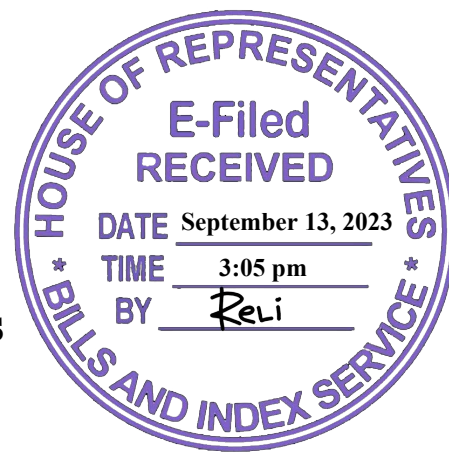




Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City



NINETEENTH CONGRESS
Second Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 9135

Introduced by Rep. Jose Manuel F. Alba and Rep. Anna Victoria Veloso-Tuazon

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The proposed bill seeks to address pressing concerns related to sustainable resource management, environmental conservation, and the promotion of innovative technologies within the public sector. As the Philippines continues to work towards achieving its sustainable development goals, the integration of bamboo-based products, particularly engineered bamboo, in government operations emerges as an effective and transformative strategy.

Bamboo, recognized as a renewable and rapidly regenerating resource, offers immense potential as a sustainable alternative to conventional materials, such as wood and steel. Engineered bamboo, characterized by its enhanced durability, strength, and versatility, presents an innovative solution for various applications, including furniture and fixtures. By mandating government agencies to allocate at least 10% of their furniture and fixtures budget by 2030 to engineered bamboo and other bamboo-based products, this bill not only drives demand for eco-friendly materials but also stimulates the growth of the bamboo industry.

The bill aligns with global trends towards sustainable consumption and production patterns. By encouraging government agencies to prioritize bamboo-based solutions in their procurement processes, the legislation seeks to foster a culture of responsible resource utilization. This, in turn, contributes to the reduction of pressure on traditional wood resources, aids in combating deforestation, and enhances the country's commitment to mitigating climate change.

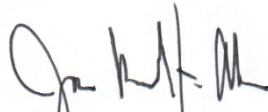
Furthermore, the bill acts as a catalyst for technological advancement and local economic development. The inclusion of engineered bamboo in government

projects fosters the development of the bamboo value chain, from cultivation to processing, manufacturing, and distribution. This spurs job creation, particularly in rural areas, and supports the growth of small and medium-sized enterprises engaged in bamboo-related industries.

Moreover, the integration of bamboo-based products in government facilities showcases the Philippines as a leader in sustainable development and innovation. As the nation hosts international events and conventions, the utilization of bamboo reinforces the commitment to environmentally conscious practices, enhancing the country's image and reputation on the global stage.

The bill emphasizes collaboration among government agencies, the private sector, research institutions, and local communities. It calls for the establishment of guidelines for procurement, quality standards, and the promotion of research and development in the field of bamboo engineering.

In conclusion, this bill represents a forward-looking and sustainable approach towards addressing resource scarcity, environmental degradation, and fostering economic growth. By mandating government agencies to allocate at least 10% of their furniture and fixtures budget by 2030 for engineered bamboo and other bamboo-based products, the legislation envisions a future where innovation, environmental stewardship, and economic prosperity converge.



HON. JOSE MANUEL F. ALBA
Representative, 1st District, Bukidnon



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Representative, 3rd District, Leyte



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AN ACT
MANDATING GOVERNMENT AGENCIES TO ALLOCATE AT LEAST
10% OF THEIR BUDGET FOR FURNITURE AND FIXTURES FOR PRODUCTS USING
ENGINEERED BAMBOO AND OTHER BAMBOO-BASED COMMODITIES AS PART
OF THE COUNTRY'S CAMPAIGN TOWARDS THE USE AND PRODUCTION OF
SUSTAINABLE MATERIALS

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 the "Bamboo
2 Procurement Act."

3
4 **SEC. 2. Declaration of Policy.** It is the policy of the State to promote
5 sustainable development, environmental conservation, and the utilization of
6 renewable resources as part of its commitment to the United Nations 2030 Agenda
7 for Sustainable Development. The state recognizes bamboo, a fast growing and
8 naturally renewable tree-like grass which requires very little maintenance to farm as
9 it does not need any pesticide or herbicide, as a local product that could replace
10 traditional forest trees for furniture and fixtures as well as in the construction
11 industry due to its tensile strength. Bamboo absorbs twice as much carbon dioxide
12 as trees, with research showing that it can absorb as much as 12 tonnes of carbon
13 dioxide per hectare per year.

Further, the State as a large consumer bloc in itself, should use this capacity to encourage the use of sustainable materials for every product or service it purchases or avails.

As part of its commitment towards the achievement of the 17 Sustainable Development Goals, particularly SDG 12 which sets the Sustainable Consumption and Production Goal and the long-term vision embodied in AmBisyon Natin 2040, the State shall implement procurement program geared towards responsible and sustainable consumption and production.

SEC. 3. Allocation of Budget for Bamboo Products

1. All government agencies, including but not limited to departments, bureaus, offices, and instrumentalities of the national government, as well as local government units, shall allocate a minimum of 10% of their annual furniture and fixtures budget for the procurement of engineered bamboo and bamboo-based products.
2. The allocation shall cover a wide range of bamboo products, such as but not limited to:
 - a) Bamboo-based construction materials, including bamboo poles, boards, and laminates;
 - b) Bamboo furniture and fixtures;
 - c) Bamboo handicrafts and artworks;
 - d) Bamboo fiber and textiles;
 - e) Bamboo-based packaging and paper products;
 - f) Bamboo charcoal and other value-added bamboo products.

SEC. 4. Functions of the Philippine Bamboo Industry Development Council (PBIDC). The Philippine Bamboo Industry Development Council, hereinafter referred to as the Council, shall, in addition to its existing functions, undertake the following to ensure compliance by the government agencies:

- a. Implement programs to encourage and provide incentives to the private sector to develop, innovate and create products using engineered bamboo and bamboo-based products;
- b. Conduct annual fairs/exhibits showcasing products using engineered bamboo or bamboo-based products to create a venue for manufacturers of bamboo-based products present their latest products, designs, as well as stimulate interest for such products;
- c. Develop a plan and program to increase the production of bamboo to provide a steady supply of raw materials for manufacturers and producers of engineered bamboo and other bamboo-based products;

- d. Identify government lands, including reservations of the Armed Forces of the Philippines and State universities and colleges that may be planted to bamboo;
- e. Work with state universities and colleges (SUCs) with academic programs on forestry and agriculture to develop courses on the propagation of bamboo, develop the product as a viable alternative to hard wood, and other related courses; and
- f. Monitor the compliance of government agencies and local government units (LGUs).

SEC. 5. Implementing Rules and Regulations. – Within ninety (90) days from the effectivity of this Act, the Department of Budget and Management (DBM), the Government Procurement Policy Board (GPPB) and PBIDC shall issue the necessary rules and regulations for the effective implementation of this Act. This shall include provisions on the proper identification, sourcing, and procurement of bamboo products, as well as mechanisms to monitor and evaluate the compliance of government agencies with the allocation requirement.

SEC. 6. Separability Clause. - If any provision of this Act is declared invalid or unconstitutional, the remaining provisions not affected thereby shall remain in full force and effect.

SEC. 7. Repealing Clause. – All laws, presidential decrees, executive orders, rules and regulations contrary to or inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed, modified, or amended accordingly.

SEC. 8. Effectivity. - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.