671>.

³ Dewi Kurniasih et al., "Pengaruh Implementasi Kebijakan E-Government Terhadap Kinerja Aparatur Kota Cimahi," *Sosiohumaniora* 15, no. 1 (2013): 6–14, <https://doi.org/10.24198/sosiohumaniora.v15i1.5234>.

⁴ Mochamad Ridwan Satya Nurhakim, "Pengaruh Implementasi E-Government Terhadap Perubahan Budaya Birokrasi Untuk Mewujudkan Transparansi Dan Akuntabilitas Dalam Sistem Pemerintahan Modern," *Jurnal Ilmu Administrasi: Media Pengembangan Ilmu Dan Praktek Administrasi* 11, no. 3 (2014): 403–22, <https://doi.org/10.31113/jia.v11i3.59>.

studies remain largely focused on executive government institutions and administrative service delivery. They do not specifically examine the legal and institutional dimensions of digital mechanisms for managing public aspirations within regional legislative institutions, particularly through the implementation of E-Recess. Consequently, significant gaps remain regarding the adequacy of Indonesia's regulatory framework in supporting digital democratic participation and strengthening the representative function of the DPRD through e-government initiatives.

A study by Eem Nurnawati found that the implementation of e-government improved employees' work productivity and the timeliness of public service delivery, although it did not significantly enhance the quality of civil servants' performance.⁵ Similarly, Kosali reported that the digitalization of public services increased service accessibility, operational efficiency, and public satisfaction, with an estimated contribution of 67.5% to service improvement.⁶ Furthermore, studies by Hamim et al. and Rochaeni et al. indicate that the successful implementation of e-government continues to be constrained by low levels of digital literacy, inadequate technological infrastructure, limited human resource competencies, and insufficient institutional capacity.⁷ In contrast, Eriyanti et al., Sukardi, and Yaya and Sukardi demonstrate that e-government implementation, public participation, civil servant competency, and adherence to the principles of Good Governance collectively contribute to improved governmental performance. Despite their valuable contributions to the digital governance literature, these studies primarily focus on administrative reform and public service delivery, while largely overlooking the role of e-government in strengthening the political representation function of the Regional People's Representative Council (Dewan Perwakilan Rakyat Daerah—DPRD).⁸

This review of the existing literature demonstrates that previous studies have predominantly adopted a public administration perspective, conceptualizing e-

⁵ Eem Nurnawati, "Kinerja Sumber Daya Aparatur Melalui Penerapan E-Government," *Visioner: Jurnal Pemerintahan Daerah Di Indonesia* 12, no. 2 (2020): 309–19, <https://doi.org/10.54783/jv.v12i2.283>.

⁶ Ahmad Yani Kosali, "Pengaruh Implementasi Electronic Government (e- Government) Dalam Meningkatkan Kualitas Pelayanan Pada Kelurahan Plaju Ulu Kecamatan Plaju Kota Palembang," *Majalah Ilmiah Manajemen* 10, no. 1 (2021): 1–21, <https://doi.org/10.58437/mim.v10i1.51>.

⁷ Rokhi Nur Hamim et al., "Dampak Implementasi E-Government Terhadap Kepuasan Masyarakat Dalam Pelayanan Publik Di Desa Sukajaya," *Indonesian Journal of Public Administration Review* 1, no. 3 (2024): 1–16, <https://doi.org/10.47134/par.v1i3.2800>; Atik Rochaeni et al., "Implementasi E-Government Dalam Pelayanan Administrasi Di Dinas Pemberdayaan Masyarakat Desa Kabupaten Bandung Barat Tahun 2024," *Jurnal Wacana Kinerja: Kajian Praktis-Akademis Kinerja Dan Administrasi Pelayanan Publik* 27, no. 2 (2024): 157–70, <https://doi.org/10.31845/jwk.v27i2.1034>.

