

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

House Bill No. 528



Introduced by: **REP. JOSEPH STEPHEN S. PADUANO**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Climate change is no longer just a mere political issue. It has already evolved into a moral issue for us all. As we have experienced the worsening effects of climate change over the past years, it has now become our collective moral obligation to ensure that we take actions to mitigate its destructive effects. Although we may be a considerably small nation who can only have so much contribution in resolving the global issue of climate change, this does not excuse us from not doing whatever we can to help combat this humanitarian concern.

Like most nations, our carbon emissions dominate the rate by which we are able to produce and replenish green resources. The continuous abuse of our forest reserves by big businesses does not help our cause either.

This proposed measure has been filed, favorably acted upon by the appropriate Committee, subsequently, passed in the Second and Third Reading and consequently transmitted to the Senate for its action during the previous Congress. However due to time constraint this was not acted upon in the Senate.

Hence, the approval of this noble bill is earnestly sought.


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AN ACT
REQUIRING THE PLANTING OF TREES FOR ANY CONSTRUCTION OF
RESIDENTIAL, COMMERCIAL OR INDUSTRIAL STRUCTURES AND
FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

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

SECTION 1. Short Title. This Act shall be known as the "Philippine Green Act of 2019."

SECTION 2. Declaration of Policy. The State shall protect and advance the right of the people to a balanced and healthful ecology in accord with the rhythm and harmony of nature.

SECTION 3. Tree Planting Requirement for Permits. - For projects covered under the Presidential Decree No. 1586 entitled "Establishing an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) System" a Tree Planting Plan (TPP) shall be required as a condition in the Environmental Compliance Certificate.

For projects not covered by the EIS system, the proponent shall include a tree planting plan (TPP) together with the requirements for the issuance of the building permit by the concerned Local Government Unit.

SECTION 4. Tree Planting Required for Developmental Projects. - For development projects having an area of at least 500 square meters a minimum of at least one tree shall be planted: provided that, for single residential structures a minimum of at least one (1) tree shall be required to be planted for an area of at least 250 square meters.

For housing development projects such as subdivisions and villages, one (1) tree shall be planted for every 250 square meters.

SECTION 5. Tree Planting Plan. -The Tree Planting Plan (TPP) shall be a simple plan containing the following:

1. Total area of the Project;
2. Indicative lay-out of the area/s to be planted;
3. Number of trees to be planted taking into account the ration of at least one (1) tree for every 300 square meters or one (1) tree for every 250 square meters for single residential structures; and
4. The species of tree to be planted.

SECTION 6 - Preference for Endemic or Endangered Species. - Taking into account the location, climate and topography of the area, preference shall be given to endemic or endangered species of trees to be planted.

SECTION 7. Implementing Rules and Regulations. - Within ninety (90) days from the enactment of this Act, the **DENR** through the Forest Management Bureau and the Environmental Management Bureau shall formulate the Implementing Rules and Regulations.

SECTION 8. Repealing Clause. - All laws, presidential decrees, executive issuances, rules and regulations, or part thereof which are contrary to or inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed, amended or modified accordingly.

SECTION 9. Separability Clause. - Should any portion or provisions of this Act be declared unconstitutional or invalid by a competent court, the other provisions hereof shall continue to be in force as if the provisions so annulled or voided had never been incorporated in this Act.

SECTION 10. Effectivity. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,