

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

SIXTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

House Bill No. **921**



Introduced by HON. IRWIN C. TIENG, HON. MARIANO MICHAEL M. VELARDE
and HON. JOSE L. ATIENZA, JR.

EXPLANATORY

As urbanization and economic development increase in the Philippines, nowhere is the impact more obvious than its worsening garbage problems. Each Filipino living in the metropolis generates an average of half a kilo of solid waste every day. With a population of more than 10 million, total waste generated in Metro Manila alone could run up to more than two million metric tons every year.

Despite the passage of the Ecological Solid Waste Management Act otherwise known as RA 9003, garbage production still continues to increase at an alarming rate. Although considerable efforts are being made by our government in combating waste-related problems, there are still major gaps to be filled in this area.

One of the causes that can be attributed to this worsening problem is the use of outdated technology. Most of our local government units lack modernized and cost efficient transport system for purposes of collecting and transporting garbage from every household to the sanitary landfills. Many of the trucks that are being used nowadays are either dilapidated or does not have an onboard compactor system.

Compacting the trash or recyclables allows space for more items to be placed inside and significantly reduces the number of times the container needs to be emptied. Thus, it allows the truck to transport from two or three times its normal payload. The use of compaction in waste handling is more energy efficient and therefore better for the environment. It will minimize collection costs and fuel consumption.

Unlike ordinary garbage trucks with no compactor system, compactor trucks have sealed containers so as not to pose unsanitary condition. Normally, wastes in transit of ordinary garbage trucks produce offensive odors and vermins, which in turn create nuisance. With the use of compactor system, waste will be removed from the view quickly. More importantly, vectors and insects can be prevented from reaching the waste during collection and transport. Consequently, this will effectively help minimize health risks to the collectors and to the public.

Since compactors help make waste much more manageable, it means better sanitary landfill utilization and longer life spans.

Innovations in garbage collection trucks will help the government offer quality of life advantages to its citizens. Perhaps more importantly, these innovations will lower greenhouse gas emissions that are responsible for climate change.

This bill seeks to require the use of garbage trucks with onboard compactor that compact solid waste while in transit. It aims to address the increasing volume of garbage in every household or community and the need to advance our system of collection and disposal. This is also in keeping with the goal of RA 9003 to reduce solid waste volume and adopt waste minimization measures.

Hence, immediate passage of the Bill is earnestly sought.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Irwin C. Tieng', with a large, stylized initial 'I'.

IRWIN C. TIENG

MARIANO MICHAEL M. VELARDE

JOSE L. ATIENZA, JR.

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AN ACT
REQUIRING LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNITS TO USE GARBAGE TRUCKS WITH
ONBOARD COMPACTOR FOR THE COLLECTION AND TRANSPORTATION OF
SOLID WASTE AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

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

Section 1. Declaration of Policy. It is hereby the policy of the State to safeguard the health and welfare of the people and to protect the environment by adopting measures for an effective ecological solid waste management. Toward this end, it shall require all Local Government Units to utilize a cost efficient transport system for disposing the increasing volume of solid waste.

Section 2. Definition. – As used in this Act, the following shall mean:

- a) Compactor means a type of roll-off container that includes a device inside that compacts or compresses the materials inside as it fills up allowing space for more items to be placed inside.
- b) Solid waste means garbage, refuse, sludges, and other discarded solid materials, including solid waste materials resulting from industrial, commercial, and agricultural operations, and from community activities, but does not include solid or dissolved materials in domestic sewage or other significant pollutants in water resources, such as silt, dissolved or suspended solids in industrial wastewater effluents, dissolved materials in irrigation return flows or other common water pollutants.

Unless specifically noted otherwise, the term “solid waste” as used in this Act shall not include mining, agricultural, and industrial solid wastes; hazardous wastes; construction and demolition wastes; and infectious wastes.

Section 3. Requirement. All Local Governments Units shall be required to use garbage truck with onboard compactor in their collection and transportation of solid waste from the collection points to the sanitary landfills.

Section 4. Guidelines. a) The garbage trucks with onboard compactor shall be operated and maintained in such a manner as to minimize health and safety hazards to solid waste management personnel and the public.

b) This equipment shall be maintained in good condition and kept clean to prevent the propagation or attraction of vectors and the creation of nuisances.

c) All solid waste collection personnel should receive instructions and training in waste handling techniques, and in the proper operation of this equipment.

d) Personal protective equipment such as gloves, safety glasses, respirators, and footwear should be used by collection employees, as appropriate.

Section 5. *Appropriation.* Such amount as maybe necessary for the effective implementation of this Act is hereby appropriated from the funds of the National Treasury not otherwise appropriated. Thereafter, such amount as maybe necessary for its continued operation shall be included in the General Appropriations Act.

Section 6. *Implementation and Enforcement.* The Department of Interior and Local Government shall be primarily responsible for the implementation and enforcement of the provisions of this Act.

Section 7. *Repealing Clause.* - All laws, decrees, orders, rules or regulations, other issuances or parts thereof inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed or amended accordingly.

Section 8. *Separability Clause.* - If any provision of this Act is declared invalid, other parts or provisions thereof not affected thereby shall remain and continue to be in full force and effect.

Section 9. *Effectivity.* - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after publication in two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,