

Republic of the Philippines  
**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**  
Quezon City

**EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS**  
*First Regular Session*

**HOUSE BILL NO. 6093**



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Introduced by: **HON. ROZZANO RUFINO B. BIAZON**

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**EXPLANATORY NOTE**

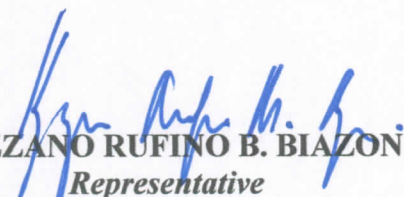
This proposed measure seeks to ban the manufacture, importation, sale, distribution and use of reef-toxic sunscreens that contain reef-toxic chemicals that severely damage corals and have been proven fatal to other marine life.

The protection and conservation of the environment is vital in the survival and continuity of all humanity. But as progress and development come in, the delicate balance people have with mother nature becomes greatly affected. There is nothing wrong with enjoying our natural resources so long as we remain responsible and aware of its upkeep. Many places in the world that are popular with tourism are seeing rapid destruction of their wildlife and environment due to products containing harmful chemicals such as sunscreens.

These products are meant to protect a person's skin from the harmful ultra-violet rays of the sun while staying outdoors. Such products are commonly used by people in beaches and other resorts offering outdoor water activities. Unbeknownst to many, most of these products contain chemicals such as oxybenzone and triclosan that have been proven by laboratory studies to have adverse effects on marine life in general.

A significant income of our tourism industry come from activities in our beaches and other bodies of water. It is only therefore proper that measures are put into place in order to protect these for the enjoyment not only of the present generation but also of future generations.

For these reasons, immediate approval this bill is earnestly requested.

  
**ROZZANO RUFINO B. BIAZON**  
*Representative*  
Lone District, Muntinlupa City

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**AN ACT**  
**BANNING THE MANUFACTURE, IMPORTATION, SALE, DISTRIBUTION AND**  
**USE OF REEF-TOXIC SUNSCREENS IN THE PHILIPPINES**

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

SECTION 1. *Short Title.* – This Act shall be known as the “*Anti-Reef Toxic Sunscreen Act of 2020*”.

Sec. 2. *Declaration of Policy.* – It is the policy of the State to promote the conservation of a beautiful, healthful and resourceful national environment. In this regard, the State shall prohibit anything that can be harmful or destructive to terrestrial, aerial and aquatic flora and fauna in all its territory.

Sec. 3. *Ban on the manufacture, importation, sale, distribution and use of reef-toxic sunscreens.* – No person or enterprise shall manufacture, import, sell, distribute or use for any purpose, any reef-toxic sunscreen in the Philippines.

For the purposes of this Act, reef-toxic sunscreens are those skin-care products sold for topical application which contain oxybenzone (BP3), octylmethoxycinnamate (EHMC), octocrylene (OC), 4-methyl-benzilidene camphor (4MBC), triclosan, methyl paraben, butyl paraben, benzyl paraben or phenoxyethanol, or other chemical ingredients deemed hazardous to the environment.

Sec. 4. *Penalties.* – Any person found to have violated the immediately preceding provision shall be meted a fine of Five Thousand Pesos (Php 5,000.00).

Any enterprise in violation of this Act shall be meted a fine not exceeding Fifty Thousand Pesos (Php 50,000.00) and revocation of its permit to operate.

Sec. 5. *Confiscation of Reef-Toxic Products.* – All prohibited reef-toxic products shall be subject to confiscation by the concerned authorities upon effectivity of this Act.

Sec. 6. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.* – The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) shall prepare and issue the Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR) within ninety (90) days upon the effectivity of this Act.

Sec. 7. *Separability Clause.* – If, for any reason, any portion or provision of this Act shall be held unconstitutional or invalid, the remaining provisions not affected thereby shall continue to be in full force and effect.

Sec. 8. *Repealing Clause.* – All other laws, executive orders, proclamations, rules, regulations, and other issuances or parts thereof, which are inconsistent with the provisions of this Act, are hereby repealed or amended accordingly.

Sec. 9. *Effectivity* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in any newspaper of general circulation.

*Approved,*