

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City
TWENTIETH CONGRESS
Second Regular Session



HOUSE BILL NO. 10841

Introduced by: **REP. TOBIAS "TOBY" M. TIANGCO**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The simple act of keeping one's trash until a proper waste bin becomes available costs nothing. However, the failure to do so can clog drainage systems, damage pumping stations, worsen flooding, and necessitate costly and time-consuming canal-clearing operations, all of which impose a significant burden on government resources and the public.

Garbage has nowhere to go but to the canals and drainage systems. Recently, the Metropolitan Manila Development Authority (MMDA) collected approximately seven hundred fifty (750) metric tons of garbage and debris from a waterway following days of heavy rain.

Republic Act No. 9003, otherwise known as the *Ecological Solid Waste Management Act of 2000*, already prohibits littering and dumping in public places and provides corresponding penalties, its enforcement have been rendered ineffective due to the failure of responsible officials and personnel to implement them.

This measure strengthens the law by prescribing community service consisting of one (1) day of canal cleaning for the first offense, two (2) days of canal cleaning for the second offense, and three (3) days of canal cleaning for each subsequent offense. The required canal-cleaning community service is intended to impress upon offenders the stark contrast between the minimal effort required to properly dispose of their garbage and the substantial time, effort, and public resources needed to remove waste from canals and drainage systems. By participating in canal-cleaning activities, offenders are expected to develop a deeper appreciation of the consequences of improper waste disposal and a stronger sense of personal responsibility toward protecting the environment. An offender who fails to complete the required community service shall be subject to the appropriate proceedings and penalties under the Revised Penal Code and other applicable laws. Local government units (LGUs) and barangays shall be responsible for implementing this measure. Officials and personnel who fail to perform their responsibilities under this Act may be held administratively liable in accordance with applicable laws, rules, and regulations.

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


TOBIAS "TOBY" M. TIANGCO
Representative
Lone District, Navotas City

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AN ACT STRENGTHENING THE “ECOLOGICAL SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT ACT OF 2000” BY PRESCRIBING COMMUNITY-SERVICE PENALTIES INVOLVING CANAL CLEANING AND IDENTIFYING THE PERSONS RESPONSIBLE FOR ITS EFFECTIVE IMPLEMENTATION

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 “Anti-Littering Community Service Act.”

SEC. 2. *Prohibited Acts.* — It shall be unlawful for any person to litter, throw, dump, deposit, cause, or permit the disposal of solid waste in any public space such as but not limited to open spaces, public buildings, roads, streets, canals, drainage facilities, *esteros*, and all other public spaces.

SEC. 3. *Penalties.* — Any person who violates Section 2 shall render community service in the city or municipality where the offense was committed: one (1) day of canal cleaning for the first offense; two (2) days of canal cleaning for the second offense; and three (3) days of canal cleaning for the third and every subsequent offense. One (1) day shall be equivalent to eight (8) hours. Failure to render the required community service shall subject the offender to appropriate penalties under the Revised Penal Code and other applicable laws.

SEC. 4. *Community-Service Safeguards.* — Community service shall consist of supervised cleaning of canals, *esteros* and other waterways with appropriate protective equipment, tools, sanitation facilities, and safeguards against hazardous work. Safe alternative assignments shall be provided to vulnerable or medically unfit offenders.

SEC. 5. *Administrative Accountability.* — Any responsible local official or employee who fails to enforce this Act shall be subject to the following administrative penalties: suspension without pay for fifteen (15) days for the first offense; suspension without pay for thirty (30) days for the second offense; and dismissal from the service for the third and subsequent offenses, subject to applicable civil service laws, rules, and regulations.

SEC. 6. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.* — Within fifteen (15) days from the effectivity of this Act, the DENR and DILG, in coordination with the DOH, MMDA, National Solid Waste Management Commission, local government units, and concerned sectors, shall issue the implementing rules.

SEC. 7. *Separability Clause.* — If any provision is declared invalid, the remainder shall remain in force.

SEC. 8. *Repealing Clause.* — All inconsistent laws, rules, regulations, and ordinances are repealed or modified accordingly.

SEC. 9. *Effectivity.* — This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.