

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

THIRTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

House Bill No. 1911



Introduced by the **Honorable ROILO GOLEZ**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The frequent occurrence of flashfloods during typhoons, soil erosion, siltation of rivers and dams during rainy seasons and drought during dry seasons have been attributed to the continuing denudation of our forest. Out of 15.9 million hectares of forest land only 6.4 million hectares have remained to be covered by trees and this figure has already included recent actual forest plantations.

Under the Local Government Code of 1991, local government units (LGUs) have the power to enforce and implement community-based forestry projects within their respective territorial jurisdictions. Such provision authorizes LGUs to take an active role in the reforestation program of the national government.

However, it must be admitted that not all LGUs are sensitive to the need to allocate budgetary support for reforestation projects. This bill seeks to mandate local government units to set aside not less than two and a half percent (2.5%) of the total revenue from regular sources of the preceding year for reforestation programs and projects. Setting aside two and a half percent (2.5%) of the LGUs total revenue from regular sources of the preceding year, ensures the LGUs' ecological viability and enhances the country's resource sustainability.

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


ROILO GOLEZ *9.7.04*

Republic of the Philippines
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THIRTEENTH CONGRESS

House Bill No. 1911

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Introduced by Honorable ROILO GOLEZ

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AN ACT
REQUIRING LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNITS TO SET ASIDE NOT LESS
THAN FIVE PERCENT (5%) OF THE TOTAL REVENUE FROM REGULAR
SOURCES OF THE PRECEEDING YEAR AS LUMP SUM
APPROPRIATION TO FINANCE REFORESTATION PROGRAMS AND
PROJECT, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTION 324 OF REPUBLIC
ACT NO. 7160 OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT
CODE OF 1991

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

SECTION 1. A new sub-paragraph is hereby inserted in Section
324 of Republic Act No. 7160 to read as follows:

"Section 324. *Budgetary requirements.* - The budgets of
local government units for any fiscal shall comply with the following
requirements:

- (a) xxx;
- (b) xxx;
- (c) xxx;
- (d) xxx; AND

(E) NOT LESS THAN TWO AND A HALF PERCENT
(2.5%) OF THE TOTAL REVENUE FROM REGULAR SOURCES OF
THE PRECEEDING YEAR SHALL BE SET ASIDE AS AN ANNUAL
LUMP SUM APPROPRIATION FOR REFORESTATION RELATED
PROJECTS AND PROGRAMS: *PROVIDED*, THAT EXISTING LOCAL
REFORESTATION PROJECTS FUNDED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF
ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES, INTERNATIONAL
FUNDING INSTITUTIONS AND NON-GOVERNMENTAL
ORGANIZATIONS SHALL BE EXCLUDED AND: *PROVIDED*,
PUBLIC LAND FOR SUCH REFORESTATION PROGRAM IS
AVAILABLE."

SEC. 2. All other laws, orders, decrees and circulars inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed.

SEC. 3. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in at least two (2) national newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,