

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City, Metro Manila

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
Second Regular Session



COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 587

Submitted by the **Special Committee on Reforestation** on August 17, 2026

Re: **House Bill No. 10818**

Recommending its approval, in substitution of House Bills Numbered 3452 and 5421

Sponsors: Representatives Noel "Bong" N. Rivera, Dante S. Garcia, Kenneth Paolo Tereng, and Jernie Jett V. Nisay

Mr. Speaker:

The Special Committee on Reforestation, to which were referred House Bill No. 3452, introduced by Reps. Dante S. Garcia and Kenneth Paolo Tereng, entitled:

**"AN ACT
PROVIDING MECHANISMS THAT SHALL ENSURE THE EFFECTIVE
IMPLEMENTATION OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 10176, OTHERWISE KNOWN
AS THE "ARBOR DAY ACT OF 2012"**

and House Bill No. 5421, introduced by Rep. Jernie Jett V. Nisay, entitled:

**"AN ACT
PROVIDING MECHANISMS THAT SHALL ENSURE THE EFFECTIVE
IMPLEMENTATION OF A NATIONWIDE TREE PLANTING PROGRAM,
AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 10176, OTHERWISE
KNOWN AS THE "ARBOR DAY ACT OF 2012"**

has considered the same and recommends that the attached House Bill No. 10818, entitled:

**"AN ACT
PROVIDING MECHANISMS TO ENSURE THE EFFECTIVE
IMPLEMENTATION OF A NATIONWIDE TREE PLANTING PROGRAM,
AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 10176, OTHERWISE
KNOWN AS THE "ARBOR DAY ACT OF 2012"**

be approved in substitution of House Bills Numbered 3452 and 5421 with Representatives Dante S. Garcia, Kenneth Paolo Tereng, Jernie Jett V. Nisay, Noel “Bong” N. Rivera, Carmelo G. Lazatin, Jr., Jane T. Castro, Maximo B. Rodriguez, Jr., Iris Marie Demesa Montes, and Atty. Jennifer “Karen” A. Lagbas, as authors thereof.

Respectfully submitted,



REP. NOEL “BONG” N. RIVERA
Chairperson
Special Committee on Reforestation

THE HONORABLE SPEAKER
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
QUEZON CITY

SEC. 2. Section 3 of the same Act is hereby amended to read as follows:

“SEC. 3. *Creation of Arbor Day Committee.* - In implementing the intents of this Act, there shall be created in every province, city and municipality in the country an Arbor Day Celebration Committee, the composition of which shall be selected by the concerned local chief executive. The members shall preferably **BE** composed of field officers of various government agencies, based in the locality, but not limited to the following:

X X X

q) Liga ng mga Barangay (LnB); [and]

r) Media associations [.]; **AND**

(S) NATIONAL COMMISSION ON INDIGENOUS PEOPLES (NCIP). “

SEC. 3. Section 9 of the same Act is hereby amended to read as follows:

“SEC. 9. *Areas Covered by Tree Planting.* – **THE LGU, WITH TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE FROM THE DENR, SHALL IDENTIFY SUITABLE AREAS FOR THE PLANTING OF VARIOUS SPECIES OF TREES AND PLANTS, INCLUDING BAMBOO. THE DENR SHALL ENSURE THAT NATIONAL GREENING PROGRAM SITES WITHIN THE MUNICIPALITIES AND CITIES ARE PROPAGATED AND PLANTED WITH VARIOUS SPECIES TO ENHANCE EXISTING VEGETATION.**

“The local Arbor Day Celebrations Committee shall [specify] **SELECT** the area within the **JURISDICTION OF THE LGU** to be planted or reforested **FROM AMONG THE AREAS IDENTIFIED BY THE LGU AS SUITABLE FOR THESE PURPOSES.** If the area to be planted or reforested is a protected area or a protection forest, the Committee shall encourage the use of endemic or indigenous species during the observance of the Arbor Day designated by the LGU.

X X X

X X X

(c) Public parks in urban and rural areas; [and]

(d) Private schools, parks and lands with the consent of the owner thereof [.] ;

(E) GOVERNMENT OFFICE SPACES; AND

(F) ANCESTRAL DOMAIN.”

SEC. 4. A new Section 11-A is hereby inserted after Section 11 of the same Act to read as follows:

“SEC. 11-A. ANNUAL REPORTS. – THE DILG SHALL MONITOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THIS ACT AND SUBMIT AN ANNUAL REPORT TO THE CONGRESSIONAL OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE CREATED UNDER SECTION 11-B HEREIN ON THE COMPLIANCE OF LGUs WITH THE PROVISIONS OF THIS ACT.

THE DENR SHALL ALSO SUBMIT AN ANNUAL REPORT TO THE CONGRESSIONAL OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE ON THE AREAS SUITABLE TO TREE PLANTING AND REFORESTATION IN EACH LGU.”

