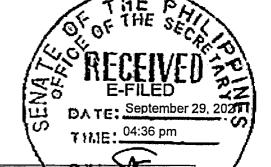
EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE)
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
Third Regular Session)



SENATE

COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 328

EILLE SIND

Submitted jointly by the Committees on Environment, Natural Resources and Climate Change; Trade, Commerce and Entrepreneurship; Ways and Means; and Finance on September 29, 2021

Re : Senate Bill No. 2425

Recommending its approval in substitution of Senate Bill Nos. 1331 and 2285, taking into consideration Senate Bill Nos. 40, 114, 156, 333, 557, 811, 880, and 954.

Sponsor : Senator Cynthia A. Villar

MR. PRESIDENT:

The Committees on Environment, Natural Resources and Climate Change; Trade, Commerce and Entrepreneurship; Ways and Means; and Finance to which were referred **Senate Bill No. 1331**, introduced by Senator Villar, entitled:

"AN ACT

INSTITUTIONALIZING THE PRACTICE OF EXTENDED PRODUCER RESPONSIBILITY IN WASTE MANAGEMENT, AMENDING FOR THIS PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9003, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE 'ECOLOGICAL SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT ACT OF 2000'"

and **Senate Bill No. 2285**, introduced by Senator Revilla Jr., entitled:

"AN ACT

INSTITUTIONALIZING THE PRACTICE OF EXTENDED PRODUCER RESPONSIBILITY IN WASTE MANAGEMENT, AMENDING FOR THIS PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9003, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE 'ECOLOGICAL SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT ACT OF 2000'"

taking into consideration **Senate Bill No. 40**, introduced by Senators Pangilinan and De Lima, entitled:

"AN ACT

REGULATING THE MANUFACTURING, IMPORTATION AND USE OF SINGLE-USE PLASTIC PRODUCTS, AND PROVIDING PENALTIES, LEVIES AND AN INCENTIVES SYSTEM FOR INDUSTRIES, BUSINESS ENTERPRISES AND CONSUMERS THEREOF"

Senate Bill No. 114, introduced by Senator Binay, entitled:

"AN ACT

REGULATING THE USE OF PLASTIC BAGS, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES"

Senate Bill No. 156, introduced by Senator Villanueva, entitled:

"AN ACT

REQUIRING THE IMPLEMENTATION BY BRAND OWNERS OF MANAGEMENT PLANS THAT PROVIDE REFUND VALUES FOR CERTAIN BEVERAGE CONTAINERS"

Senate Bill No. 333, introduced by Senator Villar, entitled:

"AN ACT

REGULATING THE MANUFACTURING, IMPORTATION, AND USE OF SINGLE-USE PLASTIC PRODUCTS, PROVIDING PENALTIES, LEVIES AND INCENTIVES FOR INDUSTRIES, BUSINESS ENTERPRISES AND CONSUMERS THEREOF, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES"

Senate Bill No. 557, introduced by Senator Pacquiao, entitled:

"AN ACT

PROHIBITING THE USE OF SINGLE-USE PLASTIC PRODUCTS IN ALL RETAIL ESTABLISHMENTS, AND PROVIDING PENALTIES FOR VIOLATIONS THEREOF"

Senate Bill No. 811, introduced by Senator Hontiveros, entitled:

"AN ACT

PROHIBITING THE USE OF PLASTIC STRAWS AND STIRRERS IN RESTAURANTS AND OTHER ESTABLISHMENTS, AND PROVIDING PENALTIES FOR VIOLATIONS THEREOF"

Senate Bill No. 880, introduced by Senator Lapid, entitled:

"AN ACT

REGULATING THE PRODUCTION, IMPORTATION, SALE, PROVISION, USE, RECOVERY, COLLECTION, RECYCLING AND DISPOSAL OF PLASTIC PRODUCTS"

and **Senate Bill No. 954**, introduced by Senator Angara, entitled:

"AN ACT

REGULATING THE USE, RECOVERY, COLLECTION, AND DISPOSAL OF PLASTIC DRINKING STRAWS IN COMMERCIAL ESTABLISHMENTS AND IN PRE-PACKED BEVERAGES"

have considered the same and have the honor to report them back to the Senate with the recommendation that the attached bill, **Senate Bill No. 2425**, prepared jointly by the Committees, entitled:

"AN ACT

INSTITUTIONALIZING THE PRACTICE OF EXTENDED PRODUCER RESPONSIBILITY ON PLASTIC PACKAGING WASTE, AMENDING FOR THIS PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9003, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE 'ECOLOGICAL SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT ACT OF 2000"

be approved in substitution of Senate Bill Nos. 1331 and 2285, taking into consideration Senate Bill Nos. 40, 114, 156, 333, 557, 811, 880, and 954, with Senators Villar, Revilla Jr., Pimentel III, Cayetano, and Angara as authors.

