



Republic of the Philippines
House of Representatives
Quezon City



SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL No. 5087

Introduced by HON. RODEL M. BATOCABE, HON. ALFREDO A. GARBIN, Jr. and
HON. CHRISTOPHER S. CO

**AN ACT STRENGTHENING RA 9003, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE ECOLOGICAL
SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT ACT OF 2001, MANDATING ALL ELEMENTARY
AND SECONDARY SCHOOLS TO ADOPT POLICIES IMPLEMENTING SOLID
WASTE MANAGEMENT**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill seeks to strengthen RA 9003 for more effective implementation of solid waste management programs in elementary and secondary schools, where students will be required to actively practice waste management such as segregation, re-use, and recycling of trash or solid waste.

Waste management should be ingrained as a personal responsibility of each individual. It should not be seen as a responsibility exclusive to the government and its institutions. Discipline and self-consciousness must be learned at the early stages of life so that children will be enlightened about environmental challenges and responsibilities that they need to address in the future.

Cleanliness starts at home, and experiential learning at school will bolster the children's awareness about solid waste management. Notwithstanding the presence of provisions of law under RA 9003, we need to actively and persistently train children to have personal ownership of waste management responsibility. This is best done through experiential learning beginning at the formative years of primary education.

If this legislative measure is enacted into law, public and private schools providing elementary and secondary education will be mandated to strictly implement programs, incorporated in their curriculum, which would train students to be aware of and practice solid waste management. Additionally, incentives shall be given to students of schools implementing such programs, in order to increase participation.

In view of the foregoing, the passage of this bill is earnestly sought.

RODEL M. BATOCABE

ALFREDO A. GARBIN, Jr.

CHRISTOPHER S. CO

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

SECTION 1. Section 4 of Republic Act No. 9003, otherwise known as the "Ecological
Solid Waste Management Act of 2001", is hereby amended to read as follows:

"Section 4. *National Solid Waste Management Commission* - There is hereby
established a National Solid Waste Management Commission, hereinafter
referred to as the Commission, under the Office of the President. The
Commissioner shall be composed of [~~fourteen (14)~~] FIFTEEN (15) members from
the government sector and three members from the private sector. The
government sector shall be represented by the heads of the following agencies in
their *ex officio* capacity:

(1) Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR);

x x x

(13) DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION (DEPED);

~~[(13)]~~ (14) Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA); and

~~[(14)]~~ (15) Philippine Information Agency.

x x x "

SECTION 2. A new Subsection 55-A is hereby inserted under Section 55 of same the
Act, to read as follows:

"Subsection 55-A. *Adoption of Solid Waste Management Policies* – All
elementary and secondary schools are hereby directed to adopt policies
requiring students to practice solid waste management. Such policies shall be
regularly updated and, at a minimum, shall include provisions which:

- a) Identify the best type of waste management practices for the students, which shall be any or a combination of, Segregation, Re-use, Reduction, and Composting;
- b) Establish clear procedures and strategies to ensure the participation of students in the school identified waste management programs; and
- c) Provide incentives for students who actively adheres to the established procedures and strategies for solid waste management.”

SECTION 3. A new Subsection 55-B is hereby inserted after the new Subsection 55-A under Section 55 of the same Act, to read as follows:

“Section 55-B. *Reporting* – All schools shall inform their respective schools division superintendents in writing about the solid waste management policies formulated within six (6) months from the effectivity of this Act. Such notification shall likewise be an administrative requirement prior to the operation of new schools.

Beginning with the school year after the effectivity of this Act, and every first week of the start of the school year thereafter, schools shall submit a report to their respective schools division superintendents all relevant information and statistics on the solid waste management programs. The schools division superintendents shall compile these data and report the same to the Secretary of the DepED who shall likewise formally transmit a comprehensive report to the Department, in accordance with Section 14 of this Act.”

SECTION 3. A new Subsection 55-C is hereby inserted after new Subsection 55-B under Section 55 of the same Act, to read as follows:

“Section 55-B. *Sanction for Non-Compliance* – In the rules and regulations to be implemented pursuant to this Act, the Secretary of the DepED shall prescribe the appropriate administrative sanctions on school administrators who shall fail to comply with the requirements under this Act. In addition thereto, erring private schools shall likewise suffer the penalty of suspension of their permits to operate.”

SECTION 4. *Separability Clause*. - If any provision of this Act is declared invalid or unconstitutional, the other provisions not affected thereby shall continue to be in full force and effect.

SECTION 5. *Repealing Clause*. - All laws, decrees, executive orders or rules and regulations contrary to or inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SECTION 6. *Effectivity Clause*. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days from its publication in the Official Gazette or in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved.