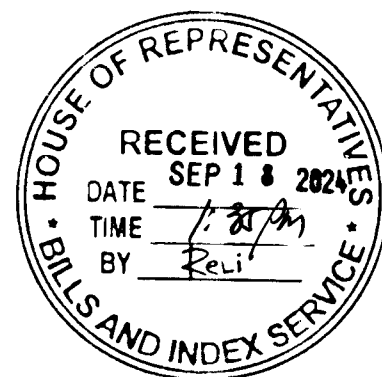




Republic of the Philippines  
**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**  
Quezon City, Metro Manila

**NINETEENTH CONGRESS**  
Third Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. **10942**



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**Introduced by Representative Crispin Diego "Ping" D. Remulla**

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**AN ACT**  
**MANDATING THE INSTALLATION OF GRAY WATER TREATMENT**  
**SYSTEMS/FACILITIES IN BUILDINGS AND IMPOSING PENALTIES FOR**  
**VIOLATION THEREOF**

**EXPLANATORY NOTE**

With the country facing a pressing water crisis, President Marcos recently created a Water Resource Management Office to ensure sufficient water supply and to address pressing environmental challenges. This move underscores the critical need for innovative solutions like the proposed Act to alleviate water scarcity issues.

The "Gray Water Treatment and Reuse Act" aligns with these efforts by promoting the reuse of gray water in buildings, thereby reducing demand on the freshwater supply and minimizing the environmental impact of wastewater. It mandates the installation of gray water treatment systems in buildings, aiming to promote the efficient use of water resources by recycling gray water for non-potable purposes.

By encouraging the reuse of gray water, this Act aims to alleviate the pressure on the country's water supply, reduce the environmental impact of wastewater, and support the Philippines' commitment to sustainable development and environmental protection.

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

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of stylized initials 'CD' followed by a surname, likely 'Remulla'.

**CRISPIN DIEGO “PING” D. REMULLA**



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

1       **SECTION. 1. Title.** This Act shall be known as the “Gray Water Treatment and Reuse  
2    Act.”

3       **SEC. 2. Declaration of Policy.** It is hereby declared the policy of the State to conserve,  
4    to the fullest extent possible, its water resources, by proactively promoting the utilization of  
5    alternative sources of water. In line with this, the State shall ensure that all buildings within its  
6    territory are properly equipped with treatment facilities/systems that will enable them to  
7    efficiently maximize the use of the water sources at their disposal.

8       **SEC. 3. Definition of Terms.** - As used in this Act, the following terms shall mean:

9           (a) “Gray water” - refers to wastewater which, though not potable, is understood as  
10         not pathologically infectious and is not contaminated with fecal matter, which  
11         may be used for watering plants, laundry, flushing toilets, cleaning, and other  
12         uses not related to human consumption;

- (b) “Gray water treatment system” - refers to any appliance, equipment, or combination thereof designed to remove pathogens from gray water and render the same suitable for reuse on-site in toilets, urinals, or subterranean irrigation systems;
- (c) “Blackwater” - wastewater that has been contaminated with fecal matter; and
- (d) “Building” - Any structure built for the support, shelter, or enclosure of persons, animals, chattels, or property of any kind.

**SEC. 4. Installation of Gray Water Treatment Systems in All Buildings.** - Within one (1) year from the effectivity of this Act, every owner of a building with a floor area of at least one thousand (1,000) square meters shall install therein a gray water treatment system with sufficient capacity to treat all gray water produced in the said building.

Upon request by an owner of a building with a floor area of less than one thousand (1,000) square meters, the water utility servicing such building shall install therein a gray water treatment system with a capacity sufficient to treat all of the gray water produced in the said building. The costs of the system and its installation shall be borne by the owner of the building and, at the option of the building owner, may be repaid in installments to be included in the monthly bill; *Provided* that each installment shall not exceed more than ten percent (10%) of the monthly bill.

**SEC. 5. Inclusion of a Gray Water System in Building Plans and Specifications.** - Upon effectivity of this Act, no building with a floor area of at least one thousand (1,000.00) square meters shall be permitted for construction unless the plans and specifications therefor provide for a gray water system with a capacity sufficient to treat all gray water produced in the contemplated building. Should the completed building fail to comply with such plans and specifications, the same shall not be permitted for occupancy and/or operation.

**SEC. 6. Reuse of Gray Water.** - Treated gray water shall not be reused for human consumption or for any purpose other than on-site in toilets, urinals, and subterranean irrigation.

**SEC. 7. Storage and Commingling with Other Water Sources.** - Gray water, whether treated or untreated shall not be commingled with potable sources of water fit for human consumption. For entities who collect rainwater, only treated gray water may be commingled with such rainwater subject to rules and regulations of appropriate government agencies.

**SEC. 8. Implementation and Oversight.** - The implementation and oversight of this Act, including the enforcement of provisions related to the installation and maintenance of gray water treatment systems and facilities in buildings, shall be the responsibility of the Water Resource Management Office under the Department of Environment and Natural Resources.

The Water Resource Management Office shall:

(a) Develop and issue guidelines and standards for the installation, operation, and maintenance of gray water treatment systems in buildings.

(b) Conduct inspections to ensure compliance with this Act and its implementing rules and regulations.

**SEC. 9. Penal Provisions.** - The penalty of six (6) months and one (1) day to one (1) year imprisonment; a fine of not less than fifty thousand pesos (Php 50,000.00), but not more than one hundred thousand pesos (Php 100,000.00); or both, at the discretion of the court, shall be imposed upon:

(a) Any owner of a building who fails to install a gray water system, as provided for under the first paragraph of Section 4 of this Act. In case the owner is a partnership or a corporation, the penalty shall be imposed upon the responsible partners or members of the board;

1 (b) The proprietor, responsible partners, or responsible members of the board of  
2 water utilities which shall refuse to install a gray water system, as provided for  
3 under the second paragraph of Section 4 of this Act;

4 (c) Any government officer or employee who shall permit the building or  
5 occupancy of any building in violation of Section 5 of this Act; and

6 (d) Any person who stores and reuses gray water in violation of Sections 6 and 7 of  
7 this Act.

8 **SEC. 10. Separability Clause.** – If any part, section or provision of this Act is held  
9 invalid or unconstitutional, other provisions not affected thereby shall remain in full force and  
10 effect.

11 **SEC. 11. Repealing Clause.** – All laws, decrees, orders, rules and regulations or parts  
12 thereof inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed or amended accordingly.

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

Approved,