SEC. 5. A new Section 11-B is hereby inserted after Section 11-A of the same Act to read as follows:

“SEC. 11-B. CONGRESSIONAL OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE. – A CONGRESSIONAL OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE IS HEREBY CREATED TO MONITOR AND OVERSEE THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THIS ACT. IT SHALL BE CO-CHAIRLED BY THE CHAIRPERSONS OF THE COMMITTEE ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND THE SENATE, AND SHALL HAVE AS MEMBERS THE CHAIRPERSONS OF THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON REFORESTATION AND COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, AND THE CHAIRPERSON AND VICE-CHAIRPERSON OF THE COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT, NATURAL RESOURCES AND CLIMATE CHANGE OF THE SENATE.

THE CONGRESSIONAL OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE SHALL PRESCRIBE AND ADOPT GUIDELINES WHICH SHALL GOVERN

86 **ITS WORK. IT SHALL EXERCISE ALL THE POWERS NECESSARY**
87 **AND INCIDENTAL TO ATTAIN THE PURPOSE FOR WHICH IT IS**
88 **CREATED. IT SHALL REVIEW THE ANNUAL REPORTS OF THE**
89 **DILG AND DENR ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THIS ACT.”**
90

91 **SEC. 6.** Republic Act No. 10176 is hereby amended and all other laws,
92 presidential decrees, executive orders, department orders, memorandum circulars,
93 rules and regulations, or parts thereof which are inconsistent with this Act are hereby
94 amended, modified, or repealed accordingly.
95

96 **SEC. 7.** This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the
97 *Official Gazette* or in a newspaper of general circulation.

98 *Approved,*

House of Representatives
Committee Affairs Department

FACT SHEET

House Bill No. 10818

(In substitution of House Bills Numbered 3452 and 5421)

(Approved by the Committee on March 11, 2026)

AN ACT

PROVIDING MECHANISMS TO ENSURE THE EFFECTIVE IMPLEMENTATION OF A NATIONWIDE TREE PLANTING PROGRAM, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 10176, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE “ARBOR DAY ACT OF 2012”

Introduced by Representatives Dante S. Garcia, Kenneth Paolo Tereng, Jernie Jett V. Nisay, Noel “Bong” N. Rivera, Carmelo G. Lazatin, Jr., Jane T. Castro, Maximo B. Rodriguez, Jr., Iris Marie Demesa Montes, and Atty. Jennifer “Karen” A. Lagbas

Committee Referral: **SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON REFORESTATION**
Committee Chairperson: **REP. NOEL “BONG” N. RIVERA**

OBJECTIVES:

- To strengthen and expand the Arbor Day Act of 2012;
- To institutionalize systematic, sustainable nationwide tree planting and reforestation, foster shared State-citizen environmental responsibility;
- To rehabilitate degraded lands, improve soil fertility, reduce erosion, expand planting sites to government lands and ancestral domains; and
- To establish monitoring and oversight mechanisms to ensure compliance and long-term success of greening programs.

KEY PROVISIONS:

- Mandates all provinces, cities, municipalities, and barangays to revive annual Arbor Day celebrations;
- Allows flexible local dates (tailored to planting seasons and budgets) while encouraging provincial uniformity;
- Establishes Arbor Day Committee at provincial, city, and municipal levels (selected by local chief executives);

- Adds the National Commission on Indigenous Peoples to existing Arbor Day Committee;
- Includes eligible sites such as public schools, idle public lands, public parks, private lands (with consent), and ancestral domains;
- Includes bamboo as a plantable species; endemic or indigenous species are encouraged in protected areas or protection forests;
- Directs Local Government Units (LGUs) to identify suitable sites with Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) technical assistance, aligned with the National Greening Program;
- Mandates Department of the Interior and Local Government to monitor LGUs' compliance and submits annual reports;
- Mandates DENR to report on suitable planting/reforestation areas yearly;
- Creates a Congressional Oversight Committee to oversee implementation, co-chaired by Senate and House Committee on Local Government chairs, with members from relevant environment and natural resources committees.

RELATED LAWS:

- Presidential Decree No. 705: Revised Forestry Reform Code of the Philippines
- 1987 Philippine Constitution: Article II, Section 16
- Republic Act No. 7160: Local Government Code of 1991
- Republic Act No. 7586: National Integrated Protected Areas System (NIPAS) Act of 1992
- Republic Act No. 8371: Indigenous Peoples' Rights Act of 1997
- Republic Act No. 8749: Philippine Clean Air Act of 1999
- Republic Act No. 9729: Climate Change Act of 2009
- Republic Act No. 10176: Arbor Day Act of 2012
- Executive Order No. 26 (2011- 2016): National Greening Program (NGP)
- Executive Order No. 193 (2016-2028): Expanded National Greening Program (ENGP)

Initiatives:

- Bamboo Development Program
- Philippine Forestry Master Plan