Republic of the Philippines HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES Quezon City, Metro Manila

SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO.3132

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Introduced by HONORABLE STRIKE B. REVILLA

EXPLANATORY NOTE

There is no debate regarding the need to protect our environment and preserving the ecological balance. With the continued rise in urbanization, our ecology is suffering in the sense that trees are being cut to give way for various infrastructure projects. To address this decline in the number of trees, this bill proposes every graduating student to plant ten trees in order to qualify for graduation.

We recognize the role that the youth plays in nation-building. There is no reason why the State may not impose on them to contribute in our quest to achieve our desired ecological balance.

In 2011, the President issued Executive Order No. 26 which aims to mobilize students and government employees to plant 1.5 Billion trees from 2011 to 2016, or over a period of six (6) years. This proposed measure seeks to complement the said issuance.

Approval of this bill earnestly sought.

REP. STRIKE B. REVILLA 2nd District, Cavite

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HOUSE BILL NO.____

Introduced by HONORABLE STRIKE B. REVILLA

AN ACT REQUIRING EVERY STUDENT TO PLANT TREES EVERY YEAR

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

- Section 1. Declaration of Policy. It is the declared policy of the state to protect and preserve the country's biodiversity and the environment.
- Section 2. Requirement of Planting Ten (10) Trees Every Year. To protect and preserve biodiversity in the country, the Department of Education (DepEd) and the Commission on Higher Education (CHED) shall require every student to plant ten (10) trees every year in an area to be designated by the Provincial Environment and Natural Resources Office of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) where the school is located or where such student resides.
- **Section 3.** Appropriations. The necessary budget to implement this Act shall be included in the budget of the Department of Education and the Commission on Higher Education.
- Section 4. Rules and Regulations. The Department of Education, Commission on Higher Education and Department of Environment and Natural Resources shall promulgate the rules and regulations for the effective enforcement of the provisions of this Act.
- Section 5. Separability Clause. Should any provision of this Act or any part thereof be declared invalid, the other provisions, so far as they are separate from the invalid ones, shall remain in full force and effect.

Section 6. Repealing Clause. – All laws, orders, issuances, rules and regulations or parts thereof inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

Section 7. Effectivity Clause. - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,