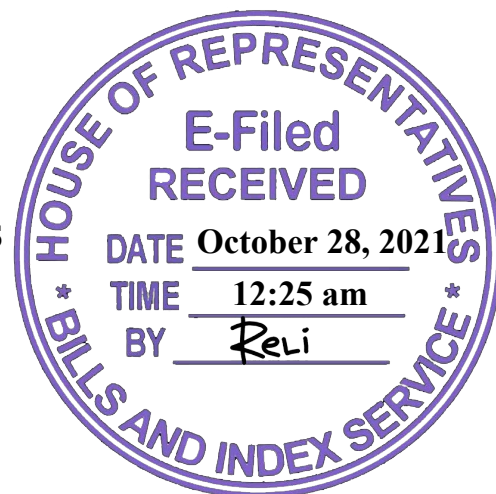


REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
Third Regular Session

House Bill No. 10415



Introduced by **MAGDALO Party-List Representative**
HON. MANUEL DG. CABOCHAN III

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Article II, Section 9 of the 1987 Constitution affirms that:

"The State shall promote a just and dynamic social order that will ensure the prosperity and independence of the nation and free the people from poverty through policies that provide adequate social services, promote full employment, a rising standard of living, and an improved quality of life for all."

In 2007, more than half the world's population was living in cities.¹ It was estimated that by 2050, around 70% of the world's population would live in cities. Cities around the world today already consume 80% of the global material and energy supplies and produce 75% of all carbon emissions due to urbanization.²

The Philippines is considered one of the fastest urbanizing countries in Southeast Asia. In 2015, the level of urbanization stands at 51.2 percent.³ The rapid urbanization of cities and metropolitan areas exerts pressure on the natural environment, affordability

¹ United Nations. SDG Goal 11. Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient, and sustainable. Information retrieved from <https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/cities/>

² Ibid.

³ Philippine Statistics Authority. Levels of Urbanization in the Philippines reached 51.2 percent. Information retrieved from <https://psa.gov.ph/content/urban-population-philippines-results-2015-census-population>. Dated March 21, 2019

of housing and services, public safety, and health. Moreover, the highly populated and concentrated urbanized areas become more vulnerable to disasters and the effects of climate change.

Sustainability is the key to resolve the growing challenges of urbanization. Hence, it is important to make our cities sustainable to ensure an inclusive, safe, and resilient future. In pursuance to our firm commitment to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), this bill seeks to institutionalize the policy framework for creating sustainable cities that would ensure the continuing growth of our country.

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

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'MANUEL DG. CABOCHAN III', with a stylized flourish at the end.

MANUEL DG. CABOCHAN III

Representative

Magdalo Para Sa Pilipino Party-List

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Introduced by **MAGDALO Party-List Representative**
HON. MANUEL DG. CABOCHAN III

AN ACT
PROVIDING FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND
COMMUNITIES IN THE COUNTRY, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

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

1 SECTION 1. *Short Title.*— This Act shall be known as "Sustainable Cities and
2 Communities Act".

3
4 Sec. 2. *Declaration of Policy.*— The 1987 Constitution mandates the
5 undertaking of a program of urban land reform and housing which will make decent
6 housing and basic services available at affordable cost to underprivileged and
7 homeless citizens in urban centers and resettlements areas, and ensure the
8 availability of employment opportunities for them. Pursuant thereto, it is hereby
9 declared the policy of the State to make cities safe and sustainable by ensuring
10 access to safe and affordable housing, and upgrading slum settlements. The State

1 shall likewise invest in public transport, create green public spaces, and improve
2 urban planning and management in a way that is both participatory and inclusive.

3
4 Sec. 3. *Model for Sustainable Cities and Communities.*— Existing cities and
5 communities shall transition into sustainable cities and communities. A sustainable
6 city or community shall have the following:

- 7 (a) Affordable housing;
- 8 (b) Accessible healthcare services and facilities;
- 9 (c) Accessible social services to all, especially the vulnerable and
10 disadvantaged;
- 11 (d) Child care facilities, youth centers, centers for senior citizens and other
12 sectors;
- 13 (e) Efficient, accessible, and affordable public transport system;
- 14 (f) Alternative means of getting from one place to another, other than
15 private and public vehicles, such as by walking, biking, using scooters,
16 and other eco-friendly and non-motorized modes;
- 17 (g) Safe, accessible, and enjoyable areas of open space;
- 18 (h) Preference for use of renewable resources;
- 19 (i) Waste management system, where waste is recycled, wherever
20 possible;
- 21 (j) Energy efficient homes;
- 22 (k) Strong community linkages to deal with issues such as peace and
23 order; and
- 24 (l) Access to sports and cultural activities.

