



Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

SIXTEENTH CONGRESS
Second Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 5937

Introduced by Rep. Winston "Winnie" Castelo

EXPLANATORY NOTE

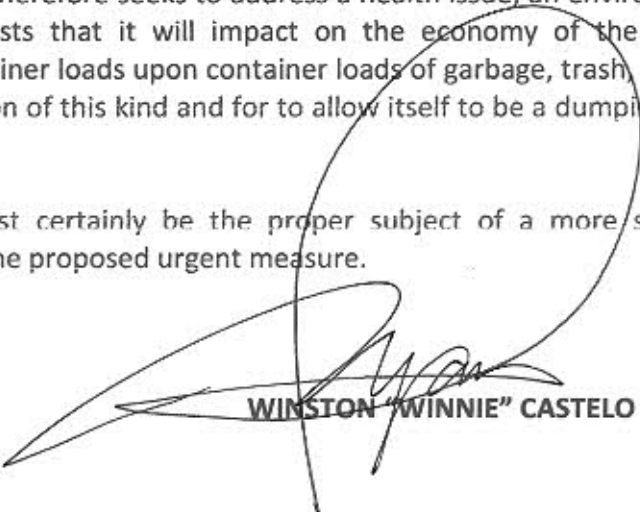
No country in the world should be dumping site for another country's trash (i.e. garbage, scrap, residual waste, etc.). It shall therefore be banned for items, materials, or substances otherwise detrimental to health and environment to be loaded on container vans and be shipped or imported from foreign countries under any guise that such are recyclables, filling materials, or declared as other such stuff, as the case may be.

Under the proposed law, there shall be a general ban on the importation, shipment, entry, and dumping into the country of garbage, trash, or similar and other otherwise hazardous scrap or residual waste especially those shipped to the Philippines from other countries. The Philippines is simply not a dumping ground for such filth.

The case of the 50 container vans recently shipped into the country is cause for alarm for it sets precedent that if otherwise unchecked will trigger unprecedented problems that would impact directly to health and environment in terms of substances or materials that may possibly be of such detriment.

The proposed measure therefore seeks to address a health issue, an environment issue, and more importantly, the costs that it will impact on the economy of the country like congestion at the ports of container loads upon container loads of garbage, trash, or waste. No country could tolerate a situation of this kind and for to allow itself to be a dumping ground for such filth.

Shipments of trash must certainly be the proper subject of a more stringent and aggressive general ban, hence the proposed urgent measure.


WINSTON "WINNIE" CASTELO

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HOUSE BILL NO. _____

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AN ACT
PRESCRIBING A GENERAL BAN ON IMPORTATION, SHIPMENT, ENTRY, AND DUMPING INTO
THE COUNTRY OF GARBAGE, TRASH, OR SIMILAR AND OTHERWISE HAZARDOUS SCRAP OR
RESIDUAL WASTE AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

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

SECTION 1. This Act shall be known as the "Anti-Trash Act of 2015".

SEC. 2. There shall hereby be prescribed a general ban on the importation, shipment, entry, and dumping into the country of garbage, trash, or similar and other otherwise hazardous scrap or residual waste especially those shipped to the Philippines from other countries.

Toward this end, the Bureau of Customs shall require prospective importers to secure the necessary clearance from the Department of Environment and Natural Resources prior to the importation, shipment, entry, and dumping into the country of said items, materials, or substances contemplated under this Act.

Provided Further That, subject items, materials, or substances shall not be classified in any way as recyclables nor filling materials since they are deemed detrimental to health and the environment.

SEC. 3. The Bureau of Customs in cooperation with the Department of Environment and Natural Resources shall issue appropriate rules, regulations and guidelines for the effective implementation of the provisions of this Act.

SEC. 4. All applicable laws in violations of the provisions of this Act shall henceforth be carried out effectively.

SEC. 5. This Act shall take effect upon its approval, publication in the Official Gazette, and in at least three (3) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,