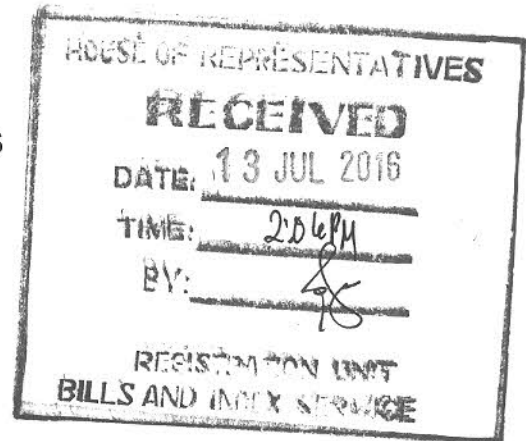


Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

House Bill No. 1527



Introduced by Representative GLORIA MACAPAGAL ARROYO

AN ACT
ESTABLISHING AN INTER-AGENCY ENERGY CONSERVATION
COMMITTEE TO DEPLOY COST EFFECTIVE ENERGY CONSERVATION
MEASURES AND TECHNOLOGIES AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES


EXPLANATORY NOTE

Costs for utility services and energy represent a substantial portion in the operating costs of government buildings and other facilities in the country. It is in the public interest therefore to provide for the planning and technical analyses necessary for cost-effective energy conservation measures and for alternative methods of financing energy-related improvements in such buildings and facilities.

Considering that there are only finite non-renewable energy sources available, cost-effective energy conservation measures aiming to minimize energy consumption and costs must be put in place especially in government and publicly-owned assets.

Recognizing the need for us to our part in saving as much energy as we can, this bill seeks to establish an inter-agency mechanism that will allow the government to make use of energy more efficiently.

In view of the foregoing, the approval of this bill is earnestly requested.


GLORIA MACAPAGAL ARROYO
2nd District, Pampanga

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

SECTION 1. *Title.* –This Act shall be known as the “Government Buildings Energy Cost Reduction Act of 2016.”

SECTION 2. *Declaration of Policy.* –It is hereby declared the policy of the State to establish inter-agency programs for the purpose of deploying cost-effective energy conservation measures and technologies to minimize energy consumption and costs.

SECTION 3. *Definition.* –For purposes of this Act, “energy conservation project” and “project designed to reduce energy consumption and costs” shall mean and be understood as any improvement, repair, alteration or betterment of any building or facility or any equipment, fixture or furnishing to be added to or used in any building or facility that the Department of Energy has determined will be a cost effective energy-related project that will lower energy or utility costs in connection with the operation or maintenance of such building or facility, and will achieve energy cost savings sufficient to cover bond debt service and other project cost savings sufficient to cover bond debt service and other project costs within seven (7) years from the date of project installation.

SECTION 4. *Creation.* –The Inter-Agency Energy Conservation Committee, hereinafter referred to as the Committee, is hereby established to be composed of the Secretary of the Department of Energy (DOE), Secretary of Department of Trade and Industry (DTI), Secretary of the Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH), and the Chairman of the Energy Regulatory Board (ERC). The DOE Secretary shall serve as Committee Chairman. The Committee’s necessary staff and resources shall also be drawn from the DOE.

SECTION 5. *Powers and Duties.* –The Committee shall have the authority:

a) To prepare an annual assessment of opportunities for energy cost reduction in the state-owned and leased buildings and facilities designated by the committee. Each assessment shall be completed each year, commencing from the passage of this Act, and shall be available to the public. The assessment shall include:

- 1) data on energy consumption and costs for each building and facility designated by the Committee for the preceding 5 years and anticipated energy consumption and cost data projected for the next 3 years;
- 2) energy conservation measures deployed in buildings and facilities designated by the Committee during the preceding year;
- 3) evaluation studies of the cost reductions and other benefits realized through the deployment of such measures; and
- 4) energy conservation opportunities based on audits, technical analyses or other methods of determining such opportunities and associated energy

b) To conduct such surveys, audits, technical analyses and other research or investigations as may be necessary to support the preparation of the annual plan and the objectives of this Act;

c) To review all proposed capital projects and energy cost operating budgets of agencies designated by the Committee and recommend energy conservation measures which would reduce operating costs in buildings or facilities affected by such capital projects;

d) To develop, after study of existing or emerging energy conservation technologies, guidelines as may be necessary or desirable to further the objectives of this Act or to aid the work of the Committee;

e) To provide any officer or entity of government, technical and consultative assistance concerning energy cost management or conservation;

f) To annually recommend specific operations and maintenance procedure modifications and capital projects for state-owned and leased buildings and facilities designed to reduce energy consumption and costs;

g) To issue a report describing the status of government building energy cost reduction and management efforts in the country. Listing obstacles to building energy efficiency improvement together with related recommendations for statutory change, and identifying opportunities for public sector energy cost reductions not addressed by this Act or the programs developed pursuant thereto

SECTION 6. *Funding Provision.* –The Chairperson of the Committee shall immediately hereinafter include in the Committee's programs the prompt implementation of this Act, funding of which shall be provided for in the Annual General Appropriations Act.

SECTION 7. *Separability Clause.*—If any provision of this Act shall be declared unconstitutional, any other provision not affected thereby shall remain in full force and effect.

SECTION 8. *Repealing Clause.*—All laws, decrees, orders, rules and regulations, or parts thereof inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed or amended accordingly.

SECTION 9. *Effectivity.*—This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,