Respectfully submitted:

Chairpersons:

SEN. AQUILINO "KOKO" PIMENTE

III

Committee on Trade, Commerce and Enterpreneurship *Member*, Committee on Finance SEN. CYNTHIA A. VILLAR

Committee on Environment, Natural Resources and Climate Change

Vice-Chairperson, Committee on Finance *Member*, Committee on Trade, Commerce and Enterpreneurship

SEN. PIA S. CAYETANO

Committee on Ways and Means Vice-Chairperson, Committee on Environment, Natural Resources and Climate Change Vice-Chairperson, Committee on Finance SEN. SONNY ANGARA

Committee on Finance *Vice-Chairman,* Committee on Ways and Means *Member,* Committee on Trade, Commerce and Enterpreneurship

Vice-Chairpersons:

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Committee on Environment, Natural Resources and Climate Change

Member, Committee on Finance

SEN. WIN GATCHALIAN

Committee on Trade, Commerce and Enterpreneurship Committee on Finance

Member, Committee on Environment, Natural Resources and Climate Change

Member, Committee on Ways and Means

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Committee on Trade, Commerce and Enterpreneurship Committee on Finance Member, Committee on Ways and Means SEN. RONALD "BATO" DELA ROSA

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SEN. LEILA M. DE LIMA

Committee on Environment, Natural Resources and Climate Change Committee on Trade, Commerce and Enterpreneurship Committee on Ways and Means Committee on Finance

Ex Officio Members:

SEN. RALPH G. RECTO

President Pro-Tempore

Member, Committee on Environment, Natural Resources and Climate Change

SEN JUAN MIGUEL F. ZUBIRI

Majority Leader

SEN. FRANKLIN M. DRILON

Minority Leade

HON. VICENTE C. SOTTO III

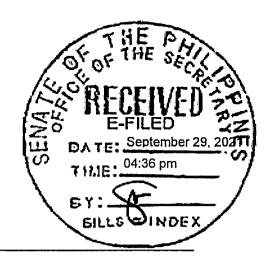
Senate President

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE)
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
Third Regular Session)

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SENATE

s. No. ____2425



Prepared jointly by the Committees on Environment, Natural Resources and Climate Change; Trade, Commerce and Entrepreneurship; Ways and Means; and Finance with Senators Villar, Revilla Jr., Pimentel III, Cayetano, and Angara as authors

AN ACT

INSTITUTIONALIZING THE PRACTICE OF EXTENDED PRODUCER RESPONSIBILITY ON PLASTIC PACKAGING WASTE, AMENDING FOR THIS PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9003, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE "ECOLOGICAL SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT ACT OF 2000"

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

1 **SECTION 1.** Short Title. – This Act shall be known as the "Extended Producer Responsibility Act of 2021". 2 3 **SEC. 2.** Section 2 of Republic Act No. 9003 is hereby amended to read as follows: 4 5 "SEC. 2. *Declaration of Policies.* – It is hereby declared the policy of the State to adopt a systematic, comprehensive and ecological solid 6 7 waste management program which shall: 8 X X X9 Institutionalize public participation in the development and (i) 10 implementation of national and local integrated, comprehensive and

ecological waste management programs; [and]

1	(j) Strengthen the integration of ecological solid waste
2	management and resource conservation and recovery topics into the
3	academic curricula of formal and non-formal education in order to
4	promote environmental awareness and action among the citizenry[.];
5	AND
6	(K) INSTITUTIONALIZE THE EXTENDED PRODUCER
7	RESPONSIBILITY (EPR) MECHANISM AS A PRACTICAL
8	APPROACH ON EFFICIENT WASTE MANAGEMENT, WASTE

REDUCTION AND DEVELOPMENT OF ENVIRONMENTALLY-FRIENDLY PACKAGING PRODUCTS."