⁸ Sasi Eriyanti et al., "Pengaruh Penerapan E-Government Dan Kompetensi Terhadap Kinerja Pegawai Pada Badan Pengelola Pajak Dan Retribusi Daerah Kota Jambi," *Kajian Ekonomi Dan Akuntansi Terapan* 2, no. 4 (2025): 281–93, <https://doi.org/10.61132/keat.v2i4.1945>; Rizal Yaya and Sukardi Sukardi, "Pengaruh Implementasi E-Government Dan Partisipasi Masyarakat Terhadap Kinerja Pemerintah Desa Dengan Good Government Governance Sebagai Variabel Pemoderasi," *Balance: Jurnal Akuntansi Dan Bisnis* 10, no. 1 (2025): 69–81, <https://doi.org/10.32502/balance.v10i1.600>; Sukardi Sukardi, "Pengaruh Implementasi E-Government Dan Partisipasi Masyarakat Terhadap Kinerja Pemerintah Desa Dengan Good Government Governance (GGG) Sebagai Variabel Pemoderasi" (Universitas Muhammadiyah Yogyakarta, 2025), <https://etd.umy.ac.id/id/eprint/50339/>.

government primarily as a tool for enhancing bureaucratic efficiency and improving public service performance. Relatively little attention has been devoted to examining e-government as a legal and institutional mechanism for strengthening the DPRD's representative function in receiving, managing, following up on, and accounting for public aspirations. Moreover, no previous study has specifically evaluated the effectiveness of the E-Recess application as a digital innovation within the DPRD based on an integrated legal framework encompassing the Regional Government Law, the Electronic-Based Government System (SPBE) regulatory framework, and the DPRD's internal rules of procedure. In this context, the effectiveness of E-Recess should not be assessed solely from a technological perspective but also in terms of its ability to ensure transparency, accountability, legal certainty, public participation, and effective follow-up of citizens' aspirations.

Unlike previous studies, the present research approaches e-government implementation from the perspective of constitutional and administrative law, focusing on the legal framework governing the use of the E-Recess application as a digital mechanism for the DPRD to collect and manage public aspirations. The principal novelty of this study lies in its normative legal analysis of the harmonization between the SPBE regulatory framework, regional government legislation, and the DPRD's representative function to formulate a transparent, accountable, and participatory model for managing public aspirations while safeguarding citizens' constitutional rights.

This study is expected to make a theoretical contribution to the advancement of digital democracy by enriching the legal discourse on e-government within representative institutions. In addition, it offers practical recommendations for strengthening regional governance through a more responsive, inclusive, and technology-driven framework. Accordingly, this study aims to analyze the legal framework governing the implementation of e-government as a mechanism for managing public aspirations within the DPRD and to evaluate the effectiveness of the E-Recess application as a digital instrument for enhancing the DPRD's representative function during the recess period.

2. RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

This study employs a normative legal research approach, which conceptualizes law as a system of norms for examining the implementation of electronic government (e-government) in the mechanism through which the Regional People's Representative Council (Dewan Perwakilan Rakyat Daerah—DPRD) collects and manages public aspirations. The research adopts three complementary approaches: a statutory approach, a conceptual approach, and an analytical approach. These approaches are applied to examine the harmonization of relevant legal regulations, the principles of

participatory democracy and good governance, and the adequacy of the existing legal framework governing the implementation of the E-Recess application.

The study relies exclusively on secondary legal materials, comprising primary legal materials in the form of constitutions, statutes, and other legislative and regulatory instruments; secondary legal materials, including scholarly books, peer-reviewed journal articles, and legal doctrines; and tertiary legal materials, such as legal dictionaries, encyclopedias, and other reference sources. Data were collected through an extensive library research process, while data analysis was conducted using a prescriptive qualitative method supported by deductive legal reasoning. The analysis incorporated grammatical, systematic, teleological, and conceptual methods of legal interpretation to evaluate the consistency and adequacy of the existing regulatory framework. The findings were subsequently used to formulate recommendations for strengthening the legal framework governing e-government implementation to ensure legal certainty, transparency, accountability, meaningful public participation, and the protection of citizens' constitutional rights within the DPRD's public aspiration management mechanism.

