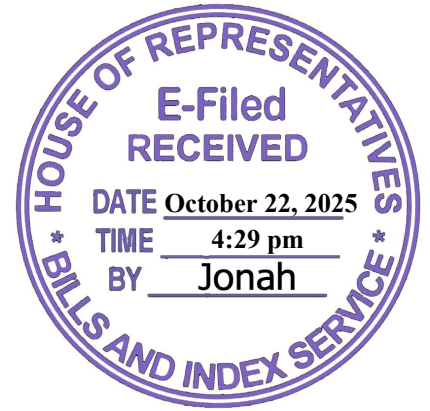


Republic of the Philippines
House of Representatives
Quezon City, Metro Manila
TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session
House Bill No. 5672



INTRODUCED BY REP. PATRICK MICHAEL “PM” D. VARGAS

AN ACT
ESTABLISHING A GREEN PUBLIC PROCUREMENT PROGRAM FOR ALL
BRANCHES OF GOVERNMENT

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Public procurement represents one of the largest areas of government expenditure, accounting for a significant portion of the national budget. As such, it serves not only as a mechanism for the delivery of public goods and services but also as a powerful tool to influence market behavior and promote sustainable development.

Under the Republic Act 9184, or the Government Procurement Act, as well as the RA 12009, the New Government Procurement Act, agencies are mandated to ensure transparency, competitiveness, and efficiency in the procurement process. However, current procurement processes largely focus on cost and compliance, with limited emphasis on environmental and social sustainability. This bill seeks to expand the framework of public procurement by integrating sustainability principles into every stage of the process—from planning and bidding to contract implementation and evaluation.

The proposed Green Public Procurement (GPP) Program institutionalizes the practice of procuring goods, services, and works that have reduced environmental impact throughout their life cycle, without compromising quality, functionality, or cost-effectiveness. Through this measure, the government can set an example by promoting the purchase of energy-efficient equipment, eco-labeled products, recyclable materials, and sustainably sourced goods.

This bill additionally supports the country's commitment to the United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, particularly Sustainable Development Goal 12 on responsible consumption and production, and aligns with the national vision of *Ambisyon Natin 2040* for a sustainable, inclusive, and resilient economy.

By institutionalizing green procurement, this measure aims to encourage local industries to adopt environmentally sustainable practices, reduce waste and greenhouse emissions generated by government operations, improve resource efficiency and energy conservation, and strengthen the role of the public sector in achieving a circular, sustainable economy.

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



REP. PATRICK MICHAEL "PM" D. VARGAS
Fifth District, Quezon City

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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 “*Green Public Procurement Act.*”

SECTION 2. *Declaration of Policy.* – The State recognizes that sustainable development is a necessary policy for nation-building, and that it plays a leading role in promoting sustainable practices by incorporating environmental, economic, and social factors in government decisions and processes. Further, the State, as a large consumer bloc in itself, recognizes that every product or service it purchases or avails itself of should be evaluated for its sustainability.

As a party to the United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the State remains committed to achieving the seventeen (17) Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by 2030.

Guided by the SDGs and their targets, particularly SDG 12 which sets the Sustainable Consumption and Production Goals, and the long-term vision embodied in Ambisyon Natin 2040, the State shall implement programs geared towards responsible and sustainable consumption and production with the end view of having a fully circular economy and ensuring ecological integrity and a healthy environment for current and future generations.

SECTION 3. *Establishment of a Green Public Procurement (GPP) Program in All Branches of Government.* – Green Public Procurement is a process whereby public authorities seek to procure goods, services, and works with a reduced environmental impact throughout their life cycle when compared to goods, services, and works with the same primary function that would otherwise be procured.

The executive, judicial and legislative branches of government shall implement a Green Public Procurement (GPP) Program to achieve sustainable consumption and production in government procurement in accordance with the GPP Roadmap, established by the Government Procurement Policy Board (GPPB) for the purpose, consistent with the governing principles of Republic Act (RA) No. 9184, or the “Government Procurement Reform Act.”