11 SEC. 3. Section 3 of Republic Act No. 9003 is hereby amended to read as follows: 12

"SEC. 3. Definition of Terms. - For the purposes of this Act:

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"(N) EXTENDED PRODUCER RESPONSIBILITY (EPR) SHALL REFER TO THE ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY AND PRACTICE IN WHICH OBLIGED COMPANIES HAVE THE RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE PROPER AND EFFECTIVE RECOVERY, TREATMENT, RECYCLING OR DISPOSAL OF THEIR PRODUCTS AFTER THEY HAVE BEEN SOLD AND USED BY CONSUMER WITH THE **OBJECTIVES OF REDUCING PACKAGING WASTE GENERATION** AND OF IMPROVING RECYCLABILITY OR REUSABILITY OF **PACKAGING WASTES**;

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"(R) IMPORTER SHALL REFER TO A NATURAL OR JURIDICAL PERSON ENGAGED IN THE IMPORT INTO THE PHILIPPINES OF CONSUMER GOODS USING PLASTIC PACKAGING INTENDED TO BE SOLD, WHETHER IN ITS ORIGINAL PACKAGING OR TO BE REPACKED, TO THE GENERAL PUBLIC.

XXX

"(V) OBLIGED COMPANIES SHALL REFER TO COMPANIES THAT ARE REQUIRED TO TAKE PART IN AN EPR PROGRAM, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED, TO PRODUCERS, MANUFACTURERS AND IMPORTERS, AND THOSE WHO OFFER ANY PRODUCT OR GOOD FOR CONSUMPTION OR USE, WHETHER FOR SALE OR FOR FREE, OF THE GENERAL PUBLIC. OBLIGED COMPANIES SHALL NOT INCLUDE THOSE UNDER THE CATEGORY OF MICRO AND SMALL ENTERPRISES AS DEFINED UNDER REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9501 BUT SHALL INCLUDE SUPPLIERS OF BRANDED AND UNBRANDED PLASTICS AS DEFINED IN THE NEXT PARAGRAPH AND USED IN ONLINE DELIVERIES, FOOD SERVICE AS WELL AS IN MICRO AND SMALL ENTERPRISES. HOWEVER, THE MICRO AND **SMALL** ENTERPRISES ARE NOT PRECLUDED FROM PRACTICING EPR **VOLUNTARILY OR BEING A PART OF THE NETWORK OF OBLIGED**

COMPANIES OR PRODUCER RESPONSIBILITY ORGANIZATIONS PRACTICING EPR;

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"(Y) PLASTIC SHALL REFER TO A SYNTHETIC MATERIAL MADE FROM A WIDE RANGE OF ORGANIC POLYMERS SUCH AS POLYETHYLENE, THEREPRALATE, POLYPROPYLENE, POLYSTRENE, PVC, NYLON, ETC., THAT CAN BE MOLDED INTO SHAPE WHILE SOFT, AND THEN SET INTO A RIGID OR SLIGHTLY ELASTIC FORM AND UTILIZED IN A WIDE RANGE OF APPLICATIONS;

"(Z) PLASTIC NEUTRALITY SHALL REFER TO THE COLLECTION OR RECOVERY AND MANAGEMENT BY A PRODUCER OR ITS AUTHORIZED PRO OF THE SAME AMOUNT OF PLASTIC WASTES EQUAL TO THE SAME AMOUNT OF PLASTIC PACKAGING IT SELLS TO THE MARKET. FOR PURPOSES OF THIS ACT, THE PLASTIC WASTES COLLECTED BY A PRODUCER SHALL BE OF THE SAME POLYMER-TYPE AND GENERAL FORM (FLEXIBLE/RIGID) AS THOSE USED BY THE PRODUCER BUT MAY BE OF DIFFERENT BRAND;

"(AA) PLASTIC PACKAGING SHALL REFER TO THE PLASTIC
PACKAGING MATERIAL NECESSARY TO PROTECT A PRODUCT
FROM ENVIRONMENTAL FACTORS AND IS DISCARDED AFTER
ITS USE. THE POST-CONSUMER DISCARDS SHALL BE REFERRED