3. RESEARCH RESULT AND DISCUSSION

3.1. Legal Framework Governing E-Government Implementation in the Regional People's Representative Council's (DPRD) Public Aspiration Management Mechanism

Indonesia has established a relatively comprehensive legal framework to support the implementation of electronic government (e-government). The constitutional foundation is provided by Article 1(2) of the 1945 Constitution of the Republic of Indonesia, which stipulates that sovereignty resides in the people and is exercised in accordance with the Constitution. This constitutional provision implies that all governmental functions, including the representative role of the Regional People's Representative Council (Dewan Perwakilan Rakyat Daerah—DPRD), must ensure meaningful public participation in public policymaking and governmental decision-making processes.

The constitutional principle of democratic governance is further elaborated in Law No. 23 of 2014 on Regional Government, which recognizes the DPRD as an integral component of regional government administration. Under this legal framework, the DPRD performs legislative, budgeting, and oversight functions while also carrying the responsibility to receive, collect, accommodate, and follow up on public aspirations through recess activities and other forms of political communication with constituents.

Indonesia's transition toward digital governance has been further strengthened through Presidential Instruction No. 3 of 2003 on the National Policy and Strategy for E-Government Development and Presidential Regulation No. 95 of 2018 on the

Electronic-Based Government System (SPBE). These regulatory instruments emphasize that the utilization of information and communication technology extends beyond improving administrative efficiency to promoting transparency, accountability, integrated public services, and meaningful public participation in governance. From this perspective, e-government possesses an important democratic dimension, serving as an institutional mechanism that strengthens the relationship between government and citizens by facilitating more transparent, efficient, and well-documented channels of communication.

Within the Regional People's Representative Council of Sragen Regency, e-government has been implemented through the E-Recess application, a digital platform designed to document and manage the outcomes of DPRD recess activities. The development of this application reflects the implementation of the Sragen Regency Government's digital governance policy and is supported by Sragen Regent Regulation No. 11 of 2008 on the Implementation of Information and Communication Technology (E-Government). From a regulatory perspective, the adoption of E-Recess demonstrates the regional government's commitment to integrating digital technology into the DPRD's representative function, thereby reducing reliance on conventional administrative procedures for managing public aspirations.

Nevertheless, an examination of the existing legal framework indicates that the regulations governing the implementation of E-Recess remain fragmented and fail to comprehensively regulate a digital mechanism for public aspiration management. Existing regulations primarily address the general implementation of SPBE without establishing detailed legal provisions governing the electronic submission of public aspirations, citizens' rights to monitor the status of their proposals, digital service standards applicable to the DPRD, or the obligation to publish recess outcomes through electronic platforms. Consequently, E-Recess currently functions primarily as an internal administrative tool for the DPRD rather than as a platform that facilitates transparent and participatory public engagement.

Moreover, access to the E-Recess application remains restricted to DPRD members and the DPRD Secretariat. Citizens, despite being the constitutional holders of the right to express their aspirations, are unable to directly submit proposals through the system, monitor the progress of their submissions, or obtain real-time information regarding the follow-up actions taken in response to recess outcomes. This condition reveals a significant discrepancy between the normative objectives of the Electronic-Based Government System (SPBE)—which emphasize transparency, open government, and public participation—and the actual implementation of E-Recess, which remains largely inaccessible to the public. As a result, the principles of

transparency, openness, and high-quality public service that constitute the foundation of digital governance have yet to be fully realized.⁹

The representative function of the Regional People's Representative Council (Dewan Perwakilan Rakyat Daerah—DPRD) has not yet fully undergone the digital transformation envisioned within the framework of digital governance. The current implementation of information technology remains primarily oriented toward improving bureaucratic efficiency and administrative documentation, whereas the participatory dimension of digital democracy—which should facilitate direct interaction between citizens and the DPRD—has not been fully realized. According to the principles of Good Governance established by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), participation, transparency, accountability, responsiveness, effectiveness, and the rule of law constitute the fundamental pillars of sound governance.¹⁰ Accordingly, the success of e-government implementation should be assessed not merely by the availability of digital applications, but by the extent to which these systems strengthen representative relationships between government institutions and citizens.

