



Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Batasan Hills, Quezon City

NINETEENTH CONGRESS
Third Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 11150



Introduced by
HON. ATTY. GERVILLE “JINKY BITRICS” R. LUISTRO

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

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Street lighting is a critical component of public safety, playing an essential role in enhancing the well-being and security of communities nationwide. Properly illuminated streets and public spaces serve as a deterrent to criminal activity by increasing the likelihood that offenders will be observed and identified. Research has consistently demonstrated that areas with adequate lighting experience lower crime rates compared to poorly lit environments.

In addition to its impact on public safety, street lighting significantly contributes to road safety. Insufficient lighting conditions heighten the risk of accidents by impairing visibility for drivers, cyclists, and pedestrians. Street lights improve visibility on roadways and pedestrian pathways, which is essential for preventing collisions and other accidents.

However, traditional street lighting relies heavily on electricity drawn from the power grid of electric utility providers. This dependency results in substantial carbon emissions associated with powering the nation’s street lights, thus contributing significantly to global warming.

In response to these environmental concerns, the adoption of solar-powered street lighting has gained momentum, driven by advances in renewable energy technologies and a

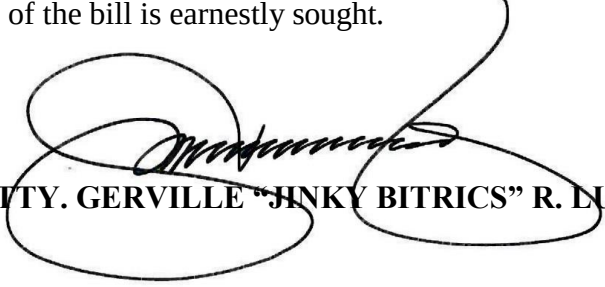
growing commitment to environmental sustainability. Solar street lights offer an environmentally friendly alternative to conventional lighting systems, reducing the carbon footprint associated with street lighting.

Moreover, solar street lights prove invaluable in emergency situations or during natural disasters. Traditional power grids are often compromised during such events, leaving areas without electricity and hindering rescue and recovery operations. In contrast, solar street lights, with their independent power sources, remain operational even when the grid is down, providing vital lighting for emergency responders and facilitating the efficient execution of rescue operations. This resilience makes solar street lights particularly advantageous in disaster-prone areas, where their continued operation can expedite response times and, in some cases, save lives.

Solar street lights offer several benefits, including cost-effectiveness, reliability, and ease of installation. However, they are not without limitations, such as being weather-dependent, offering lower brightness levels compared to traditional lights, and requiring some maintenance. Despite these challenges, solar street lights remain a favored choice for many communities and businesses due to their sustainability, low operating costs, and environmental benefits.

This proposed legislation aims to mandate the nationwide implementation of renewable energy-powered street lighting, replacing conventional electric-powered street lights with solar-powered alternatives, to promote sustainability, reduce carbon emissions, and improve public safety.

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



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Be it enacted by the Senate and 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. *Implementation.* – The Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH), in coordination with the Department of Science and Technology, the Department of Interior and

Local Government and Local Government Units, shall carry out the programming, planning, construction and maintenance, and research and development aspects of solar street lights in every provincial, municipal, city, and barangay roads covered by this Act.

SEC. 5. *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. 6. *Appropriation.* – The amount necessary for the implementation of this Act shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

SEC. 7. *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. 8. *Separability Clause.* – If any provision of this Act is held unconstitutional, other provisions not affected thereby shall remain valid and binding.

SEC. 9. *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. 10. *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,