

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

Eighteenth Congress
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 6180



Introduced by Honorable Mark O. Go

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Piles of garbage and plastic materials in many places—messing the streets, clogging the drainage, and blocking the waterways—are just some manifestations of the overwhelming amount of non-biodegradable and plastic waste in the Philippines. This drastically alarming situation strongly calls for an immediate solution and appropriate action: solid waste management.

However, at present, that is not the case.

With the increasing population and rising standards of living, the volume of solid waste generated through the years are likewise escalating in numbers. This struggling condition was further illustrated in the ten (10)-year National Solid Waste Management Status Report by the Environment Management Bureau (EMB) of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), as recyclable waste comprises the second largest of solid wastes, with plastics consisting 38% of this waste fraction. Moreover, this increase is brought up by the continuous increase in commercial and industrial needs.

Alongside the growing demands and necessities of the present generation, the world has been long dependent on plastics and non-biodegradable materials, both in commercial in industrial uses. Plastic, with its lightweight, durable, and long-lasting features, makes it a dependable material in food packaging and substance storage. In the Philippines, the so-called “sachet phenomenon” practice is prevalent, indubitably contributing to non-biodegradable and plastic usage growth.

With the proliferation of solid waste consumption and production, RA No. 9003 provides for a concrete ecological solid waste management, and posits guidelines and targets in accord with “ecologically sustainable development principles”. Together with other waste management initiatives, laws, and policies that likewise call for an efficient solid waste handling system, strong efforts are still required to feasibly utilize solid waste and plastic materials.

This bill seeks to mandate all commercial establishments and manufacturing firms to establish and maintain a comprehensive and ecologically sound process of collecting, disposing, recovering, and recycling plastic waste and non-biodegradable materials. This is so not only to minimize waste and utilize the consumption of such non-decomposable products, but also to exercise corporate social initiative and responsibility in waste disposal. This bill is

among those initiatives.

Pursuant to the intentions of Republic Act No. 9003, otherwise known as the Ecological Solid Waste Management Act of 2001, urgent approval of this measure is earnestly sought.



MARK O. GO

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AN ACT
MANDATING ALL COMMERCIAL ESTABLISHMENTS AND MANUFACTURING COMPANIES TO MAINTAIN A SYSTEM OF RECOVERY, COLLECTION, RECYCLING AND DISPOSAL OF PLASTIC AND OTHER NON-BIODEGRADABLE MATERIALS AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

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

SEC. 1. Declaration of Policy. – It is declared as policy of the State to protect and advance the right of the people to a balanced and healthful ecology in accord with the rhythm and harmony of nature. Towards this end, the State shall ensure the proper recovery, collection, recycling and disposal of plastic and other non-biodegradable materials to prevent and mitigate and prevent pollution that is detrimental to public health and environment.

SEC. 2. Scope and Definition of Commercial Establishments and Manufacturing Companies. – Commercial establishments are firms that offer marketable goods and services to the public. These comprise of groceries and supermarkets, office buildings, malls, food chains, and retail buildings, of which include convenience stores, among others. Manufacturing companies, on the other hand, are establishments that make use of raw materials and components to generate and reproduce finished products. These include factories and reproduction plants.

SEC. 3. Recovery, Collection, Recycling and Disposal of Plastic and Other Non-Biodegradable Materials. – Every commercial establishment and manufacturing company that utilize or produce any kind of plastic and non-biodegradable materials shall take the responsibility for the recovery, collection, recycling and disposal of the same.

They should establish a mechanism that will encourage their customers to return used plastics and non-biodegradable materials. When appropriate, commercial establishments shall surrender the same to the manufacturer for its disposal and/or recycling.

The Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) and concerned local government units (LGUs) shall monitor compliance of commercial establishments and manufacturing companies to the provisions of this Act.

SEC. 4. *Corporate Social Responsibility.* – The recovery, collection and recycling of plastic materials utilized by a commercial establishment or manufactured by a company shall be part of its corporate social responsibility (CSR) and shall served as its role and obligation for the protection and conservation of the environment.

SEC. 5. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.* – The Department of Environment and Natural Resources, Department of Interior and Local Government and the Department of Trade and Industry shall promulgate the necessary implementing rules and regulations within ninety (90) days from the effectivity of this Act.

SEC. 6. *Separability Clause.* – Should any provision of this Act be declared unconstitutional, the remainder thereof not otherwise affected shall remain in full force and effect.

SEC. 7. *Repealing Clause.* – All laws, presidential decrees, executive orders, proclamations or administrative regulations that are inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed, amended, or modified accordingly.

SEC. 8. *Effectivity.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the *Official Gazette* or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,