

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 8911



Introduced by HON. PHILIP CONRAD "DOK BONG" M. ACOP

AN ACT
TO FURTHER PROMOTE THE ADOPTION OF ROOFTOP SOLAR
TECHNOLOGY AMONG RESIDENTIAL, COMMERCIAL, INDUSTRIAL,
AND GOVERNMENT END-USERS, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE
REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9513, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE "RENEWABLE
ENERGY ACT OF 2008", AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

EXPLANATORY NOTE

In the grand theater of global geopolitics, a tremor in the Middle East often sends shockwaves that shatter the budgets of ordinary households thousands of miles away. As tensions simmer between the U.S. and Iran, the world watches the oil barometer" with bated breath. For the Philippines, this is not just a headline; it is the precursor to a spike in the price of a gallon of gas and a kilo of rice. In this climate of volatility, the Solar Rooftop Adoption Act is a declaration of energy independence.

The necessity of this bill lies in its timing. We have long been tethered to the fluctuating whims of the global fossil fuel market. When international shipping routes are threatened or diplomatic ties fray, our local commodities follow the upward trajectory of energy costs. By amending the Renewable Energy Act of 2008, this new Act pivots the country toward a solution that is as reliable as the morning horizon: the sun.

The bill recognizes that energy security is the bedrock of "inclusive, sustained, and broad-based growth." By democratizing energy production—moving it from massive, centralized coal plants to the very roofs over our heads—the State is effectively building a decentralized fortress against global inflation.

The beauty of the Solar Rooftop Adoption Act is its sweeping inclusivity. It does not just cater to big industry; it reaches into the heart of the community, in the following ways:

- *The Residential and Commercial End-Users:* For the Filipino homeowner and the small business owner, the bill simplifies the “Net-Metering” process. By ensuring that the electricity you sell back to the grid is priced the same as the electricity you buy, the law turns every roof into a potential revenue stream or, at the very least, a significant cost-cutter.
- *Government and Public Institutions:* The Act mandates that our own houses of governance, public schools, and hospitals lead by example. With a requirement to source at least 5% of their power from solar within the first few years, the public sector reduces its drain on the national treasury.
- *The Workforce and Financial Sector:* By directing the Pag-Ibig Fund to create solar installation loans, the bill opens doors for the middle class to invest in green technology without the barrier of high upfront costs.

For the average citizen, the positive effects are immediate and tangible. When a family can generate their own power, they are shielded from the commodity creep caused by rising oil prices. That extra money does not go to a utility giant; it goes to education, health, and better food on the table.

For the government, the benefits are equally profound. By standardizing and streamlining the permitting process through the DOE and DILG, the state removes the bureaucratic red tape that has long suffocated innovation. A nation with a robust solar infrastructure is a nation that is less dependent on imported fuel, reducing the trade deficit and strengthening the Peso.

Furthermore, by mandating solar in public hospitals and schools, the government ensures that essential services remain functional even when the global market is in chaos. It is a transition from being a passive consumer of expensive global energy to an active producer of clean, local power.

As we navigate a century defined by both environmental shifts and geopolitical friction, the Solar Rooftop Adoption Act serves as a vital blueprint. It acknowledges that while we cannot control the tensions between world powers, we can control how we capture the light that falls on our own soil. By turning our rooftops into power plants, we aren't just saving on bills—we are securing our future, one kilowatt at a time.

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



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TO FURTHER PROMOTE THE ADOPTION OF ROOFTOP SOLAR TECHNOLOGY AMONG RESIDENTIAL, COMMERCIAL, INDUSTRIAL, AND GOVERNMENT END-USERS, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9513, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE “RENEWABLE ENERGY ACT OF 2008”, 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 Rooftop Adoption Act.”

SEC. 2. Declaration of Policy. – The State recognizes energy security and electricity affordability as necessary components of inclusive, sustained and broad-based growth. The State further recognizes the necessity of balancing the provision of secure and affordable electricity with the right of the people to a balanced and healthful ecology in accord with the rhythm and harmony of nature. The State also recognized the emergence of rooftop photovoltaic or solar technology as an increasingly affordable and feasible method of complementing the electricity needs of residential and commercial end-users, thereby reducing overall demand.

