

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 9087



Introduced by: Kababaihan Kabalikatan para sa Kapakanan at Kaunlaran ng Bayan (4K) Party-list
Representative Iris Marie D. Montes

AN ACT
PROMOTING THE DEVELOPMENT AND UTILIZATION OF SOLAR ENERGY
IN ALL NATIONAL AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT BUILDINGS AND OFFICES,
AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The Philippines is currently navigating a pivotal shift in its energy landscape. For decades, the state has recognized the strategic importance of renewable energy, a commitment enshrined in landmark legislation such as Republic Act No. 9513 (Renewable Energy Act of 2008) and Republic Act No. 11285 (Energy Efficiency and Conservation Act). These laws established the foundation for a sustainable future; however, the urgency of the current climate and economic climate demands a transition from policy formulation to aggressive implementation.

A 2018 report by the Institute for Energy Economics and Financial Analysis (IEEFA), titled "*Unlocking Rooftop Solar in the Philippines*," starkly highlighted that our nation faces some of the highest electricity rates in the ASEAN region. This burden stifles economic competitiveness and strains public resources. The IEEFA findings present a compelling solution: solar power generation can reduce electricity costs to as low as ₱2.50 per kilowatt-hour (kWh). Beyond immediate savings, the systematic adoption of solar technology is projected to drive ₱1.5 trillion (USD 2.8 billion) in new investments by 2030, serving as a powerful engine for national economic resilience.

The promise of solar energy as a catalyst for social justice and inclusive growth was championed as early as 2015 by former NEDA Director-General Ernesto M. Pernia. In his policy report, "*Solar Power's Dawning and Promise for Inclusive Growth*," Pernia urged the government to move proactively. He emphasized that the increasing cost-effectiveness of solar technology makes it an ideal tool for democratizing energy access and ensuring that the benefits of the energy transition reach all sectors of society.

In 2023, the Inter-Agency Energy Efficiency and Conservation Committee (IAEECC)—the body mandated under RA 11285 to oversee state energy reduction—issued a resolution pushing the government to "walk the talk." This directive encouraged all agencies to install and utilize solar photovoltaic (PV) systems in government facilities and office buildings.

This measure seeks to institutionalize that mandate. By requiring the solarization of government buildings and offices, the State effectively utilizes rooftop solar technology as a cornerstone strategy for:

1. Achieving Energy Security: Reducing reliance on volatile external energy markets.
2. Fiscal Responsibility: Drastically lowering the operating costs of public facilities to free up funds for social services.
3. Environmental Sustainability: Leading by example in the global effort to reduce carbon footprints.

Ultimately, this bill reinforces the government's commitment to a sustainable, energy-independent future that contributes to inclusive national development and social justice.

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



IRIS MARIE D. MONTES

Kababaihan Kabalikatan para sa Kapakanan
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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 **"Public Sector Solarization Act."**

Sec 2. Declaration of Policies. — It shall be the policy of the State to achieve energy self-reliance through the adoption of sustainable energy development strategies to reduce the country's dependence on fossil fuels and thereby minimize the country's exposure to price fluctuations in the international markets, which spiral down to all sectors of the economy.

Pursuant to this policy, the State shall promote the adoption of renewable energy by:

- (a) Mandating the development and utilization of renewable energy resources in government buildings and offices;
- (b) Establishing the infrastructure and mechanisms to ensure efficient, cost-effective and sustainable supply of power from solar energy systems; and,
- (c) Ensuring energy sufficiency of government agencies for the prompt and unhampered delivery of services of its constituents.