The findings of this study both corroborate and extend the existing literature. Kurniasih et al. demonstrated that e-government implementation positively influences the performance of government officials.¹¹ Similar conclusions were reached by Eem Nurnawati, Kosali, and Sukardi, who found that government digitalization enhances public service effectiveness, bureaucratic performance, and governance quality.¹² However, these studies primarily examined e-government from the perspective of administrative reform and public service delivery, without addressing its role in strengthening the representative function of the DPRD as a regional legislative institution.

In contrast to previous studies, the present research finds that the principal challenge in implementing e-government within the DPRD does not lie in the availability of information technology itself, but rather in the inadequacy of the legal framework governing electronic mechanisms for managing public aspirations. In other words, the digital transformation of legislative institutions requires a more robust regulatory framework that explicitly guarantees citizens' rights to access digital

⁹ Prasetyo Isbandono et al., "Transparency and Accountability in Public Services and Policies in Administrative Law: A Comparative Study of Indonesia and Norway," *Pena Justisia: Media Komunikasi Dan Kajian Hukum* 24, no. 1 (2025): 3998–4016, <https://doi.org/10.31941/pj.v24i2.6029>.

¹⁰ The United Nations Development Programme, "Governance for Sustainable Development: Integrating Governance in the Post-2015 Development Framework," *Discussion Paper*, 2014, 1–14.

¹¹ Kurniasih et al., "Pengaruh Implementasi Kebijakan E-Government Terhadap Kinerja Aparatur Kota Cimahi."

¹² Eem Nurnawati, "Kinerja Sumber Daya Aparatur Melalui Penerapan E-Government"; Kosali, "Pengaruh Implementasi Electronic Government (e- Government) Dalam Meningkatkan Kualitas Pelayanan Pada Kelurahan Plaju Ulu Kecamatan Plaju Kota Palembang"; Sukardi, "Pengaruh Implementasi E-Government Dan Partisipasi Masyarakat Terhadap Kinerja Pemerintah Desa Dengan Good Government Governance (GGG) Sebagai Variabel Pemoderasi."

participation mechanisms, establishes the DPRD's obligation to transparently respond to and follow up on public aspirations, integrates the E-Recess application with regional development planning systems, and provides effective mechanisms for public oversight of the implementation of recess outcomes. Without such legal support, digitalization is likely to generate administrative efficiencies while producing only limited improvements in the quality of local democratic governance.

From this perspective, e-government implementation should be understood as a process of institutional and legal reform, rather than merely the adoption of technological innovations. The representative function of the DPRD is fundamentally an expression of the constitutional principle of popular sovereignty. Consequently, every digital innovation should be designed to expand citizens' access to political processes, enhance the accountability of legislative institutions, and strengthen public trust in regional governance.¹³ Therefore, the effectiveness of the E-Recess application depends not only on the sophistication of its technological infrastructure but also on the existence of a coherent legal framework governing the relationship between digital technology, citizens' rights to public participation, and the DPRD's constitutional obligation to receive, manage, and follow up on public aspirations.

The findings indicate that the legal framework governing the implementation of e-government as a mechanism for public aspiration management within the DPRD has established a normative foundation through various laws and regulations concerning regional government and the Electronic-Based Government System (SPBE). Nevertheless, the existing regulatory framework has yet to adequately accommodate the demands of digital transformation in the implementation of the DPRD's representative function. Specifically, it lacks comprehensive provisions governing electronic public participation mechanisms, digital service standards for legislative institutions, and transparent and accountable systems for monitoring and reporting the follow-up of public aspirations. Accordingly, more comprehensive regulatory reform is required to ensure that e-government implementation genuinely advances the principles of participatory democracy, good governance, and the protection of citizens' constitutional rights within regional governance.