To this end, it is hereby declared a policy of the state to further promote rooftop solar technology among residential and commercial end-users, and to address institutional barriers to its adoption thereof.

SEC. 3. Section 4 of Republic Act No. 9513 is hereby amended to read as follows:

“Section 4. Definition of Terms. – As used in this Act, the following terms are herein defined:

“x x x

“(j) “Distributed generation” refers to a system of small generation entities supplying directly to the distribution grid [~~any one of which shall not exceed one hundred kilowatts (100kW) in Capacity;~~] **OR TO END-USERS, AND WHICH ARE PRIMARILY USED TO MEET OR AUGMENT THE ELECTRICITY REQUIREMENTS OF END USERS.”**

SEC. 4. Section 10 of the same Act is hereby amended to read as follows:

“Section 10. *Net-Metering for Renewable Energy.* – Subject to technical considerations and without discrimination and upon request by distribution end-users, the distribution utilities shall enter into net-metering agreements with qualified end-users who will be installing RE system.

“The ERC, in consultation with the NREB and the electric power industry participants, shall establish net metering Interconnection standards and pricing methodology and other commercial arrangements necessary to ensure success of the net-metering for renewable energy program within one (1) year upon effectivity of this Act. **IN ESTABLISHING A PRICING METHODOLOGY, THE ERC SHALL ENSURE THAT THE SAME REFERENCE SHALL BE APPLIED TO BOTH THE ELECTRICITY IMPORTED FROM AND EXPORTED TO THE DISTRIBUTION GRID BY END-USERS.**

SEC. 5. *Standardization of Permits and Licensing Requirements.* – The Department of Energy (DOE), in coordination with the Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG), In coordination with relevant power distribution utilities and Local Government Units, shall standardize and streamline permitting and licensing requirements in the installation of rooftop solar projects.

SEC. 6. *Solar Installation Loans.* – Pursuant to the declared national policy of this Act, the Board of Trustees under Republic Act No. 9679, otherwise known as the “Home Development Mutual Fund Law of 2009”, shall develop a loan program for qualified members for the acquisition and installation of solar panels as part of home improvement or as a component of the housing unit to be purchased, subject to the prevailing Pag-IBIG Fund rules and regulations.

SEC. 7. *Installation of Solar Panels of Government Buildings.* – All government agencies, in coordination with the Department of Energy, shall install solar energy systems in their respective offices and buildings. The solar panels shall supply at least five percent (5%) of the electric power requirements of each government office or building within three (3) years from

the effectivity of this Act, which shall be further increased by five percent (5%) every five (5) years thereafter.

SEC. 8. Solar Energy Adoption in Public Schools and Hospitals. – All public elementary and secondary schools under the DepEd, state universities and colleges (SUCs) and all public hospitals under the DOH and LGUs shall be mandated to install rooftop solar energy systems in their respective facilities. The Solar Panels shall supply at least five (5) percent of the total electricity requirements of each public school and hospital within five (5) years from the effectivity of this Act.

SEC. 9 Appropriations. – Such funds necessary to carry out the provisions of this Act shall be included under the appropriations of the Department of Energy (DOE) in the annual General Appropriations Act.

SEC 10. Implementing Rules and Regulations. – The Department of Energy (DOE), National Renewable Energy Board (NREB), Energy Regulatory Commission (ERC), Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG), in consultation with the concerned stakeholders of the electric power and renewable industry shall jointly promulgate the implementing rules and regulations of this Act within ninety (90) days of its effectivity.

SEC. 11. Separability Clause. – If any part or provision of this Act shall be declared unconstitutional and invalid, such declaration shall not invalidate other parts thereof which shall remain in full force and effect.

SEC. 12. Repealing Clause. – All laws, decrees, executive orders, proclamations, rules and regulations, or their parts thereof, which are inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed, amended, or modified accordingly.

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

Approved,