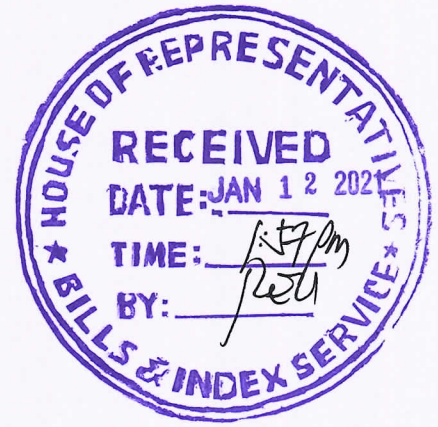


Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
Second Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 8337



Introduced by **HON. LUIS RAYMUND "LRAY" F. VILLAFUERTE, JR.**

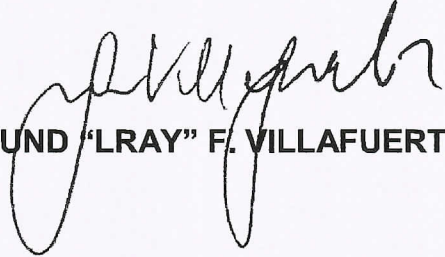
**AN ACT REQUIRING ALL DEALERS, RETAILERS AND SIMILAR ENTITIES
ENGAGED IN THE SALE OF MOTOR VEHICLES TO PLANT AT LEAST TEN (10)
TREES FOR EVERY SALES TRANSACTION**

The regularity of typhoons in the Philippines should have us adequately prepared. However, as years pass, typhoons are increasingly destructive. Most recently, the trio of Quinta, Rolly and Ulysses ravaged the country in a span of less than a month. This affected hundreds of thousands of farmers and hectares of agricultural land translating to over ten billion pesos in losses.

The fact that the trio of typhoons came in less than a month challenged the capacity of our soil to retain the amount of water dumped by the accompanying rains. The resulting inundation is what became destructive. As always, deforestation along flood-prone areas is one of the major culprits.

Accordingly, this bill seeks to contribute to the reforestation efforts of the government by requiring all dealers, retailers and similar entities which are engaged in the sale of motor vehicles to plant at least ten (10) trees for every sales transaction within a period of six (6) months from the date thereof. The Department of Trade and Industry is tasked to monitor and ensure compliance with this requirement.

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


LUIS RAYMUND "LRAY" F. VILLAFUERTE, JR.

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**AN ACT REQUIRING ALL DEALERS, RETAILERS AND SIMILAR ENTITIES
ENGAGED IN THE SALE OF MOTOR VEHICLES TO PLANT AT LEAST TEN (10)
TREES FOR EVERY SALES TRANSACTION**

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

Section 1. Short Title. - This Act shall be known as "Mandatory Tree Planting for Every Motor Vehicle Sales Act."

Section 2. Declaration of Policy. - 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. Towards this end, the State shall promote the planting of trees to ensure environmental protection, biodiversity and climate change mitigation for the welfare of present and future generations

Section 3. Definition of Terms. - As used in this Act, the following terms shall be defined as follows:

a) Motor vehicle refers to any self-propelled, four (4) wheeled road vehicle designed to carry passengers including, but not limited to, sedans, coupes, station wagons, convertibles, pick-ups, vans, sports utility vehicles (SUVs) and Asian Utility Vehicles (AUVs) but excluding motorcycles, deliver/ trucks, dump trucks, buses, road rollers, trolley cars, street sweepers, sprinklers, lawn mowers and heavy equipment such as, but not limited to, bulldozers, payloaders, graders, forklifts, amphibian trucks, cranes, and vehicles which run only on rails or tracks, and tractors, trailers and traction engines of all kinds used exclusively for agricultural purposes. Trailers having any number of wheels, when propelled or Intended by attachment to a motor vehicle, shall be classified as separate motor vehicle with no power rating; and

b) Dealer or retailer refers to any person, natural or juridical, that sell new motor vehicles directly to the retail buyers and the public.

Section 4. Mandatory Tree Planting for Every Motor Vehicle Sales. - All dealers, retailers and similar entities which are engaged in the sale of motor vehicles shall be required to plant at least ten (10) trees for every sales transaction. This requirement of tree planting shall be accomplished within six (6) months from the date of the sales transaction as reflected in the official receipt issued to the buyer.

Section 5. Enforcement and Monitoring. - The Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) shall be the agency tasked with the enforcement and monitoring of obligations imposed under this Act. All dealers, retailers and similar entities shall submit to the DTI Regional Office exercising jurisdiction over their respective principal place of business an annual report of their tree-planting activities in compliance with this Act. The said report shall be accompanied with a certification from the City or Municipal Environment and Natural Resources Office of the locality where the tree planting was conducted. The DTI, through its duly authorized officers, shall have the power to inspect and copy, within reasonable business hours and days, the records of the covered entities to ensure the proper implementation of this Act.

Section 6. Location and Tree Species. - The trees to be planted under this Act shall be planted in locations identified by the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) with due consideration of the principal place of business of the covered dealer, retailer or similar entity. The tree species to be planted shall likewise be in accordance with a list of suitable tree species to be prepared by the DENR.

Section 7. Penal Provisions. - Any dealer, retailer or similar entity who fails to satisfy the tree planting requirement within the period set in this Act shall be liable for a fine not exceeding Php 10,000 for every tree not planted. Repeated noncompliance for two (2) years within a five (5)-year period shall result to a fine not exceeding Php 20,000 for the outstanding number of trees not planted within the said period. Repeated non-compliance for three or more years within a five (5)-year period shall result in the closure of the non-compliant business entity and a fine not exceeding Php 30,000 for the outstanding number of trees not planted within the said period. If the dealer or retailer is a juridical entity, the same shall be solidarily liable for the acts or omissions of its officers, agents and employees that resulted in the non-compliance of this Act.

Section 8. Implementing Rules and Regulations. - Within sixty (60) days from the effectivity of this Act, the DENR, DTI, and other relevant government agencies and stakeholders, shall issue the necessary rules and regulations to implement the provisions of this Act.

Section 9. Repealing Clause. - All laws, presidential decrees, executive orders, proclamations, rules and regulations, or any part thereof, which are inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

Section 10. Separability Clause. - If any provision or part of this Act, or the application thereof to any person or circumstance, is held unconstitutional or invalid, the remainder of this Act shall not be affected thereby.

Section 11. 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,