

⁵ UN Environment Programme. 16 September 2019. International Coastal Cleanup 2019. Retrieved from <https://www.unenvironment.org/cep/news/blogpost/international-coastal-cleanup-2019> on September 17, 2020.

27 initiative in 1998, the country has consistently topped the ICC in terms of
28 volunteer turnout, and has been recognized the “cleanup capital of the
29 world”.⁶
30

31 Our annual participation in the ICC gave us the opportunity to make a
32 difference in a global movement to free coastal, marine environment and
33 waterways of marine litter or debris. It provided the people, private
34 organizations and government the right information to develop policies and
35 solutions to our ocean trash problems.
36

37 Accordingly, this representation intends to institutionalize coastal cleanup
38 in the country so as not to limit cleanup activities into an annual event. It
39 seeks a whole-of-government and a whole-of-nation approach in establishing
40 a National Cleanup Program that would not only engage all concerned
41 government agencies, local government units, and environmental
42 organizations, but most importantly the people to actively participate in
43 coastal cleanups for the preservation and conservation of our coastal and
44 marine environment.
45

46 It is important to note that, out of the country’s 81 provinces, 66 (or
47 81.48%) are coastal.⁷ Among the cities, those along the coast, 88 (or 60.69%)
48 far outnumber the landlocked ones (57).⁸ Majority of the municipalities, too,
49 are coastal – a total of 812 (or 54.53%).⁹ Bearing in mind that great
50 proportions of the provinces, cities, and municipalities in the country are
51 coastal, cleanup activities will help create a safer environment for coastal
52 communities. A safer environment boosts local economies. Above all, we help
53 protect our environment for future generations.
54

55 In light of the foregoing, the immediate passage of this bills is earnestly
56 sought.
57
58
59
60
61


ANGELO MARCOS BARBA

⁶ Presidential Proclamation No. 470, S. 2003

⁷ PhilAtlas. Retrieved from <https://www.philatlas.com/philippines.html> on September 17, 2020.

⁸ *Ibid.*

⁹ *Ibid.*

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
Second Regular Session

House Bill No. 7720

Introduced by **Rep. ANGELO MARCOS BARBA**
2nd District, Ilocos Norte

1 **AN ACT INSTITUTIONALIZING COASTAL CLEANUP IN THE**
2 **PHILIPPINES, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR**
3 **OTHER PURPOSES**
4

5 *Be it enacted by the Senate and the House of Representatives of the*
6 *Philippines in Congress assembled:*
7

8 **SECTION 1. Short Title.** – This Act shall be known as the “National
9 Coastal Cleanup Act”.
10

11 **SECTION 2. Declaration of Policy.** – It is the policy of the State to
12 protect and advance the right of the people to a balanced and healthful ecology
13 in accord with the rhythm and harmony of nature by encouraging people to
14 actively participate in coastal cleanups for the preservation and conservation
15 of coastal and marine environment.
16

17 **SECTION 3. Definition of terms.** – As used in this Act, the following
18 terms shall mean:
19

- 20 a. *Coastal* - refers to the land near a shore, relating to or near a coast;
21
22 b. *Cleanup Report* – refers to the final report of any cleanup activity
23 which contains trash data, cleanup location and its technical
24 description, number of participants, and such other data that may be
25 required by the Department of Environment and Natural Resources
26 (DENR);
27
28 c. *Marine litter* – means any persistent, manufactured or processed solid
29 material discarded, disposed of or abandoned in coastal and marine
30 environment;
31
32 d. *Marine environment* – refers to the oceans, seas, bays, estuaries, and
33 other major water bodies, including their surface interface and
34 interaction, with the atmosphere and with the land seaward of the
35 mean high-water mark;
36

- e. *Trash data* – a record of trash or items collected during cleanup activities based on the classification to be determined by the DENR; and
- f. *Waste map* - provides information on the location of waste for cleanup;

SECTION 4. *National Coastal Cleanup Program.* – The Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), in coordination with the Department of Education (DepEd), Commission on Higher Education (CHED), Civil Service Commission (CSC), Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG), Philippine National Police (PNP), Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP), and other relevant government agencies, shall establish and implement a National Coastal Cleanup Program, hereinafter referred to as the Program, which shall mobilize all sectors of society to participate in nationwide cleanup activities to promote cleanliness in coastal, marine environment, inland waterways, esteros and creeks.

SECTION 5. *Components of the National Coastal Cleanup Program.* – The National Cleanup Program shall be consistent with existing environmental protection and enforcement laws and shall include the following:

- a. Volunteerism and participation of both public and private sectors;
- b. Strategic initiatives to identify marine litter sources;
- c. Operationalization of online, real-time Waste Map;
- d. Generate data for waste mapping;
- e. Prompt submission of Trash Data Report and Cleanup Reports;
- f. Proper waste management training and activities;
- g. Holding of post-activity summit to report on the number of volunteers, local government unit participation and volumes of waste collected for proper disposal and/or recycling;
- h. Strengthening cleanup information drive; and
- i. Periodic evaluation of the Program to effectively manage, address, and reduce the threats of degradation of coastal and marine environment for the benefit of present and future generations.

SECTION 6. *Cleanup period.* – National cleanup activities shall be held once every quarter without prejudice to local cleanup activities and the International Cleanup Day held every third Saturday of September.

SECTION 7. *Selection of Cleanup Sites.* – The DENR, in coordination with the DILG and all concerned local government units, shall select the sites for the cleanup activities.

1
2 **SECTION 8. *Role of the Local Government Units.*** – All local government
3 units (LGUs) shall monitor the conduct of cleanup activities on coastal areas,
4 marine environment, inland waterways, esteros and creeks and ensure active
5 participation of their constituents. The LGUs shall likewise submit to the
6 DILG and DENR Trash Data and Cleanup Reports.
7

8 **SECTION 9. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.*** – Within six (6)
9 months from the effectivity of this Act, the DENR, in consultation with
10 concerned government agencies and stakeholders, shall promulgate the
11 implementing rules and regulations of this Act.
12

13 **SECTION 10. *Appropriations.*** – The amount necessary for the effective
14 implementation of this Act shall be charged to the appropriations of the DENR
15 under the current General Appropriations Act (GAA). Thereafter, such sums
16 as may be necessary for the continued implementation of this Act shall be
17 included in the annual GAA.
18

19 **SECTION 11. *Separability Clause.*** – If any provision of this Act is
20 declared invalid or unconstitutional, the other provisions not affected by such
21 declaration shall remain in full force and effect.
22

23 **SECTION 12. *Repealing Clause.*** – All laws, executive orders,
24 administrative orders, and rules and regulations inconsistent with this Act are
25 hereby repealed or amended accordingly.
26

27 **SECTION 13. *Effectivity Clause.*** – This Act shall take effect fifteen days
28 after its publication in the Official Gazette or in two (2) newspapers of general
29 circulation.
30

31
32 Approved,