

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

Thirteenth Congress
First Regular Session

House Bill No. **3086**

Introduced by Honorable Catalino V. Figueroa

EXPLANATORY NOTE

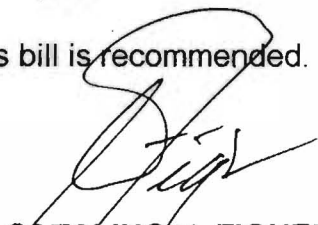
This Bill seeks to ban manufacturer of plastic bags for use as containers or receptacles of goods purchased at department stores, supermarkets, private and public markets, sari-sari stores and other similar establishments.

Plastic materials have become so much a part of modern life as are radio and electricity. In fact, there are a hundred different types of plastics to suit almost every purpose. Plastics are fashioned with toys, containers, tiles, kitchen-wares, insulators, frames and a thousand other products, including plastic bags and packaging materials. The latter are very popular because of the light-weight, strength and relatively low prices. Everyday, huge quantities of these materials are used as receptacles and container for goods purchased from supermarkets, department stores and sari-sari stores. The plastic bags and containers are soon discarded and thrown away in *esteros*, rivers and canals.

This indiscriminate and wanton disposal of plastic bags and other plastic materials has resulted in clogged sewers, rivers and drainage systems in Metro Manila and in other urban centers in the country. Plastics are non-biodegradable and are thus not capable of being decomposed into benign and harmless elements under the action of normal environmental faces. For a long, long time, these discarded plastics will pose great hazards to public health and welfare.

This bill, therefore, seeks to promote a healthy citizenry in a clean and safe environment by banning the manufacture and hazardous, non-biodegradable plastic bags and other plastic receptacles.

In view of its importance, passage of this bill is recommended.



CATALINO V. FIGUEROA

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**AN ACT
BANNING THE MANUFACTURE OF PLASTIC BAGS, PROVIDING
PENALTIES THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

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

SECTION 1. Declaration of Policy – It shall be the policy of the State to promote and protect the right of the people to a balanced and healthy ecology in accordance with the rhythm and harmony of nature, as mandated by law.

SECTION 2. Prohibition – In furtherance of the above policy, it is hereby declared as unlawful the manufacture of plastic bags for use as storing materials or receptacles for goods purchased from department stores, supermarkets, private or public markets, sari-sari stores and other similar business establishments.

SECTION 3. Penalty – Any person found guilty of violating any provision of this Act shall be imposed a penalty of prision correccional in its maximum period and a fine of not less than ONE HUNDRED THOUSAND PESO (P100,000.00); Provided, however, that if the offender is a juridical entity, the penalty and fine hereinafter provided shall be imposed upon the chief executive officer, President or general manager found primarily responsible for such violation.

SECTION 4. Implementation – The Department of Trade and Industry shall be responsible for the implementation of this Act. It shall coordinate with the Department of Science and Technology, the Department of Environment and Natural Resources and at least two (2) major consumer organizations in formulating the necessary rules, regulations and guidelines for effective implementation thereof.

SECTION 5. Repealing Clause – All laws, decrees, rules and regulations or parts thereof, which are inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SECTION 6. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

Approved,