



**Eighteenth Congress
First Regular Session**



HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 794

**Introduced by
REPRESENTATIVE LOREN B. LEGARDA**

RESOLUTION

DIRECTING THE COMMITTEE ON CLIMATE CHANGE TO LOOK INTO THE INTEGRATION OF THE CIRCULAR ECONOMY CONCEPT INTO THE COUNTRY'S LOW-EMISSIONS DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY AND THE MINIMIZATION OF WASTE GENERATION THROUGH PREVENTION, REDUCTION, RECYCLING AND REUSE TOWARDS ECOLOGICAL INTEGRITY AND A CLEAN AND HEALTHY ENVIRONMENT

- 1 **WHEREAS**, pursuant to Section 16, Article II of the 1987 Constitution, the State shall
2 protect and advance the right of the people to a balanced and healthful ecology in
3 accord with the rhythm and harmony of nature;
- 4 **WHEREAS**, pursuant to the targets under United Nations (UN) Sustainable
5 Development Goal (SDG) 12 on responsible consumption and production, it is
6 necessary to "implement the 10-year framework of programmes on sustainable
7 consumption and production (SCP), all countries taking action, with developed
8 countries taking the lead, taking into account the development and capabilities of
9 developing countries";
- 10 **WHEREAS**, under the same SDG, "achieving the sustainable management and
11 efficient use of natural resources, reducing food losses along production and supply

1 chains, reducing waste generation through prevention, reduction, recycling and
2 reuse, and ensuring that people everywhere have the relevant information and
3 awareness for sustainable development and lifestyles in harmony with nature” are
4 targeted by the year 2030;

5 **WHEREAS**, under the Climate Change Act or Republic Act (RA) No. 9729, as
6 amended by RA No. 10174, the State adopts the ultimate objective of the United
7 Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) which is the
8 stabilization of greenhouse gas concentrations in the atmosphere at a level that
9 would prevent dangerous anthropogenic interference with the climate system, and
10 that likewise, adopts the Philippine Agenda 21 framework which espouses
11 sustainable development, to fulfill human needs while maintaining the quality of the
12 natural environment for current and future generations;

13 **WHEREAS**, being a party to the Paris Agreement, the State recognizes that
14 “sustainable lifestyles and patterns of consumption and production, with developed
15 country Parties taking the lead, play an important role in addressing climate change;”

16 **WHEREAS**, the Philippines submitted its Intended Nationally Determined
17 Contributions (INDC) in 2015, with a target of seventy percent (70%) emissions
18 reduction in energy, transport, forestry, industry and waste from the business-as-
19 usual scenario by 2030, with the main premise that mitigation is a function of
20 adaptation and conditioned upon provision of financing resources, including
21 technology development and transfer, and capacity building from developed
22 countries;

23 **WHEREAS**, Republic Act No. 9003 known as the Ecological Solid Waste
24 Management Act of 2000 mandates the adoption of “a systematic, comprehensive
25 and ecological solid waste management program, utilizing environmentally-sound
26 methods that maximize the utilization of valuable resources and encourage resource
27 conservation and recovery, and setting guidelines and targets for solid waste
28 avoidance and volume reduction through source reduction and waste minimization
29 measures;”

1 **WHEREAS**, twenty (20) years after its enactment, there is still low compliance rate
2 among local government units (LGUs), as evidenced by reports from the Office of
3 the Ombudsman¹ and National Solid Waste Management Commission;²

4 **WHEREAS**, according to a report by the Science magazine,³ a reputable journal of
5 American Association for the Advancement of Science, the Philippines ranked third
6 among the countries with the highest source of plastic ocean pollution, generating
7 1.88 million metric tons of mismanaged plastic garbage per year, with the threats of
8 microplastic pollution also compounding the negative impacts to humans and marine
9 environment;

10 **WHEREAS**, Chapter 20—Ensuring Ecological Integrity, Clean and Healthy
11 Environment—of the Philippine Development Plan (PDP) 2017-2022 aims to
12 promote SCP through the development and implementation of appropriate policies;

