Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

NINETEENTH CONGRESS
Second Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. **10533**

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
E-Filed
RECEIVED
DATE June 18, 2024
TIME 9:04 am
BY Reli
BILLS AND INDEX SERVICE

Introduced by: **REP. SALVADOR A. PLEYTO, SR.**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Street lights play a crucial role in enhancing public safety, contributing significantly to the well-being and security of communities around the nation. Well-lit streets and public spaces are known to deter criminal activities, as they increase the likelihood of offenders being seen and identified. Studies have consistently shown that areas with adequate lighting experience lower rates of crime compared to poorly lit areas.

Road safety is another area where street lights make a significant impact. Poor lighting conditions contribute to accidents by reducing visibility for drivers, cyclists, and pedestrians. Street lights improve visibility on roadways and pedestrian paths. This visibility is crucial for preventing accidents.

Traditional street lights however entail the use of electricity sourced from the power grid of electric utility providers. This means that a huge amount of carbon emission is present to power up all streetlights in the country, and that carbon emission drastically contribute to global warming.

The application of solar street lighting has been on the rise, driven by advances in renewable energy technology and a growing awareness of environmental sustainability. Moreover, in the event of emergencies or natural disasters, solar street lights can be invaluable.

Traditional power grids may be compromised during such events, leaving areas in darkness and hampering rescue and recovery efforts. Solar street lights, with their independent power sources, can continue to operate even when the grid is down, providing essential lighting for emergency responders and aiding in the efficient execution of rescue operations. This resilience makes solar street lights a key asset in disaster-prone areas, contributing to quicker response times and potentially saving lives.

Solar street lights offer a number of advantages, including cost-effectiveness, reliability, and ease of installation. However, they also have some disadvantages, such as being weather dependent, having limited brightness, and requiring some maintenance. Despite these drawbacks, solar street lights continue to be a popular choice for many communities and businesses, as they provide a clean, sustainable, and cost-effective alternative to traditional street lighting.

This proposed measure seeks to mandate the use of renewable energy in illuminating all the streets and highways nationwide, through the installation of solar street lights in lieu of the traditional electric powered street lights.

In view of the foregoing, the immediate consideration and approval of this measure is earnestly sought.

SALVADOR A. PLEYTO, SR.

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

NINETEENTH CONGRESS
Second Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. **10533**

Introduced by: **REP. SALVADOR A. PLEYTO, SR.**

AN ACT MANDATING THE INSTALLATION AND USE OF SOLAR STREETLIGHTS NATIONWIDE, PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

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 the "Solar Street Lights Act of 2024."

SEC. 2. *Declaration of Policy.* - It is hereby declared the policy of the State to:

a) Accelerate the exploration and development of renewable energy resources such as, but not limited to, biomass, solar, wind, hydro, geothermal, and ocean energy sources, including hybrid systems, to achieve energy self-reliance to reduce the country's dependence on fossil fuels and thereby minimize the country's exposure to price fluctuations which affects the economy;

b) All citizens of the State shall benefit from the renewable energy program of the government.

SEC. 3. *Scope* – All national, provincial, municipal, city, and barangay roads and streets shall use solar street lights to illuminate the night through which its citizens traverse.

SEC. 4. *Role of the Department of Science and Technology (DOST)* – The DOST shall coordinate with other departments of the government and thereafter conduct a study as to how many solar street lights will be needed to be installed in the entire country. It shall provide the necessary information or specifications as to how much wattage, battery capacity, number of solar panels needed, and distance between each solar street light to standardize the same and ensure light is delivered on certain type and width of road or street.

The DOST shall likewise provide a priority list of barangays, municipalities, cities, and provinces that will benefit from the provisions of this Act. The list shall be based on a reasonable criterion taking into consideration the urgency of providing adequate street light supply and the population of the place.

SEC. 5. *Role of the Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH)* – The DPWH shall carry out the programming, planning, construction and maintenance of the solar street lights in every provincial, municipal, city, and barangay roads covered by this Act.

SEC. 6. *Sourcing* – In the purchase of solar street lights for installation and use, local businesses shall be given priority in supplying the government. A higher priority shall be given to local manufacturers of solar street lights.

SEC. 7. *Appropriation* – The amount necessary for the implementation of this Act shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

SEC. 8. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.* – Within sixty (60) days from the effectivity of this Act, the Department of Public Works and Highways, in consultation with the DOST, shall promulgate the necessary implementing rules and regulations for the effective implementation of the provisions of this Act.

SEC. 9. *Separability Clause* -If any provision of this Act is held unconstitutional, other provisions not affected thereby shall remain valid and binding.

SEC. 10. *Repealing Clause.* – All other laws, decrees, executive orders, issuances, rules and regulations, or part thereof inconsistent with this Act are hereby likewise repealed or amended accordingly.

SEC. 11. *Effectivity Clause.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days following the completion of its publication in the Official Gazette or in two (2) newspapers of general circulation

Approved,