25
26 Sec. 4. *Indicators.*— The National Economic and Development Authority
27 (NEDA) shall set targets based on the following indicators, taking into consideration
28 Goal No. 11 of the United Nations Sustainable Development Agenda, to determine
29 if a city or community has fully transitioned into a sustainable city or community:

- 1 (a) Urban population living in slums – measured in terms of proportion of
2 urban population living in slums, informal settlements or inadequate
3 housing;
- 4 (b) Public transport access – measured in terms of proportion of
5 population that has convenient access to public transport, by sex, age
6 and persons with disabilities;
- 7 (c) Sustainable urbanization rates – measured in terms of ratio of land
8 consumption rate to population growth rate;
- 9 (d) Urban planning management – measured in terms of proportion of
10 cities with a direct participation structure of civil society in urban
11 planning and management that operate regularly and democratically;
- 12 (e) Protecting cultural heritage – measured in terms of total public and
13 private expenditure per capita spent on the preservation, protection
14 and conservation of all cultural and natural heritage;
- 15 (f) Deaths and injuries from natural disasters – measured in terms of
16 number of deaths, missing persons and directly affected persons
17 attributed to disasters per 100,000 population;
- 18 (g) Economic losses from natural disasters – measured in terms of direct
19 economic loss in relation to global GDP, damage to critical
20 infrastructure and number of disruptions to basic services, attributed
21 to disasters;
- 22 (h) Solid waste management – measured in terms of proportion of urban
23 solid waste regularly collected and with adequate final discharge out
24 of total urban solid waste generated;
- 25 (i) Urban air pollution – measured in terms of the annual mean levels of
26 fine particulate matter;
- 27 (j) Open spaces in cities – measured in terms of average share of the
28 built-up area of cities that is open space for public use for all, by sex,
29 age and persons with disabilities;

- 1 (k) Safe spaces in cities – measured in terms of proportion of persons
2 victim of physical or sexual harassment, by sex, age, disability status
3 and place of occurrence, in the previous 12 months;
- 4 (l) Urban and regional planning – measured in terms of proportion of
5 population living in cities that implement urban and regional
6 development plans integrating population projections and resource
7 needs, by size of city;
- 8 (m) Integrated disaster risk management – measured in terms of adoption
9 and implementation of national disaster risk reduction strategies;
- 10 (n) Local disaster risk management – measured in terms of adoption and
11 implementation of local disaster risk reduction strategies in line with
12 national disaster risk reduction strategies; and
- 13 (o) Such other targets based on indicators to be determined by NEDA
14 consistent with the model of sustainable cities and communities
15 provided in Section 3 of this Act.

16

17 *Sec. 5. Support from National Government.*—The Department of Interior
18 and Local Government (DILG) shall provide the necessary technical assistance and
19 resource augmentation to LGUs to assist them in transitioning into sustainable
20 cities and communities. The NEDA and other related agencies are also hereby
21 mandated to extend the necessary support and provide relevant input towards
22 the effective implementation of this Act.

23

24 *Sec. 6. Incentives for Transitioning into Sustainable Cities or*
25 *Communities.*— The DILG shall develop a grant or cash award incentive scheme
26 for LGUs that are able to achieve their annual targets set by NEDA related to
27 transitioning into sustainable cities and communities.

1 Sec. 7. *Authority to Enter into Contracts and Agreements.*— LGUs are
2 hereby authorized to enter into contracts or agreements and receive grants, as
3 may be necessary for the attainment of the objective of this Act.

4
5 Sec. 8. *Separability Clause.*— If any provision of this Act is declared
6 unconstitutional or otherwise invalid, the validity of the other provisions shall not
7 be affected thereby.

8
9 Sec. 9. *Repealing Clause.*— All laws, decrees, orders, rules and regulations
10 or parts thereof inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed or modified
11 accordingly.

12
13 Sec. 10. *Effectivity.*— This Act shall take effect after fifteen (15) days from
14 its publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,