Sec 3. Scope and Coverage. — The provisions of this Act shall apply to all existing, under-construction, and future real property assets owned, managed, or occupied by the Government of the Republic of the Philippines, its agencies, and instrumentalities. These shall include, such as but not limited to, the following functional categories:

- (a) **Administrative and Executive Offices:** All central, regional, provincial, and field offices of the National Government, including Executive Departments, Bureaus, and Attached Agencies; Constitutional Commissions; and all offices under the Office of the President and the Office of the Vice President.
- (b) **Legislative and Judicial Complexes:** All buildings housing the Senate, the House of Representatives, and the entire Judiciary, including the Supreme Court, appellate courts, and all lower courts and Halls of Justice nationwide.
- (c) **Local Government Infrastructure:** All provincial capitols, city and municipal halls, and barangay government centers, including all auxiliary buildings, public markets, and community multi-purpose facilities operated by Local Government Units (LGUs).
- (d) **Educational and Research Facilities:** All campuses and administrative buildings of State Universities and Colleges (SUCs), Local Universities and Colleges (LUCs), and all public basic education facilities under the national education authority, as well as technical-vocational and specialized research institutions.
- (e) **Health and Medical Institutions:** All government-retained hospitals, specialized medical centers, district and provincial hospitals, Rural Health Units (RHUs), and community health stations, including laboratories and medical cold-storage facilities.
- (f) **Public Safety and Defense Installations:** All military camps, bases, and naval stations; police offices and precincts; fire stations; and all correctional, reformatory, and detention facilities managed by the national or local government.
- (g) **Government Corporate and Financial Properties:** All head offices and branches of Government-Owned or Controlled Corporations (GOCCs), Government Financial Institutions (GFIs), and specialized regulatory bodies.
- (h) **Transport and Utility Hubs:** All government-managed land, air, and sea transport terminals; water district offices; and energy-related facilities under government jurisdiction.

Sec 4. Establishment of Solar Energy Systems in National Government Buildings and Offices. — All government agencies in coordination with the Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH) and the Department of Energy (DOE) shall begin the construction of solar energy systems and retrofit their respective buildings and offices within two (2) years after the effectivity of this Act. Provided that, Solar Energy Systems shall refer to energy systems which convert solar energy into thermal or electrical energy.

Sec 5. General Guidelines. — For purposes of this Act, the following are the General Guidelines for solar energy systems in national government buildings and offices:

(a) Establishment and construction shall immediately commence to supply power to government buildings or offices;

(b) The Department of Finance (DOF) shall apply the appropriate provisions of Chapter VII General Incentives of Republic Act No. 9513 or the Renewable Energy Act of 2008 to the RE Systems to be established and constructed for government agencies; and,

(c) Government agencies shall enjoy the privileges granted to qualified end-users as certified by the DOE-Renewable Energy Management Bureau, as provided for in Sections 10 and 12 of Republic Act No. 9513.

Sec 6. Minimum Standard. — The solar energy systems to be established shall initially supply at least twenty five percent (25%) of the electric power requirements of the government agencies in their respective buildings or offices for the first year after the effectivity of this Act: Provided, That solar energy utilization shall be increased annually for five (5) years at which time the established solar energy systems are expected to have the capacity to supply one-hundred percent (100%) of the power requirements of government agencies: Provided, further, That nothing in this Act shall preclude the expansion of existing solar energy systems installed in government buildings and offices.

Sec 7. Lead Agency. — The DOE shall provide the official list of solar PV installers or other equivalent renewable energy technology providers for reference and guidance of all government agencies. It shall likewise provide technical assistance in the installation of the solar PV system or equivalent renewable energy technology system.

The DOE, in collaboration with the DPWH, shall assist any government agency in evaluating the structural integrity of its office buildings and/or facilities for the installation of the said solar PV system or equivalent renewable energy technology.

Sec 8. Funding. — The amount necessary for the immediate implementation of this Act shall be charged against any available funds of the government agencies covered in this Act. Thereafter, such sums as may be necessary to implement this Act shall be included in the General Appropriations Act (GAA).

Sec 9. Implementing Rules and Regulations. — Within sixty (60) days after the effectivity of this Act, the Secretary of Energy shall, in coordination with the Inter Agency Energy Efficiency and Conservation Committee created under Republic Act No. 11285 or the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Act, and in consultation with other relevant government agencies and stakeholders in the electric power and renewable energy industry, shall promulgate the rules and regulations to effectively implement the provisions of this Act.

Sec 10. 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 valid and subsisting.

Sec 11. 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.

Sec 12. Effectivity. — This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved