## SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES

Third Regular Session



### SENATE S.B. NO. 2008

18 SEP 17 P4:26

Introduced by Senator Maria Lourdes Nancy S. Binay REE . . . .

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# AN ACT PROHIBITING THE DISPOSAL OF ELECTRONIC DEVICES AT SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT FACILITIES

#### **EXPLANATORY NOTE**

Article II, Section 16 of the 1987 Philippine Constitution provides:

"The State shall protect and advance the right of the people to a balanced and healthful ecology in accord with the rhythm and harmony of nature."

Article II, Section 15 of the 1987 Philippine Constitution provides:

"The State shall protect and promote the right to health of the people and instill health consciousness among them."

Electronic devices are a complex mixture of various materials which contain toxic heavy metals such as lead, mercury, cadmium and beryllium, as well as hazardous chemicals, such as brominated flame retardants. Also polluting PVC plastic is frequently used.

The health hazards of chemicals in electronics are, but not limited to, the following:

1. Damages to the central nervous system (CNS) and the brain during early

development due to mercury used in lighting devices for flat-screen

displays.

2. Bioaccumulation in the environment of cadmium used in rechargeable

computer batteries, contacts and switches and in older CRTs is highly

toxic and primarily affect the kidneys and bones.

3. Long term exposure to brominated flame retardants used in circuit boards

and plastic casings can lead to impaired learning and memory functions,

thyroid and estrogen hormone systems, and exposure in the womb has

been linked to behavioral problems.

4. Compounds of hexavalent chromium used in the production of metal

housings are highly toxic and carcinogenic to people.

Exposure to these substances are dangerous and may cause serious health risks

to people when improperly thrown out since they do not break down easily and

they build up in the environment.

The proposed bill seeks to protect the people and prevent the proliferation of this

type of waste by reducing the amount of hazardous materials being discarded in

solid waste management facilities through recycling and reusing.

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

MARIA LOURDES MANCY S. BINAY

Senator

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

Section 1. *Definition.* – As used in this Act, "Electronic Device" refers to a desktop or laptop computer, computer monitor, portable computer, cathode ray tube, flat panel based television, or cellular phones.

#### Sec. 2. Prohibitions. -

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- (A) No person shall knowingly dispose of any electronic device in mixed solid waste; and
- (B) No Solid Waste Management Facility shall knowingly accept for disposal or incineration any electronic device, or any truckload or container of solid waste which includes electronic device.

Sec. 3. *Penalty.* – Any violation of Section 2(A) of this Act shall be punished with a fine of twenty thousand pesos (P20,000.00) and imprisonment of not less than one month but not more than three months. Any violation of Section 2(B) of this Act shall be punished with a fine of fifty thousand pesos (P50,000.00) and revocation of the license of the Solid Waste Management Facility.

Sec. 4. *Separability Clause.* – If any provision of this Act is held invalid or unconstitutional, the same shall not affect the validity and effectivity of the other provisions hereof.

Sec. 5. *Repealing Clause*. – All laws, decrees, orders, and issuances, or portions thereof, which are inconsistent with the provisions of this Act, are hereby repealed, amended or modified accordingly.

Sec. 6. *Effectivity Clause*. – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the *Official Gazette* or in two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,