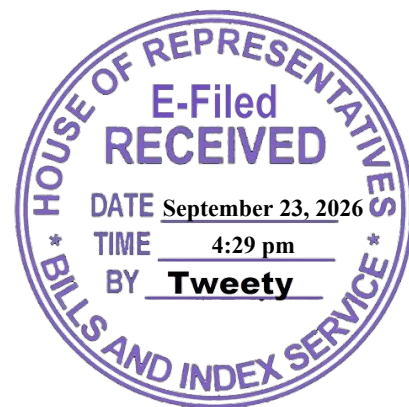


Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
Second Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 11462



Introduced by **HON. BRIAN RAYMUND S. YAMSUAN**

AN ACT
INSTITUTIONALIZING A COMPREHENSIVE ELECTRONIC WASTE MANAGEMENT
SYSTEM, MANDATING EXTENDED PRODUCER
RESPONSIBILITY, PROVIDING INFRASTRUCTURE AND INCENTIVES FOR E-
WASTE RECYCLING, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The Constitution recognizes that every Filipino has the right to health and to a balanced and healthful ecology. Specifically Section 15, Article II directs the State to protect and promote the right to health, while Section 16 mandates the State to protect and advance the right of the people to a balanced and healthful ecology.

This constitutional responsibility takes on particular importance as the Philippines becomes increasingly dependent on electronic devices and digital technologies. The growth of electronics, however, also means a growing stream of discarded computers, mobile phones, appliances, batteries, spare parts and other electronic products. In 2022 alone, the Philippines generated approximately 537,000 tonnes of e-waste, equivalent to 4.7 kilograms per capita.¹ But the problem appears more urgent when viewed from a global perspective. Reports from the Global E-waste Monitor 2024 show that a record 62 million tonnes of e-waste were generated globally in 2022, representing an 82 percent increase from our generation in 2010.² Without intervention, the volume is projected to reach 82 million tonnes by 2030. The scale is difficult to ignore: the 62 million tonnes generated in 2022 would fill an estimated 1.55 million 40-ton trucks, which are enough to form a bumper-to-bumper line around the Earth's equator.³

Despite these, the Philippines has yet to enact a comprehensive law governing e-waste. Apart from environmental consequences, this gap also presents a pressing public health concern. Electronic products may contain lead, mercury, and other hazardous substances. When discarded, dismantled, or burned without appropriate safeguards,

¹ Sumaria, M. G. C., & Sumaria, R. (2025). Waste electrical and electronic equipment (WEEE) management and policy frameworks in the Philippines: A mini review. *Annals of Tropical Research*, 47(1), 17-33.

² Balde CP, Kuehr R, Yamamoto T, McDonald R, D'Angelo E, Althaf S et al. The Global E-waste Monitor 2024. Bonn, Geneva: International Telecommunication Union, United Nations Institute for Training and Resources; 2024 (<https://ewastemonitor.info/>).

³ *Id.*

these substances can contaminate air, soil, water, and surrounding communities. The World Health Organization has identified associations between exposure to e-waste pollutants and adverse health outcomes, including impaired neurodevelopment, respiratory effects, adverse birth outcomes, and effects on the immune system.⁴ Children, adolescents, and pregnant women are particularly vulnerable to such exposure, adversely affecting neonatal outcomes, neurodevelopment, learning and behaviour outcomes, and even causing reduced lung and respiratory function.⁵ Proper e-waste management therefore goes beyond environmental preservation. Rather, it is an urgent preventive public health measure and an investment in the health of the next generation.

Existing environmental laws provide important foundations, but their scopes still leave a gap: Republic Act No. 9003 or the Ecological Solid Waste Management Act of 2000 primarily governs municipal solid waste, Republic Act No. 6969 or the Toxic Substances and Hazardous and Nuclear Wastes Control Act of 1990 addresses toxic substances and hazardous wastes largely in industrial and chemical contexts, while Republic Act No. 11898 or the Extended Producer Responsibility Act of 2022 established extended producer responsibility for plastic packaging but excludes electronics.