3.2. Effectiveness of E-Recess Implementation Based on the Principles of Good Governance, the Electronic-Based Government System (SPBE), and the Representative Function of the Regional People's Representative Council (DPRD)

¹³ Muhammad Paizal and Ranggi Ade Febrian, "Government Innovation in Implementing the E-Pokir Application at the Pekanbaru City Regional People's Representative Council Secretariat Office," *Kemudi: Jurnal Ilmu Pemerintahan* 8, no. 1 (2023): 1–7, <https://doi.org/10.31629/kemudi.v8i1.6265>.

The implementation of the E-Recess application within the Regional People's Representative Council of Sragen Regency (Dewan Perwakilan Rakyat Daerah—DPRD) represents an institutional innovation that supports the digital transformation of regional governance. The application reflects the commitment of both the regional government and the DPRD to integrating information and communication technology into the conduct of recess activities as a mechanism for collecting and managing public aspirations. From the perspective of the Electronic-Based Government System (SPBE), E-Recess has achieved several key objectives of digital government by improving administrative efficiency, accelerating the documentation of recess outcomes, reducing reliance on paper-based administrative procedures, and enhancing coordination between DPRD members and the DPRD Secretariat. Through the use of a digital platform, recess outcomes can be systematically documented and organized, thereby facilitating the compilation of public proposals for policy formulation and regional development planning.

Despite these administrative improvements, the implementation of E-Recess has not yet fully achieved the objectives of SPBE as stipulated in Presidential Regulation No. 95 of 2018. The regulation emphasizes that SPBE should promote an effective, transparent, accountable, integrated, and service-oriented system of public administration. However, the current implementation of E-Recess remains primarily focused on the digitalization of the DPRD's internal administrative processes, limiting its broader benefits for citizens. The system does not provide adequate mechanisms for the public to directly submit aspirations, monitor the progress of their proposals, or obtain information regarding the status of follow-up actions undertaken by the DPRD. Consequently, the SPBE objective of strengthening interaction and communication between government institutions and citizens has not been fully realized.

When evaluated against the Good Governance principles formulated by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the implementation of E-Recess continues to exhibit several fundamental shortcomings. The first relates to the principle of participation. Within the framework of good governance, citizens should be provided with meaningful opportunities to participate directly in public decision-making processes.¹⁴ In practice, however, the E-Recess system does not provide direct public access as its primary users. Instead, citizens must continue to communicate their aspirations to DPRD members during recess activities, after which the information is entered into the system by internal DPRD personnel. This indirect participation mechanism falls short of the principles of digital democracy, which emphasize direct interaction between citizens and representative institutions through digital platforms.

¹⁴ Fritz Hotman Syahmahita Damanik et al., "Community Participation in the Public Decision Process: Realizing Better Governance in Public Administration," *Global International Journal of Innovative Research* 1, no. 2 (2024): 88–96, <https://doi.org/10.59613/global.v1i2.12>.

The second principle concerns transparency. Transparency requires that public information be accurate, easily accessible, and open to public scrutiny.¹⁵ The findings of this study indicate that the E-Recess application does not yet provide an open information system through which citizens can monitor the progress of their submitted aspirations. Members of the public are unable to determine whether their proposals have been verified, forwarded to the regional government, incorporated into regional development planning documents, or rejected, together with the legal or administrative justification for such decisions. This condition demonstrates that the implementation of E-Recess has not yet fully complied with the principle of transparency embodied in Law No. 14 of 2008 on Public Information Disclosure.

