

REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES  
House of Representatives  
Quezon City

FIFTEENTH CONGRESS  
Second Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 5792



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INTRODUCED BY REP. NANCY A. CATAMCO

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EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill seeks to protect public health, safety and general welfare as they relate to the construction and occupancy of buildings and structures.

The maintenance of the canopy trees and flora on public and private property is a valuable contribution to the environment and thus the welfare of our citizens. Trees, flowers, shrubbery, and plant life are widely known to provide more privacy and a sense of solitude as well as create a feeling of relaxation and well-being. More importantly, they reduce air pollution by removing carbon dioxide from the air, noise, or glare, as well as preventing soil erosion. It is also of vital aesthetic importance to increase the beauty of buildings and adjunct land and structures as well as its property value.

Hence, approval of this bill is earnestly requested.

  
NANCY A. CATAMCO

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**AN ACT REQUIRING SUFFICIENT CANOPY TREES AND FLORA  
IN THE CONSTRUCTION OF BUILDINGS AND ITS APPURTENANT LANDS AND STRUCTURES.**

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

**SECTION 1.** This act shall apply to all public and private commercial buildings and their auxillary structures and lands.

**SECTION 2.** All persons, natural or juridical, applying for any permit or license in the construction of any structure built for commercial or industrial use, or for the support, shelter, or enclosure of persons, animals, chattels, or property of any kind, shall be required to construct or set aside areas in said property adequate for planting and maintaining trees and flora.

**SECTION 3.** In the construction of such areas for trees and flora, priority shall be given to the facade of the structure and all communal areas.

**SECTION 4.** Such persons, natural or juridical, who may be granted such permit or license to construct and shall do construct the structure, shall be required to plant, maintain, and care for such trees and flora.

**SECTION 5.** Any existing law or provision to the contrary notwithstanding, all buildings existing or proposed for construction shall comply with all the regulations and specifications herein set forth governing methods of design and construction.

**SECTION 6.** The Secretary of Public Works and Highways, jointly with the Department of Environment and Natural Resources, Department of the Interior and Local Government, and the Department of Agriculture shall issue the necessary implementing rules and regulations to carry out the objectives of this Act.

**SECTION 7.** Repealing Clause. — All provisions of laws, orders, decrees, including rules and regulations inconsistent herewith are hereby repealed and/or modified accordingly.

**SECTION 8.** Separability Clause. — If any part or provision of this Act shall be held to be unconstitutional or invalid, other provisions hereof which are not affected thereby shall continue to be in full force and effect.

**SECTION 9.** Effectivity. — This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days its complete publication in the Official Gazette and in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation, whichever comes earlier.

*Approved,*