The proposed National Electronic Waste Management Act fills that gap by providing rules specifically responsive to the distinct environmental and health risks and recovery potential of e-waste. Specifically, it creates a national framework for the proper segregation, collection, transport, storage, reuse, recycling, and disposal of e-waste; prohibits its mixed disposal with ordinary municipal waste; requires consumers and establishments to surrender e-waste through authorized collection and treatment channels; and assigns defined responsibilities to the DENR, DTI, LGUs, DOLE, TESDA, and other relevant agencies.

The measure also recognizes that the government cannot address the e-waste problem alone. It institutionalizes Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) by requiring manufacturers, brand owners, and importers to establish or participate in systems for the recovery, recycling, or safe disposal of the electronic products they introduce into the Philippine market. Progressive recovery targets and Producer Responsibility Organizations provide a mechanism for producers to assume responsibility beyond the point of sale and encourage better product design, reuse, material recovery, and circularity.

At the same time, the bill does not overlook the workers already engaged in informal recycling. It provides for their training, provision of appropriate safety equipment, accreditation, and integration into formal collection and recycling supply chains. Incentives for qualified enterprises and accredited facilities further support the development of a domestic e-waste recycling and resource-recovery industry.

The proposed measure is, therefore, a whole-of-nation approach to a problem that will only grow with continued technological advancement. The national government will establish the standards and infrastructure; producers will share responsibility for the products they place in the market; LGUs and communities will participate in proper collection and segregation; and workers in the informal sector will be given a pathway toward safer and more formalized livelihoods. In doing so, the bill seeks to turn e-waste

⁴ World Health Organization, "Electronic waste (e-waste)," Fact Sheets, 1 October 2024, [https://www.who.int/news-room/fact-sheets/detail/electronic-waste-\(e-waste\)](https://www.who.int/news-room/fact-sheets/detail/electronic-waste-(e-waste)).

⁵ *Id.*

from a growing environmental and health liability into an opportunity for responsible innovation and a more circular economy.

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



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WASTE RECYCLING, 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 "National Electronic Waste Management Act."

SEC. 2. *Declaration of Policy* - Consistent with Section 16, Article II of the 1987 Philippine Constitution to protect and advance the right of the people to a balanced and healthful ecology, it is the policy of the State to:

- a) institutionalize a national framework for the segregation, collection, transport, storage, reuse, recycling, and environmentally sound disposal of Electronic Waste (E-waste);
- b) Adopt the principle of Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) by holding manufacturers, importers, and distributors accountable for the lifecycle of their electronic products;
- c) Protect informal waste handlers and surrounding communities from hazardous chemical exposures associated with unsafe e-waste dismantling; and
- d) Promote resource recovery, urban mining, and the transition toward a circular economy.

SEC. 3. *Definition of Terms.* – **As used in this Act:**

- a) Electrical and Electronic Equipment (EEE) – Refers to equipment dependent on electric currents or electromagnetic fields to work properly, including household appliances, IT and telecommunications equipment, consumer electronics, and medical devices.

- b) Electronic Waste or E-Waste – Refers to discarded, obsolete, broken, or end-of-life EEE, including all components, subassemblies, and consumables that are part of the product at the time of discarding.
- c) Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) – Refers to an environmental policy approach in which a producer's responsibility for a product is extended to the post-consumer stage of its lifecycle.
- d) Obligated Enterprises – Refers to manufacturers, brand owners, or importers who introduce EEE into the domestic market.
- e) Treatment, Storage, and Disposal (TSD) Facility – Refers to a facility accredited by the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) equipped to safely handle, process, recycle, or dispose of hazardous wastes, including e-waste.

SEC. 4. *Institutional Framework.* – The Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) shall be the primary regulatory and enforcement agency. Through the Environmental Management Bureau (EMB), the DENR shall establish standards, accredit TSD facilities, monitor EPR compliance, and maintain a National E-Waste Registry.

The Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) shall enforce mandatory product labeling, component standards for reusability, and monitor compliance among EEE retailers and distributors.

Local Government Units (LGUs) shall integrate e-waste collection into their local solid waste management plans, establish designated E-Waste Materials Recovery Facilities (E-MRFs) or collection points, and conduct public information campaigns.

SEC. 5. *Prohibition on Mixed Disposal and Landfilling.* –

- a) The disposal of e-waste alongside general municipal solid waste is strictly prohibited.
- b) No operator of a sanitary landfill, open dump, or waste-to-energy facility shall accept unsegregated e-waste.
- c) Consumers and commercial establishments shall surrender e-waste exclusively to accredited LGU collection points, retailer buy-back stations, or licensed TSD facilities.

SEC. 6. *Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) Framework for Electronics.*

- a) Mandatory Take-Back Programs: Within twelve (12) months from the effectivity of this Act, all Obligated Enterprises shall establish or participate in an EPR program for the recovery, recycling, or safe disposal of their products.
- b) Minimum Recovery Targets: Obligated Enterprises shall meet progressive annual recovery targets set by the DENR, starting at a minimum of twenty percent (20%) of their average annual sales volume within three (3) years of enactment, scaling up to sixty percent (60%) within eight (8) years.
- c) Producer Responsibility Organizations (PROs): Enterprises may form or join registered PROs to collectively fulfill their compliance obligations under this Act.

SEC. 7. *Formalization of the Informal Recycling Sector.* — The Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE), in coordination with the DENR, Technical Education and Skills

Development Authority (TESDA), and LGUs, shall formulate a National Transition Plan to:

- a) Provide technical training, safety equipment, and accreditation to informal waste collectors and junkshop operators;
- b) Integrate informal workers into formal collection, aggregation, and sorting supply chains connected to certified TSD facilities.

SEC. 8. *Incentives.* –

- a) Fiscal Incentives: Registered enterprises and accredited TSD facilities engaging in specialized e-waste processing and high-grade material extraction shall be eligible for fiscal incentives under the Corporate Recovery and Tax Incentives for Enterprises (CREATE) Act or applicable investment priority plans.
- b) Non-Fiscal Incentives: Simplified permitting and prioritization in government green procurement programs.

SEC. 9. *Prohibited Acts and Penalties.*

- a) Indiscriminate Disposal or Open Burning of E-Waste:

First Offense: Fine of Php 10,000 to Php 50,000.

Subsequent Offenses: Fine of Php 50,000 to Php 200,000, or community service, or both.

- b) Non-Compliance with EPR Obligations by Obligated Enterprises: Fine ranging from Php 200,000 to Php 5,000,000 depending on the scale of enterprise, or suspension of business permit until compliance.

- c) Operating an Unaccredited E-Waste TSD Facility or Illegal Dismantling:

Fine of Php 500,000 to Php 2,000,000 and imprisonment of two (2) to six (6) years.

SEC. 10. *E-Waste Management and Innovation Fund.* – A special account under the DENR is hereby created, to be funded through administrative fines, fees, and voluntary contributions. The fund shall be dedicated strictly to research and development on sustainable electronics, LGU infrastructure subsidies, and capacity-building programs for informal sector transition.

SEC. 11. *Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR)* - Within six (6) months from the approval of this Act, the DENR, in consultation with DTI, DILG, DOLE, DOST, and relevant industry stakeholders, shall promulgate the rules and regulations necessary for its implementation.

SEC. 12. *Separability Clause.* – If any portion or provision of this Act is declared invalid or unconstitutional, the remaining parts or provisions not affected thereby shall remain in full force and effect.

SEC. 13. *Repealing Clause.* – All laws, decrees, executive orders, presidential issuances, and other administrative rules and regulations or parts thereof which are inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed, amended, or modified accordingly.

SEC. 14. *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,