REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Quezon City

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

House Bill No. 6744



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

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Product packaging creates huge environmental impact such as pollution and congestion of garbage landfills. Many companies are voluntarily looking into reducing the environmental hazards of the packaging of their products to adhere to existing environmental laws. While companies create environmental-friendly packaging, many still commit packaging hazards especially with the use of non-biodegradable materials such as plastics.

The inherent properties of plastics make them an invaluable packaging material for all sorts of commercial companies. However, its components are mostly resistant to natural decay. This causes a stagnant quantity of plastic garbage in landfills since most of them are disposed immediately after single use. It creates a "throw-away" culture in society that pollutes our lands, waters and air on a tremendous extent.

This bill seeks to mandate consumer product packaging to use biodegradable and recyclable materials only and implement conservation measures in the production level. Biodegradable materials can easily be broken down and decompose rapidly without the release of toxic substances in the environment. This promises sustainability that will address economic and social obligations to protect our environment that will help alleviate our country's problem on pollution and environmental degradation.

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

MANUEL DG, CABOCHAN III

Representative

Magdalo Para Sa Pilipino Party-List

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AN ACT

MANDATING THE USE OF RECYCLABLE OR BIODEGRADABLE MATERIALS FOR THE PACKAGING OF CONSUMER PRODUCTS

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

SECTION 1. *Short Title.* – This Act shall be known as the "Recyclable and Biodegradable Packaging Act of 2020."

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SEC. 2. *Declaration of Policy*. – It is hereby declared the policy of the State to ensure the conservation and preservation of our natural environment. The use of recyclable and biodegradable materials is hereby mandated in the manufacturing process of consumer goods.

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SEC. 3. *Definition of Terms.* – As used in this Act:

(a) Biodegradable materials refer to waste organic material composed primarily of natural-occurring components which can be decomposed by bacteria or any other natural organisms and be absorbed into the ecosystem and/or natural environment;

14 15 16 (b) Consumer goods refer to tangible goods or item that are purchased by the consumers to satisfy a need or want and is manufactured in quantities for mass market use and/or consumption;

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(c) Recyclable materials refer to any raw or processed material or group of raw or processed materials that can be collected and sold for recycling that can be removed from a waste stream, reused and repurposed into another item.

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SEC. 4. *Incentives.* – Any business or non-business entity which shall undertake the effort of using recyclable and biodegradable materials for the packaging of consumer goods shall enjoy a tax deductibility privilege on its income tax to the extent of the proven cost of the recyclable or biodegradable material on its production process.

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SEC. 5. *Implementing Rules and Regulations*. — Within sixty (60) days from the passage of this Act, the Department of Environment and Natural Resources shall promulgate the necessary rules and regulations for the successful implementation of this Act.

- **SEC. 6.** Separability Clause. If any provision of this Act is declared invalid or unconstitutional, the other provisions not affected by such declaration shall remain in force and effect.
- **SEC. 7.** *Repealing Clause.* All laws, executive orders, administrative orders, and rules and regulations inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed or amended accordingly.
- **SEC. 8.** *Effectivity Clause.* This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,