

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
Second Regular Session



HOUSE BILL No. 11307

Introduced by REP. RAMIL L. HERNANDEZ

AN ACT MANDATING THE ESTABLISHMENT AND MAINTENANCE OF PUBLIC GREEN SPACES IN EVERY BARANGAY, PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Rapid urbanization often leads to the loss of natural open areas, impacting public health and local environmental stability. Pursuant to the constitutional policy of ensuring a balanced and healthful ecology, this bill mandates the establishment, protection, and maintenance of public green spaces in every barangay as vital components of community infrastructure.

This proposal includes requiring every barangay to establish and maintain at least one accessible public green space tailored to its population density, land availability, and ecological profile; placing management to barangay councils while the city and municipal governments will provide technical and financial assistance; and provision of incentives and flexible compliance.

To promote healthier living environments, mitigate climate impacts, and empower local government units through proactive assistance rather than punitive measures, the immediate passage of this bill is earnestly sought.

Approved,

RAMIL L. HERNANDEZ
2nd District, Laguna

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Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Philippines in Congress assembled.

Section 1. Short Title. – This Act shall be known as the “**Barangay Green Spaces Act**”.

Section 2. Declaration of Policy. – It is the policy of the State to promote the general welfare and ensure a balanced and healthful ecology in accordance with the rhythm and harmony of nature. To this end, the State shall prioritize the establishment, protection, and enhancement of public green spaces as essential components of community infrastructure in every barangay.

Section 3. Definition of Terms. – For purposes of this Act, the following terms shall refer to:

- a. Barangay: The basic political unit of the government.
- b. Green Space: A publicly owned or managed area of land, including but not limited to, parks, plazas, urban community gardens, linear parks, tree-lined walkways, and designated open spaces, primarily covered with vegetation, intended for public access, recreation, and environmental benefit.
- c. Local Government Unit (LGU): The Province, City, Municipality, and Barangay.

Section 4. Mandate for Establishment. – Every barangay establish and maintain at least one (1) accessible Public Green Space within its territorial jurisdiction. The size and type of the Green Space shall be determined based on the barangay's population density, land availability, and ecological profile, in accordance with the implementing rules and regulations (IRR) of this Act.

Section 5. *Responsibilities of Local Government Units.* –

- a. Barangay Council: Shall be responsible for the day-to-day management, maintenance, security, and cleanliness of the established Green Space, including the organization of community activities therein.
- b. City/Municipal Government: Shall provide technical assistance, financial support, and access to necessary land resources (e.g., unused public lots, easements, or reclaimed areas) for the establishment and initial development of the Green Spaces. They shall also ensure the integration of the Green Space mandate into their respective Comprehensive Land Use Plans (CLUPs).

Section 6. *Funding.* – The amount necessary to carry out the initial implementation of this Act, including capacity building and technical assistance, shall be sourced from the appropriations of the Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG) and the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR). Thereafter, a percentage of the annual National Tax Allotment (NTA) of the concerned City and Municipal LGUs shall be allocated specifically for the development and maintenance of Green Spaces. Barangay Councils shall likewise allocate a portion of their annual budget for this purpose.

Section 7. *Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR).* – Within ninety (90) days from the effectivity of this Act, the DILG, in consultation with the DENR, the League of Provinces, Cities, and Municipalities, and relevant non-governmental organizations, shall promulgate the necessary rules and regulations to implement the provisions of this Act.

Section 8. *Incentives, Technical Support, and Flexible Compliance Options.* –

(a) Performance Incentives. Barangays that successfully establish and sustain exemplary Public Green Spaces shall be prioritized for performance-based grants, technical assistance programs, and climate-resilience funding from the DILG, DENR, and other national government agencies. Exceptional performance under this Act may likewise be integrated as a criterion for the Seal of Good Local Governance (SGLG).

(b) Relief and Exemption Clauses. Barangays facing severe geographical, financial, or spatial constraints, such as highly dense urban areas with no available public land, may seek alternative compliance options upon evaluation and approval by the DILG, in consultation with the DENR. Acceptable alternative compliance options shall include, but are not limited to:

1. Development of vertical gardens, green roofs, or micro-parks on existing public structures;
2. Conversion and retrofitting of unused street margins, easements, or alleyways into linear parks;
3. Execution of joint-management agreements with neighboring barangays to co-develop and share a public green space; or

4. Establishment of community greening partnerships with local public or private educational institutions to utilize shared grounds.

(c) Technical Capacity Building. Prior to any finding of non-compliance, DILG and DENR shall provide mandatory technical interventions, spatial planning assistance, and land-sourcing support to assist struggling barangays in achieving compliance with this Act.

Section 9. *Separability Clause.* – If any provision of this Act is declared invalid or unconstitutional, the remaining provisions not affected thereby shall remain in full force and effect.

Section 10. *Repealing Clause.* – All laws, decrees, orders, rules, and regulations, or parts thereof, inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

Section 11. *Effectivity.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,