

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

FIFTEENTH CONGRESS

HB No. 4592

**Introduced by Hon. Christopher S. Co, Hon. Rodel M. Batocabe,
and Hon. Alfredo A. Garbin, Jr.**

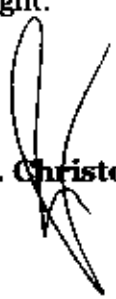
EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill seeks to mandate barangays to proclaim a tree-planting day that coincides with any of the two barangay assembly meetings in a year.

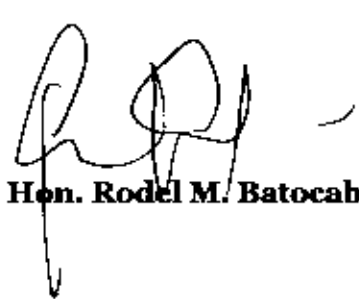
The Local Government Code of the Philippines mandates that barangay assembly meetings be conducted at least twice a year to discuss about the barangays activities, finances, and problems. This bill takes advantage of the opportunity of the congregation of residents of the barangay to take part in the planting of trees and ornamental plants, and other related activities. The simultaneous conduct of the barangay assembly meetings and the tree-planting day aims to maximize the participation of citizens and increase national awareness of the environment at the barangay and grassroots level.

Deforestation has caused flash floods and soil erosion which has led to significant damages to property and loss of human lives. The Constitution mandates the State to "protect and advance the right of the people to a balanced and healthful ecology in accord with the rhythm and harmony of nature." Environmentalists have been calling the attention of the government to protect and preserve the environment in order to effectively replenish tree and plant resources, and curve uncontrolled effects of landslides, erosion, floods.

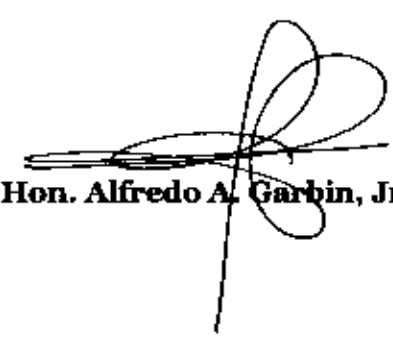
The cooperation between State and citizenry shall bolster other efforts of the government in protecting and preserving the environment. In view thereof, passage of this bill is earnestly sought.



Hon. Christopher S. Co



Hon. Rodel M. Batocabe



Hon. Alfredo A. Garbin, Jr.

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

FIFTEENTH CONGRESS

HB No. —4592

Introduced by Hon. Christopher S. Co, Hon. Rodel M. Batocabe,
and Hon. Alfredo A. Garbin, Jr.

**AN ACT MANDATING BARANGAYS TO DECLARE A TREE PLANTING DAY
DURING THE BARANGAY ASSEMBLY MEETING, APPROPRIATING FUNDS
THEREFORE AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

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

SEC. 1 *Establishment* – This Act shall be known as the “Tree-Planting Act of 2011”

SEC. 2. *Proclamation of Arbor Day* – All barangays shall be required to declare an Arbor Day or Tree-Planting Day by appropriate proclamation of the punong barangay through an ordinance passed by the respective sangguniang barangay, at a date coinciding with any of the two barangay assembly meetings as shall be deemed conducive to the proper time and season for planting trees in the respective barangays.

SEC. 3. *Supply and Distribution of Seedlings* - The Bureau of Plant Industry shall supply and distribute the seedlings of the barangays for the Tree-Planting program.

SEC 4. *Planting of Trees* - The tree planting activities shall be done in any of the following areas:

1. Private lands;
2. public school grounds, gardens, or other available areas within the school premises;
3. Idle or vacant public lands;
4. Public parks in urban and rural areas;
5. Public lands such as roadside, along city and municipal streets and highways; and
6. Private schools, parks and lands with the consent of the owner thereof.

SEC 5. *Maintenance of Trees.* The barangay officials and deputized non-governmental organizations shall be responsible for the maintenance of such trees.

SEC. 6. Information and Monitoring. All barangays shall submit to the Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG), the official date of the Tree-Planting Celebration.

SEC. 7. Funding. For the initial implementation of this Act, there is hereby authorized to be created a fund to be derived from the budget of the DILG not otherwise appropriated. Thereafter, said funds shall be included in the annual budget of this department.

SEC. 8. Implementing Rules. The DILG, in coordination with the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), shall promulgate the rules and regulations to effectively implement the provisions of this Act.

SEC. 9. Separability Clause. If any provision of this Act or any part thereof be declared invalid or unconstitutional, the remaining provisions not affected thereby shall continue in full force and effect.

SEC. 10. Repealing Clause. All laws, presidential decrees, proclamations, executive orders, or regulations and other issuances inconsistent with the provisions and/or purposes of this Act are hereby repealed, amended or modified accordingly.

SEC. 12. Effectivity. This Act shall take effect after fifteen (15) days following its publication in the official gazette or in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,