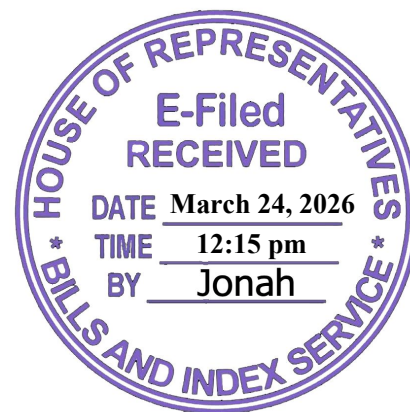


Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City, Metro Manila

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. **8747**



Introduced by **REP. NATHANIEL “Atty. Nat” M. ODUCAO**

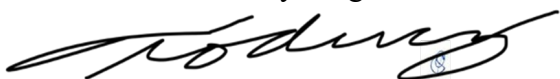
EXPLANATORY NOTE

The Philippines currently generates about 61,000 metric tons of solid waste daily, of which 12 to 24 percent is composed of plastic materials. A large portion of this plastic waste is improperly managed, often ending up in landfills, open dumpsites, rivers, or dispersed into the environment. Such mismanagement not only contributes to the degradation of terrestrial and aquatic ecosystems but also exacerbates climate change through the release of greenhouse gases, while simultaneously polluting coastal and marine areas. The persistent leakage of plastics into the environment continues to pose a mounting threat to both ecological balance and human well-being.

Mismanaged plastic and imported waste also present serious and wide-ranging risks to public health. Toxic chemicals contained in plastics, including phthalates, bisphenol A (BPA), and other harmful additives, have the potential to leach into soil and water, contaminate food sources, and pollute the air. Exposure to these chemicals has been linked to various health problems, including respiratory diseases, endocrine disruption, and other chronic conditions. Communities that depend on the coast and fishing for their livelihoods are particularly vulnerable. Plastic pollution damages marine ecosystems, reduces fish stocks, and disrupts the natural resources that support the economic and nutritional needs of fisherfolk and other populations reliant on the sea.

The economic impact of inadequate plastic waste management is also significant. The country loses approximately US\$ 890 million annually due to the dumping of recyclable plastics instead of engaging in proper management and recycling. These losses highlight the inefficiencies in current waste management practices and the urgent need to implement stricter controls on both domestic and imported waste. Without a robust legal framework to prohibit the importation of solid wastes and ensure strict enforcement of existing laws, the Philippines remains at risk of becoming a dumping ground for hazardous, misdeclared, or non-biodegradable materials. This not only threatens public health and environmental integrity but also undermines the State’s constitutional obligation to promote economic welfare and protect the well-being of its citizens.

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


REP. NATHANIEL “ATTY. NAT” M. ODUCAO
1 Tahanan Party List

Republic of the Philippines
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TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. **8747**

Introduced by **REP. NATHANIEL “ATTY. NAT” M. ODUCAO**

**AN ACT ESTABLISHING A BAN ON THE IMPORTATION OF SOLID WASTE,
PROVIDING PENALTIES, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

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 “*Solid Waste Importation Ban*
2 *Act of 2026.*”

3 **SEC. 2. *Declaration of Policy.*** – It is hereby declared the policy of the State to prohibit
4 the entry of imported solid waste into Philippine territorial limits for whatever purpose to
5 prevent and control environmental pollution caused by solid waste, safeguard human health,
6 maintain ecological safety, and promote the sustainable development of Philippine economy
7 and society.

8 **SEC.3. *Ban on Importation of Solid Waste and Its Use.*** – It shall be unlawful to import
9 any solid waste, as defined in Republic Act No. 9003 and its implementing rules and
10 regulations, into or within Philippine territory, or otherwise use, treat, or process the same. For
11 purposes of this Act, Special Economic Zones, as defined in Republic Act No. 7916, as
12 amended, are considered part of the Philippine territory.

13 **SEC.4. *Penalties.*** - Any entity or person who shall import any solid waste or otherwise
14 use, treat, or process the same in violation of this Act shall be punished with imprisonment of
15 twelve (12) years and one (1) day to twenty (20) years, at the discretion of the court.

16 If the offender is a foreigner, the foreign offender shall be deported and barred from
17 any subsequent entry into the Philippines after service of sentence.

18 In case the offender is a government official or employee, the penalties of automatic
19 dismissal from office and permanent disqualification from holding any elective or appointive
20 position shall be imposed, in addition to the penalties provided herein.

21 **SEC.5. *Other Penalties.*** - The person or firm responsible for or connected with
22 the unlawful importation of solid waste shall have the obligation to transport or send back to
23 the port of origin such prohibited wastes. If the importer cannot be ascertained, the carries shall
24 be responsible for transporting such solid waste back to the port of origin or pay the exemplary
25 damage of at least Five hundred thousand pesos (Php 500,000.00), or both.

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2 If the importation caused environmental pollution, the competent environmental
3 protection agency shall order the importer to eliminate the pollution.

4 **SEC. 6. *Forfeiture of Proceeds and Equipment.*** — The penalty imposed for the
5 unlawful importation of solid waste and its use shall carry with it the confiscation and forfeiture
6 in favor of the Government of the proceeds of the unlawful act including any instrument,
7 equipment, tool, or other improvements used in or with which the offense was committed.

8 **SEC. 7. *Appropriations.*** — The amount necessary to carry out the provisions of this
9 Act shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

10 **SEC. 8. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.*** — Within sixty (60) days from the
11 approval of this Act, the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) and the
12 Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) shall formulate the necessary rules and regulations
13 to implement the provisions of this Act.

14 **SEC.9. *Separability Clause.*** — If any part or section of this Act is declared
15 unconstitutional, such declaration shall not affect in any manner the other parts or sections
16 hereof.

17 **SEC. 10. *Repealing Clause.*** - All laws, decrees, proclamations, issuances, or
18 ordinances that are contrary to or inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby
19 amended, repealed, or modified accordingly.

20 **SEC. 11. *Effectivity.*** - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication
21 in the *Official Gazette* or in a newspaper of general circulation.

22 *Approved*

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