

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

17th Congress
3rd Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 8721



Introduced by: **HON. "KUYA" JOSE ANTONIO R. SY-ALVARADO**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Article II Section 16 of the Philippine Constitution provides that the State shall protect and advance the right of the people to a balanced and healthful ecology in accord with the rhythm and harmony of nature.

This bill seeks to introduce "Green Building Rooftops" on all buildings throughout the Philippines to live a well-adjusted and healthy environment to its people.

With the advent of Green Building Rooftops, the energy costs will be reduced through absorbing heat instead of attracting it and providing natural insulation for buildings. According to a study conducted by the National Research Council of Canada, even a six-inch extensive green roof can reduce summer energy demands by more than 75 percent. Another important benefit of green roofs is their ability to reduce and slow stormwater runoff in urban environments. Furthermore, plant leaves trap dust particles from the air, and evapotranspiration cools ambient temperatures.

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

"KUYA" JOSE ANTONIO R. SY-ALVARADO 
Representative
First District of Bulacan

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

17th Congress
3rd Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 8721

Introduced by: **HON. "KUYA" JOSE ANTONIO R. SY-ALVARADO**

**AN ACT ESTABLISHING GREEN BUILDING ROOFTOPS ON ALL GOVERNMENT AND
PRIVATELY-OWNED BUILDINGS WITHIN THE COUNTRY**

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

SECTION 1. *Declaration of Policy.* of the State to protect and advance the right of the people to a balanced and healthful ecology in accord with the rhythm and harmony of nature through the combined efforts of both Government and the private sector by utilizing structures to collectively help provide a more favorable climate and as a buffer against extreme weather conditions.

SECTION 2. *Coverage.* The following buildings shall be covered by this Act:

- a) Existing buildings owned by the National Government, provinces, cities, municipalities and barangays
- b) Building constructed by private entities under concession agreements with the government
- c) Existing buildings owned by commercial and industrial companies.
- d) Buildings to be constructed by either the government or any commercial or industrial company.

SECTION 3. *Installation of Green Building Rooftops.* Every existing building qualified under this Act, with the topmost levels thereof that is constructed with ledges and not otherwise fitted with roofing, shall be layered with soil strewn with plants of appropriate types, which shall be maintained on a permanent basis.

All buildings to be constructed shall be subject to the provision of this Act. Hence, all building plans shall be revised in order to conform to the requisite of installing green building rooftops as a condition for the issuance of building permits.

SECTION 4. *Role of Government Agencies.* The Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH), together with the Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG) and the provincial, city and municipal architects building administrators shall conduct the following.

- a) A survey of buildings qualified as covered under this Act
- b) A coordinated technical inspection of all buildings qualified under this Act to determine the overall structural integrity of every individual building and the corresponding strength needed to hold the gross weight of plants and the soil supporting the growth thereof, including waterproofing that may be needed to prevent damage on the rooftop pavement due to seepage
- c) A listing of all appropriate types of plants needed for green roofing and the appropriate type of soil or similar material for promoting plant growth
- d) With the coordination of the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) and the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI), a joint information dissemination campaign on all government agencies and all commercial and industrial companies for existing and future buildings covered under this Act

The Department of Agriculture (DA) through the Bureau of Plant Industry (BPI) shall provide a listing of all appropriate types of plants needed for green roofing and appropriate type of soil or similar material for promoting plant growth.

SECTION 5. *Implementing rules and regulations.* – Within a period of ninety (90) days after the effectivity of this Act, the Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH), in coordination with the Department of Agriculture (DA) through the Bureau of Plant Industry, and the Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG) shall formulate rules and regulations implementing the provisions of this Act.

SECTION 6. *Separability Clause.* If any of the provisions of this Act is held invalid, all other provisions not affected thereby shall remain valid.

SECTION 7. *Repealing Clause.* Any law, presidential decree, executive order, administrative order or rule contrary to or inconsistent with this Act is hereby repealed, amended or modified accordingly.

SECTION 8. *Effectivity.* This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) after its publication in the Official Gazette or in any newspaper of general circulation.

Approved, 