1	TO AS PLASTIC PACKAGING WASTES. PLASTIC PACKAGING	
2	SHALL INCLUDE, BUT NOT BE LIMITED TO, THE FOLLOWING:	
3	(1) SACHETS, LABELS, AND OTHER FLEXIBLE PLASTIC	
4	PACKAGING PRODUCTS, IN SINGLE LAYER OR MULTI-	
5	LAYER STRUCTURE;	
6	(2) RIGID PLASTIC PACKAGING PRODUCTS, WHICH	
7	INCLUDE, BUT NOT NECESSARILY LIMITED TO,	
8	CONTAINERS FOR BEVERAGES, FOOD, DETERGENTS	
9	AND OTHER CLEANING OR HOUSEHOLD PRODUCTS,	
10	COSMETICS AND OTHER PERSONAL HYGIENE	
11	PRODUCTS, PHARMACEUTICAL PRODUCTS,	
12	INCLUDING THEIR COVERINGS, CAPS, AND/OR LIDS;	
13	(C) PLASTIC BAGS, WHICH REFER TO POLYMER BAGS,	
14	SUCH AS SINGLE-USED PLASTIC BAGS, DESIGNED TO	
15	BE PROVIDED OR UTILIZED AT THE POINT OF SALE	
16	FOR CARRYING AND TRANSPORTING GOODS;	
17	(D) PLASTIC PRODUCTS USED ON ITEMS SOLD BY	
18	MANUFACTURERS IN BUSINESS-TO-BUSINESS	
19	TRANSACTIONS, OR OTHERWISE NOT INTENDED FOR	
20	SALE TO THE GENERAL PUBLIC;	
21	(E) POLYSTYRENE; AND	
22	(F) MULTI-LAYER PLASTIC PACKAGING, WHICH IS ANY	
23	MATERIAL USED OR TO BE USED FOR PACKAGING AND	

1	HAVING AT LEAST ONE LAYER OF PLASTIC AS THE
2	MAIN INGREDIENTS IN COMBINATION WITH ONE OF
3	MORE LAYERS OF MATERIALS SUCH AS PAPER, PAPER
4	BOARD, POLYMERIC MATERIALS, METALIZED LAYERS
5	OR ALUMINUM FOIL, EITHER IN THE FORM OF A
6	LAMINATE OR CO-EXTRUDED STRUCTURE;
7	"(BB) PLASTIC WASTE SHALL REFER TO PLASTIC THAT
8	MUST BE RECOVERED BY THE PRODUCER, WHETHER OR NOT
9	THE SAME ARE ENVIRONMENTALLY ACCEPTABLE OR NON-
10	ENVIRONMENTALLY ACCEPTABLE PRODUCTS AS DEFINED IN RA
11	9003.
12	xxx
13	"(EE) PRODUCER SHALL REFER TO THE FOLLOWING:
14	(1) BRAND OWNER SHALL REFER TO A PERSON
15	OR A COMPANY WHO SELLS ANY
16	COMMODITY UNDER A BRAND OR LABEL.
17	FOR IMPORTED PRODUCTS, "BRAND
18	OWNER" WILL BE DEEMED THE
19	IMPORTER/DISTRIBUTOR OF THE
20	PRODUCTS;
21	(2) MANUFACTURER SHALL REFER TO ANY
22	PERSON WHO MANUFACTURES, ASSEMBLES

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OR PROCESSES CONSUMER PRODUCTS

EXCEPT THAT IF THE 1 GOODS ARE 2 MANUFACTURED, ASSEMBLED OR 3 PROCESSED FOR ANOTHER PERSON WHO 4 ATTACHES HIS OWN BRAND NAME TO THE 5 CONSUMER PRODUCTS, THE LATTER SHALL 6 BE DEEMED THE MANUFACTURER. IN CASE 7 OF IMPORTED PRODUCTS, THE MANUFACTURER'S REPRESENTATIVE OR, IN 8 9 HIS ABSENCE, THE IMPORTER, SHALL BE

"(FF) PRODUCER RESPONSIBILITY ORGANIZATION

(PRO) SHALL REFER TO A LEGAL ENTITY THAT MAY HANDLE THE

RESOURCE RECOVERY OF PLASTIC PACKAGING WASTES ON

BEHALF OF OBLIGED COMPANIES. THE PRO MAY BE

ESTABLISHED VOLUNTARILY BY OBLIGED COMPANIES OR MAY

BE A PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATION THAT IS AUTHORIZED BY

