



## HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

H. No. 4330

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BY REPRESENTATIVES VILLAFUERTE, SYJUCO, YU, SARMIENTO (C.),  
GARCIA-ALBANO, MERCADO (R.), LAPUS, GARAY, DALOG, YAP (S.),  
SAN LUIS, DUAVIT, ALVAREZ (M.), MENDOZA (R.), PALMONES,  
AQUINO, CELESTE, AUMENTADO, CALIMBAS-VILLAROSA AND TIENG,  
PER COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 713

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AN ACT REVIVING THE OBSERVANCE OF ARBOR DAY BY  
VESTING IN PROVINCIAL, CITY AND MUNICIPAL  
GOVERNMENTS THE RESPONSIBILITIES FOR CELEBRATING  
THE DAY FOR TREE PLANTING AS AN ANNUAL EVENT

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

1       SECTION 1. In order to maintain ecological balance and to encourage  
2 the beautification of communities, all provinces, cities and municipalities with  
3 their component barangays shall revive, by appropriate proclamation of their  
4 respective local chief executives, an Arbor Day at an appropriate fixed date  
5 each calendar year as deemed suitable by forestry experts based on the proper  
6 time and season for planting trees in the locality. Although adoption of  
7 uniform dates for each province and its component municipalities and cities  
8 shall be encouraged, varying dates for Arbor Day celebrations may be  
9 permitted in order to afford flexibility in planning and implementing

1 tree-planting programs based on the proper time of the year for planting tree  
2 species selected to be planted, and as local budgetary allotments shall allow.

3 SEC. 2. To implement the objectives of this Act, there shall be created  
4 in each province, city and municipality an Arbor Day Celebrations Committee,  
5 the composition of which shall be set by the local chief executive concerned.  
6 The members of the said committee shall consist of officers based in the  
7 locality, representing, but not limited to:

- 8 (a) The local sanggunian;
- 9 (b) The Department of Environment and Natural Resources Office;
- 10 (c) The Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR);
- 11 (d) The Department of Education;
- 12 (e) The Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG);
- 13 (f) The Department of Agriculture;
- 14 (g) *The Department of Agrarian Reform*;
- 15 (h) The Department of Public Works and Highways;
- 16 (i) The Department of Tourism;
- 17 (j) The Commission on Higher Education;
- 18 (k) The Philippine National Police;
- 19 (l) The Armed Forces of the Philippines;
- 20 (m) The Philippine Coconut Authority;
- 21 (n) civic organizations;
- 22 (o) youth organizations;
- 23 (p) liga ng mga barangay; and
- 24 (q) media associations.

25 SEC. 3. The local Arbor Day Celebrations Committee shall specify the  
26 area within the local government unit (LGU) to be planted or reforested. If the  
27 area to be planted or reforested is a protected area or a protection forest, the

1 Committee shall encourage the use of endemic or indigenous species during  
2 the observance of the Arbor Day designated by the LGU.

3 SEC. 4. In order to ensure the active participation of students,  
4 out-of-school youth and public and private sector employees, the Arbor Day  
5 designated each year by every LGU may be declared as a public holiday  
6 through a proclamation by the local chief executive.

7 SEC. 5. The local sanggunian shall promulgate the rules and  
8 regulations, including the allocation of resources pertinent to the  
9 implementation of this Act at their respective local government level. For  
10 information and monitoring purposes, the respective LGUs shall submit to the  
11 DILG, copy furnished the DENR, the official date of the specified Arbor Day.

12 SEC. 6. The DILG, in coordination with the DENR, shall promulgate  
13 the rules and regulations to effectively implement the provisions of this Act.

14 SEC. 7. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication  
15 in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,

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