The third principle is accountability. One of the primary objectives of the DPRD recess period is to ensure the political accountability of elected representatives to their constituents.¹⁶ Nevertheless, the findings reveal that the E-Recess system has not yet established a publicly accessible accountability mechanism. Recess reports remain predominantly administrative documents intended for internal institutional use rather than instruments of public accountability. Furthermore, no electronic mechanism currently enables citizens to evaluate how their aspirations have been followed up or to assess the performance of DPRD members based on the outcomes of recess activities. Consequently, the potential of E-Recess to function as a digital instrument for legislative accountability and democratic oversight has yet to be fully realized.

The next principle is responsiveness. Good governance requires public institutions to respond promptly and effectively to citizens' needs and expectations.¹⁷ The findings of this study indicate that, although the implementation of E-Recess has accelerated the administrative documentation of recess activities, it has not automatically expedited governmental decision-making or the realization of public aspirations. This limitation arises because the follow-up to recess outcomes continues to depend on regional development planning mechanisms, budget allocation processes, and interagency coordination among regional government organizations. Consequently, improvements in administrative efficiency have not been accompanied by corresponding improvements in the delivery of substantive public services.

The findings further demonstrate that the effectiveness of E-Recess is considerably greater in terms of administrative efficiency than in promoting participatory democracy. This condition suggests that digital transformation within the

¹⁵ Vera Hermawan, "Transparency in Government Political Communication: Challenges and Opportunities," *Jurnal Ekonomi* 14, no. 3 (2025): 103–14.

¹⁶ Sulmiah Sulmiah et al., "Recess Service Innovation Through The Ero'ta Application: Characteristics, Implementation, and Constraints in the Makassar City DPRD," *Jurnal Ilmu Administrasi: Media Pengembangan Ilmu Dan Praktek Administrasi* 22, no. 2 (2025): 270–84, <https://doi.org/10.31113/jia.v22i2.1369>.

¹⁷ Wahidin Septa Zahran et al., "Implementation of Good Governance Principles in Improving Public Services: A Case Study of the Ministry of Education and Culture," *Ilomata International Journal of Social Science* 4, no. 1 (2023): 119–31, <https://doi.org/10.52728/ijss.v4i1.651>.

Regional People's Representative Council (Dewan Perwakilan Rakyat Daerah—DPRD) remains at the stage of process digitalization (digitization) rather than advancing toward comprehensive digital transformation of governance. From the perspective of digital governance, the success of e-government is determined not merely by the adoption of information technology but also by its capacity to reshape the relationship between government institutions and citizens into one that is more transparent, collaborative, participatory, and responsive.

The results of this study both support and extend the findings of previous research. Studies by Eem Nurnawati, Kosali, Kurniasih et al., and Sukardi conclude that the implementation of e-government contributes to improvements in public service quality, government employee performance, and governance effectiveness. These studies primarily evaluate digital transformation using indicators such as organizational efficiency, bureaucratic productivity, and citizen satisfaction with administrative services.¹⁸ The present findings corroborate these conclusions within the context of the DPRD, demonstrating that the implementation of E-Recess has improved the efficiency of documenting and managing data generated during recess activities.

However, the effectiveness of e-government within legislative institutions cannot be evaluated solely through measures of administrative efficiency. As a representative political institution, the DPRD has a constitutional responsibility to ensure that citizens' aspirations are effectively received, managed, and translated into public policy. Accordingly, the effectiveness of E-Recess should also be assessed based on broader democratic indicators, including the quality of public participation, the transparency of follow-up actions on citizens' aspirations, the political accountability of DPRD members, and the system's capacity to strengthen representative relationships between elected representatives and their constituents. In this regard, the present study broadens the scope of e-government scholarship by shifting the analytical focus from public service delivery toward the role of digital technology in strengthening digital democracy and political representation.