SECTION 4. Objectives of the Green Public Procurement (GPP) Program. – The GPP Program shall have the following objectives:

- a. To integrate and promote the culture of making green, sustainable, and informed decisions in government, especially in the implementation of existing government procurement policies;
- b. To require the Philippine Government Electronic Procurement System (PHILGEPS) to identify all government agencies procuring consumable supplies and equipment (CSE) and non-consumable supplies and equipment (non-CSE) identified by GPPB, as part of the Green Procurement Roadmap;
- c. To observe green criteria in government procurement whenever possible and practicable, with the end view of preserving and protecting environmental health through efficient use of materials and resources, prevention of pollution and harmful emissions, reduction of wastage, among others;
- d. To establish general and subsector targets and relevant performance indicators among government agencies;

e. To develop technical specifications for CSE and non-CSE products, taking into account, among others, the following processes and principles:

- i. Development of a standard template consisting of scope, key environmental impact of a product in terms of its materials, composition, use and eventual disposal, product specifications, evidence, verification and references;
- ii. Extensive research of GPP technical specifications, taking into account international and national specifications of countries with extensive GPP experience;
- iii. Document comments and feedback on the technical specifications of the various products;
- iv. Conduct of environmental impact studies of a product in terms of its materials composition, use, and eventual disposal;
- v. Include employment generation, safe working environment, and supply-chain management in the formulation of long-term sustainability criteria.

f. To establish a system for the development of core green criteria, which shall be gradually enhanced and adjusted, and include the same in the project requirements developed by procuring entities; and

g. To develop programs for manufacturers and suppliers of green and sustainable products and services for relevant government agencies.

SECTION 5. *Functions of the Government Procurement Policy Board (GPPB).*

– The GPPB shall perform the following functions in implementing this Act:

- a. Protect the national interest in all matters affecting public procurement, giving due regard to the country's regional and international obligations;
- b. Ensure the incorporation of the concept of sustainability in the procurement activities of the government. The GPP Program shall be implemented in phases, taking into account the readiness of both the government agencies as well as green product suppliers to implement the program;

- c. Centralize the information on GPP guidelines and procedure, green criteria, green product listing of information, and verification methods;
- e. Design and conduct capacity building and training programs for government procuring entities and green products suppliers, and service providers, particularly the Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs), to encourage consistency in delivering green products and services, and efficiency in implementing the GPP requirements;
- f. The GPPB shall develop incentive schemes, such as recognition or awards for GPP performing units to increase motivation and catalyze action for better performance and environmental stewardship; and
- f. Establish monitoring and evaluation mechanisms.

SECTION 6. *Submission of Plans and Reports.* – All agencies shall submit their respective GPP Programs to the GPPB, the specific requirements and mechanisms of which shall be defined in the rules and regulations (IRR) to be promulgated to implement this Act. The GPPB shall, in turn, submit an annual report to the Committee on Sustainable Development Goals, Innovation and Futures Thinking of the Senate of the Philippines and the Committee on Sustainable Development Goals of the House of Representatives on the compliance of the different agencies with the provisions of this Act.

SECTION 7. *Verification by Agencies.* – All agencies of the government are mandated to conduct verification on the compliance of the goods or items being procured with the green criteria established by the GPPB, along with the other technical specifications required by the agency for the particular procurement, in accordance with the relevant provisions of RA 9184 and its IRR. The GPPB shall provide a list of testing centers for reference of the agencies in the conduct of the verification, which shall be updated regularly based on the green criteria established by the GPPB for specific goods and items included in the GPP Program.

SECTION 8. *Capacity Building of Government Agencies.* – The GPPB shall implement regular capacity building programs to develop the skills of government agencies in understanding and implementing the government's GPP Program through the following:

- a. Conduct of relevant training needs assessment of the public sector;
- b. Provision of technical assistance to suppliers, particularly the MSMEs;
and
- c. Conduct of public awareness campaigns on green procurement, among others.

SECTION 9. *Separability Clause.* – If any provision or part hereof is held invalid or unconstitutional, the remainder of the law or the provision or part not otherwise affected shall remain in full force and effect.

SECTION 10. *Repealing Clause.* – Any law, presidential decree or issuance, executive order, letter of instruction, administrative order, rule, or regulation contrary to, or inconsistent with, the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed, modified, or amended accordingly.

SECTION 11. *Effectivity.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its complete publication in the Official Gazette or in two (2) newspapers of general circulation in the Philippines.

Approved,