

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

SIXTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

House Bill No. 1908



Introduced by Representatives
DIOSDADO MACAPAGAL ARROYO and GLORIA MACAPAGAL ARROYO

AN ACT
ESTABLISHING AN INTER-AGENCY ENERGY CONSERVATION
COMMITTEE TO DEPLOY COST-EFFECTIVE ENERGY
CONSERVATION MEASURES AND TECHNOLOGIES AND FOR
OTHER PURPOSES

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Costs for utility services and energy represent a substantial portion in the operating costs of government buildings and other facilities in the country. It is in the public interest therefore to provide for the planning and technical analyses necessary for cost-effective energy conservation measures and for alternative methods of financing energy-related improvements in such buildings and facilities.

Considering that there are only finite non-renewable energy sources available, cost-effective energy conservation measures aiming to minimize energy consumption and costs must be put in place especially in government and publicly-owned assets.

Recognizing the need for us to do our part in saving as much energy as we can, this bill seeks to establish an inter-agency mechanism that will allow the government to make use of energy more efficiently

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


DIOSDADO MACAPAGAL ARROYO
Second District, Camarines Sur


GLORIA MACAPAGAL ARROYO
Second District, Pampanga

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

SECTION 1. *Short Title.* – This Act shall be known as the “Government Buildings Energy Cost Reduction Act of 2013.”

SECTION 2. *Declaration of Policy.* – It is hereby declared to be the policy of State to establish inter-agency programs for the purpose of deploying cost-effective energy conservation measures and technologies to minimize energy consumption and costs.

SECTION 3. *Definition.* – For purposes of this Act, “*energy conservation project*” and “*project designed to reduce energy consumption and costs*” shall mean and be understood as any improvement, repair, alteration or betterment of any building or facility or any equipment, fixture or furnishing to be added to or used in any building or facility that the Department of Energy has determined will be a cost effective energy-related project that will lower energy or utility costs in connection with the operation or maintenance of such building or facility, and will achieve energy cost savings sufficient to cover bond debt service and other project costs within seven (7) years from the date of project installation.

SECTION 4. *Creation.* – The Inter-Agency Energy Conservation Committee, hereinafter referred to as the Committee, is hereby established to be composed of the Secretary of the Department of Energy (DOE), Secretary of Department of Trade and Industry (DTI), Secretary of Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH), and the Chairman of the Energy Regulatory Commission (ERC). The DOE Secretary shall serve as Committee chairman. The Committee's necessary staff and resources shall also be drawn from the DOE.

SECTION 5. *Powers and Duties.* – The Committee shall have the authority:

(a) To prepare an annual assessment of opportunities for energy cost reduction in state-owned and leased buildings and facilities designated by the committee. Each assessment shall be completed each year, commencing from the passage of this Act, and shall be available to the public. The assessment shall include:

(1) data on energy consumption and costs for each building and facility designated by the Committee for the preceding 5 years and anticipated energy consumption and cost data projected for the next 3 years;

(2) energy conservation measures deployed in buildings and facilities designated by the Committee during the preceding year;

(3) evaluation studies of the cost reductions and other benefits realized through the deployment of such measures; and

4) energy conservation opportunities based on audits, technical analyses or other methods of determining such opportunities and associated energy

(b) To conduct such surveys, audits, technical analyses and other research or investigations as may be necessary to support the preparation of the annual plan and the objectives of this Act;

(c) To review all proposed capital projects and energy cost operating budgets of agencies designated by the Committee and recommend energy conservation measures which would

reduce operating costs in buildings or facilities affected by such capital projects;

(d) To develop, after study of existing or emerging energy conservation technologies, guidelines as may be necessary or desirable to further the objectives of this Act or to aid the work of the Committee;

(e) To provide any officer or entity of government, technical and consultative assistance concerning energy cost management or conservation;

(f) To annually recommend specific operations and maintenance procedure modifications and capital projects for state-owned and leased buildings and facilities designed to reduce energy consumption and costs;

(g) To issue a report describing the status of government building energy cost reduction and management efforts in the country, listing obstacles to building energy efficiency improvement together with related recommendations for statutory change, and identifying opportunities for public sector energy cost reductions not addressed by this Act or the programs developed pursuant hereto.

SECTION 6. *Funding Provision.* – The Chairperson of the Committee shall immediately hereinafter include in the Committee's programs the prompt implementation of this Act, funding of which shall be provided for in the Annual General Appropriations Act.

SECTION 7. *Repealing Clause.* – All laws, decrees, executive orders or parts thereof inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed, amended or modified accordingly.

SECTION 8. *Separability Clause.* – If any provision of this Act is held invalid or unconstitutional, other provisions not affected shall continue to be in full force and effect.

SECTION 9. *Effectivity Clause.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its complete publication in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,