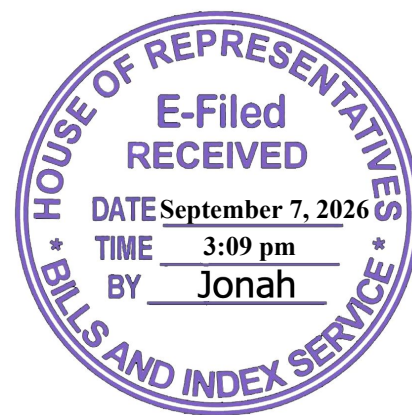


Republic of the Philippines
House of Representatives
Quezon City, Metro Manila

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
Second Regular Session

House Bill No. 11146



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

AN ACT
ESTABLISHING THE INCENTIVIZED SOLID WASTE REDEMPTION AND
RECOVERY SYSTEMS, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR,
AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Republic Act No. 9003, otherwise known as the Ecological Solid Waste Management Act of 2000, provides for an ecological solid waste management program and a framework that creates necessary institutional mechanisms and incentives, declaring certain acts prohibited and providing penalties therefor.

Under the law, local government units (LGUs) are also mandated to be primarily responsible for the implementation and enforcement of the provisions of the Solid Waste Management Act within their respective jurisdictions.

However, rewards and incentives have limitations and must be innovated to adapt to the needs of the “new normal”. The social and economic climate brought about by the COVID-19 pandemic has presented challenges to food security and environmental protection. The multitude of consumption in the pandemic has increased solid waste production, thus bringing up the need to properly organize solid waste management and segregation at the level of the household.

In its efforts to aid its citizens economically amid the pandemic while also promoting efforts to save the environment, the Quezon City government has launched a point system program on waste management entitled the “Trash to Cashback” Program.

Under the “Trash to Cashback” Program, residents can trade their recyclable materials for environmental points which can be exchanged for basic commodities such as rice, eggs, vegetables, and other essential grocery items.

This bill seeks to institutionalize innovative efforts to incentivize solid waste management and recycling through the exchange or rewarding of basic commodities such as rice, eggs, vegetables, canned goods, basic household consumer items, other essential grocery items, or even cash.

This legislation further provides that the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), the Department of Agriculture (DA), and the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) shall determine the reasonable and compliance-inducing exchange values for graduated weights or volumes of solid waste provided.

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. – The Act shall be known as the “*Basura to Ayuda Act.*”

SECTION 2. Declaration of Policy. - It is the declared policy of the State to adopt a systematic, comprehensive, and ecological solid waste management program which shall:

- (a) Ensure the protection of the public health and environment;
- (b) Utilize environmentally sound methods that maximize the utilization of valuable resources and encourage resource conservation and recovery;
- (c) Set guidelines and targets for solid waste avoidance and volume reduction through source reduction and waste minimization measures, including composting, recycling, reuse, recovery, green charcoal process, and others, before collection, treatment and disposal in appropriate and environmentally sound solid waste management facilities in accordance with ecologically sustainable development principles;
- (d) Ensure the proper segregation, collection, transport, storage, treatment, and disposal of solid waste through the formulation and adoption of the best environmental practice in ecological waste management excluding incineration;
- (e) Promote national research and development programs for improved

solid waste management and research conservation techniques, more effective institutional arrangement, and indigenous and improved methods of waste reduction, collection, separation, and recovery;

- (f) Encourage greater private sector participation in solid waste management;
- (g) Retain primary enforcement and responsibility of solid waste management with local government units while establishing a cooperative effort among the national government, other local government units, non-government organizations, and the private sector;
- (h) Encourage cooperation and self-regulation among waste generators through the application of market-based instruments;
- (i) Institutionalized public participation in the development and implementation of national and local integrated, comprehensive, and ecological waste management programs; and
- (j) Strengthen the integration of ecological solid waste management and resource conservation and recovery topics into the academic curricula of formal and non-formal education in order to promote environmental awareness and action among the citizenry.

SECTION 3. *Incentivized Redemption of Solid Wastes.* – The Department of Environment and Natural Resource, in collaboration with the Department of Agriculture and Department of Trade and Industry, is hereby authorized to establish the **Incentivized Solid Waste Redemption System**, whereby individuals, households, civic associations, parent-teachers associations, homeowners associations, and nonprofit institutions should be encouraged to gather and exchange collected non-hazardous and recyclable solid wastes, including but not limited to plastic bottles, wrappers, bags, sachets, metal canisters, unserviceable or used electrical and electronic devices, discarded hardware, and recyclable computer parts.

The solid wastes collected shall be exchanged for rice, water, canned goods, basic household consumer items, or cash. The DENR, DA, and DTI shall determine the reasonable and compliance-inducing exchange values for graduated weights or volumes of solid waste surrendered, provided that the minimum exchange value of one kilogram of non-hazardous and recyclable plastic waste is one kilogram of commercial quality rice or its cash equivalent, while for one kilogram of metallic, non-hazardous, recyclable waste is two kilograms of commercial quality rice or its cash equivalent.

For hazardous waste recovery, the DENR, DTI, and DA shall establish Hazardous Waste Recovery Protocols and Reporting System, through which individuals may report the exact location and details of the suspected hazardous waste, so that specially trained and equipped personnel or teams

may be deployed to safely recover the confiscated hazardous waste. The Hazardous Waste Recovery Protocols and Reporting Systems will have a Cash Rewards feature to encourage the public to help government pinpoint and confirm the exact location of hazardous wastes.

SECTION 4. *Incentivized Systemic Recovery of Solid Wastes.* – To encourage large-scale, corporate-level systematic recovery of solid wastes, the DNR, DTI, and Department of Finance are hereby mandated to jointly adopt the Carbon Credits system for reducing carbon emissions in the realm of solid waste recovery and reduction.

These national government agencies shall also enable private corporations and government-owned or controlled corporations to establish special purpose corporations or joint ventures with a specific mission of redeeming and recovering plastic wastes. Enabling shall include a combination of mechanisms and incentives designed for corporate social responsibility programs and non-tax incentives.

SECTION 5. *Public Information, Education, and Communication.* – To adequately inform the general public about the purposes, mechanisms, and incentives of this Act, the concerned agency shall conduct massive public information, education, and communication campaigns at the barangay level, in educational institutions, and at workplaces.

SECTION 6. *Implementing Guidelines, Rules, and Regulations.* – The Secretaries of Environment and Natural Resources, of Trade and Industry, of Agriculture, and of Finance shall jointly approve and issue the implementing guidelines, rules, and regulations within sixty (60) days from the effectivity of this Act.

SECTION 7. *Appropriations.* – The annual budget to implement this Act shall be included in the regular or special appropriations of the concerned implementing agencies.

SECTION 8. *Separability.* – If any provision or part of this Act is declared invalid or unconstitutional, the remaining parts are not affected, so they continue to be in full force and effect.

SECTION 9. *Repealing Clause.* – All laws, executive orders, and administrative orders or parts thereof inconsistent with any provision of this Act are hereby repealed or amended accordingly.

SECTION 10. *Effectivity.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the online version of the *Official Gazette* or in two (2) newspapers of general circulation or with established Internet website presence.

Approved,