The findings further indicate that the effectiveness of E-Recess is highly dependent upon the harmonization of legal regulations, technological infrastructure, institutional governance, and organizational culture. The availability of digital applications alone is insufficient to achieve the objectives of the Electronic-Based Government System (SPBE) or the principles of Good Governance in the absence of a comprehensive regulatory framework governing citizens' digital access rights, legislative digital service standards, mechanisms for public oversight, and the DPRD's obligation

¹⁸ Eem Nurnawati, "Kinerja Sumber Daya Aparatur Melalui Penerapan E-Government"; Kosali, "Pengaruh Implementasi Electronic Government (e- Government) Dalam Meningkatkan Kualitas Pelayanan Pada Kelurahan Plaju Ulu Kecamatan Plaju Kota Palembang"; Kurniasih et al., "Pengaruh Implementasi Kebijakan E-Government Terhadap Kinerja Aparatur Kota Cimahi"; Sukardi, "Pengaruh Implementasi E-Government Dan Partisipasi Masyarakat Terhadap Kinerja Pemerintah Desa Dengan Good Government Governance (GGG) Sebagai Variabel Pemoderasi."

to respond to and follow up on public aspirations.¹⁹ Consequently, the digital transformation of the DPRD should be understood as a process of institutional reform that integrates information technology with the principles of participatory democracy rather than merely digitizing administrative procedures.

This study confirms that the implementation of E-Recess has made a positive contribution to improving the administrative efficiency of DPRD recess activities. Nevertheless, its effectiveness as an instrument for promoting digital democracy remains limited. Strengthening the implementation of E-Recess requires comprehensive regulatory reform that integrates the principles of Good Governance, the SPBE framework, public information disclosure, and the DPRD's representative function into a coherent legal framework. Such a framework should guarantee meaningful public participation, enhance institutional transparency and accountability, and strengthen the representative relationship between the DPRD and citizens as the constitutional holders of popular sovereignty. Under this approach, E-Recess should be regarded not merely as an electronic administrative application but as a constitutional instrument for advancing effective, participatory, and accountable digital democracy within regional governance.

4. CONCLUSION

Indonesia has established a sufficient legal foundation for e-government implementation through Law No. 23 of 2014 on Regional Government, Presidential Regulation No. 95 of 2018 on the Electronic-Based Government System (SPBE), and various supporting regulations. Nevertheless, these legal instruments remain general in scope and do not specifically regulate electronic mechanisms for managing public aspirations that ensure meaningful public participation, transparency, accountability, and legal certainty regarding the follow-up of citizens' proposals. The findings of this study demonstrate that the implementation of E-Recess has improved administrative efficiency and enhanced the management of data generated during DPRD recess activities. However, its effectiveness as an instrument of digital democracy remains limited due to restricted public access, the absence of an open and transparent system for monitoring public aspirations, and the lack of integration between the E-Recess platform and regional development planning processes.

The findings further indicate that the success of the digital transformation of the Regional People's Representative Council (Dewan Perwakilan Rakyat Daerah—DPRD) depends not only on the adoption of information technology but also on the harmonization of the legal framework, the strengthening of institutional governance, and the effective protection of citizens' participatory rights. This study contributes

¹⁹ Syafarudin Syafarudin and Abd Haris, "Digital Transformation in Public Services: A Study of E-Government Implementation in Indonesia," *International Journal of Law and Society* 2, no. 4 (2025): 169–79, <https://doi.org/10.62951/ijls.v2i4.797>.

theoretically to the growing body of scholarship on the legal dimensions of digital government by extending the discussion of e-government beyond administrative efficiency to encompass democratic representation within legislative institutions. Practically, the findings provide a foundation for developing a more comprehensive regulatory framework governing the implementation of E-Recess. A limitation of this study is its reliance on a normative legal research approach, which does not permit an empirical assessment of E-Recess implementation across different regional governments. Accordingly, the government and regional legislative councils should formulate specific regulations governing the implementation of E-Recess, fully integrated with the Electronic-Based Government System (SPBE) framework and the principles of Good Governance. Future research is recommended to adopt socio-legal or mixed-methods approaches to empirically evaluate the effectiveness of E-Recess implementation across diverse regional contexts and to develop a more adaptive model of digital democracy for regional governance.

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