13 **WHEREAS**, among these policies and initiatives include the “formulation of a polluter
14 pays policy, establishment of an accessible market for recyclables and recycled
15 products, strengthening of the certification and establishment of information systems
16 for green products and services, and strengthening promotion, development,
17 transfer, and adoption of eco-friendly technologies, systems, and practices in the
18 public and private sectors by increasing access to incentives and facilitating ease of
19 doing business and other related transactions;”

20 **WHEREAS**, one of the ways to achieve the avoidance of the greenhouse gas
21 emissions of Philippine industry is by undertaking cleaner production processes
22 using fewer resources, life cycle assessment to enhance service and extend
23 lifespan, minimization of wastes through recycling and resource reuse, among other
24 methodologies under circular economy as articulated under the framework by the
25 United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO);

26 **WHEREAS**, circular economy, according to the UNIDO, refers to a “new way or
27 system of creating value and prosperity by extending product lifespan through

¹ <https://www.ombudsman.gov.ph/index.php?home=1&bsr=1>

² <https://nswmc.emb.gov.ph/?p=128>; <https://nswmc.emb.gov.ph/wp-content/uploads/2016/06/Solid-Wastefinaldraft-12.29.15.pdf>

³ J. R. Jambeck, R. Geyer, C. Wilcox, T. R. Siegler, M. Perryman, A. Andrady, R. Narayan, and K. L. Law, “Plastic waste inputs from land into the ocean,” *Science*, 2015, Volume 347, Number 6223. Accessed at: <https://www.mckinsey.com/~/media/mckinsey/business%20functions/sustainability%20and%20resource%20productivity/our%20insights/saving%20the%20ocean%20from%20plastic%20waste/stemming%20the%20tide%20full%20report.ashx>

1 improved design and servicing, and relocating waste from the end of the supply
2 chain to the beginning—in effect, using resources more efficiently by using them
3 over and over, not only once;”

4 **WHEREAS**, the circular economy may be an instrumental model and strategy to
5 achieve low-carbon, low-emissions development in view of the achievement of
6 targets under the SDG, PDP, NFSCC, NDC and NCCAP, and in support of the
7 implementation of various laws, such as RA No. 9003 among others;

8 **WHEREAS**, the country, with the National Economic and Development Authority
9 (NEDA) as lead, is in the process of finalizing the National Action Plan for SCP which
10 lays down “priority strategies and activities, including key reforms and innovations to
11 support and advance SCP implementation;”

12 **WHEREAS**, RA No. 10771 otherwise known as the Green Jobs Act of 2016, aims to
13 provide an enabling environment for “fostering low-carbon, resilient sustainable
14 growth and decent job creation” by providing incentives to enterprises
15 generating green jobs, integrating further decent work component;

16 **WHEREAS**, related mandates of national government agencies such as the Climate
17 Change Commission (CCC), Department of Environment and Natural Resources
18 (DENR), Department of Trade and Industry (DTI), Department of Science and
19 Technology (DOST), Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG), and
20 Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH), among others, could usher in
21 policy development and institutional arrangements to incorporate circular economy
22 concepts in the design, manufacture, disposal, and reuse of materials for industry-
23 related purposes for waste management technologies under the circular economy,
24 as a vital part of mitigation and adaptation for the Philippines;

25 **WHEREAS**, the whole-of-government-and-society approach could pave the way for
26 an inclusive mechanism to promote actions across sectors at all levels towards a
27 circular economy;

28 **WHEREAS**, it is incumbent upon the Congress to ensure that government policies
29 are well in place to support sustainable and resilient development;

1 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, as it is hereby resolved, to direct the
2 Special Committee on Climate Change to look into the integration of the circular
3 economy concept into the country's low-emissions development strategy and the
4 minimization of waste generation through prevention, reduction, recycling and reuse
5 towards ecological integrity and a clean and healthy environment;

6 **RESOLVED, FINALLY**, that the Committee shall endeavor to catalyze actions
7 towards fostering a circular economy, on the areas of knowledge and capacity
8 development, private sector engagement, research and technology development,
9 and public information dissemination, with "just transition" as core consideration for
10 implementation.

11 Adopted,



LOREN LEGARDA