OBLIGED COMPANIES, WHICH WILL SUPPORT THE LATTER ON

THEIR RECOVERY, TREATMENT, RECYCLING OR DISPOSAL OF

THE REQUIRED VOLUME OF PLASTIC PACKAGING WASTES THEY

PUT INTO THE MARKET FOLLOWING THE PROVISIONS UNDER

SECTION 44-G;

DEEMED THE MANUFACTURER;

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1	SEC. 4. Section 4 of Republic Act No. 9003 is hereby amended to read as
2	follows:
3	"SEC. 4. National Solid Waste Management Commission There
4	is hereby established a National Solid Waste Management Commission,
5	hereinafter referred to as the Commission, under the Office of the
6	President.
7	xxx
8	The private sector shall be represented by the following:
9	(a) [A] THREE (3) representative S from nongovernment
10	organizations (NGOs) whose principal purpose is to promote recycling
11	and the protection of air and water quality, WITH TRACK RECORD IN
12	WASTE REDUCTION MEASURES SELECTED FROM AMONG
13	THEMSELVES;
14 15	(b) A representative from the recycling industry AND/OR
16	PROS; [and]
17	(c) A representative from the OBLIGED COMPANIES
18	AMONG THE manufacturing INDUSTRY, [or] packaging [industry]
19	OR IMPORT SECTORS, SELECTED FROM AMONG THEMSELVES;
20	×××"
21	SEC. 5. Section 7 of Republic Act No. 9003 is hereby amended to read as follows:
22	"SEC. 7. The National Ecology Center. – There shall be established
23	a National Ecology Center (NEC) under the Commission which shall
24	provide consulting, information, training, and networking service for the

implementation of the provisions of this Act. AS PART OF ITS 1 2 OVERSIGHT FUNCTIONS, NSWMC SHALL HAVE DIRECT SUPERVISION TO THE NEC. 3 In this regard, it shall perform the following functions: 4 Facilitate training and education in integrated ecological solid 5 waste management; 6 7 Establish and manage a solid waste management information data base, in coordination with the DTI and other concerned agencies; 8 (1) on solid waste generation and management techniques as well 9 as the management, technical and operational approaches to resource 10 11 recovery; and (2) of processors/recyclers, the list of materials being recycled or 12 13 bought by them and their respective prices; 14 (c) Promote the development of a recycling market through the establishment of a national recycling network that will enhance the 15

opportunity to recycle;

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- (D) MAINTAIN AN EPR REGISTRY CONTAINING THE EPR PROGRAM SUBMITTED BY OBLIGED COMPANIES OR PROS WHICH IS SUBJECT TO THE APPROVAL OF THE NSWMC;
- (E) MONITOR AND EVALUATE THE COMPLIANCE OF OBLIGED COMPANIES, AS DEFINED IN THIS ACT, AND PROS WITH THEIR RESPECTIVE EPR PROGRAMS REGISTERED WITH THE NSWMC, AND INSTITUTE MEASURES TO DIGITALLY STORE,

1	ANALYZE, SET UP NOTIFICATIONS OF ANOMALIES AND UNMET
2	TARGETS AND ENSURE TRANSPARENCY OF THE DATABASE AND
3	ANALYSIS;
4	(F) WITHIN ONE YEAR AFTER THE EFFECTIVITY OF THE
5	ACT, THE NEC SHALL COME UP WITH ASSESSMENT OF VOLUMES
6	OF OTHER WASTES GENERATED TO BE PRIORITIZED FOR
7	FURTHER INCLUSION IN THE EPR SCHEME.
8	(G) RECEIVE AUDITS TO BE PRODUCED UNDER SECTION
9	9 HEREIN AND RESPOND TO COMPLAINTS BY ANY CITIZENS
10	AGAINST OBLIGED COMPANIES OR PROS OR DEMANDS ON THE
11	NEC TO FULFILL MANDATES AND IMPROVING PERFORMANCE.
12	[(d)](H) Provide or facilitate expert assistance in pilot modeling
13	of solid waste management facilities; and
14	[(e)](I) Develop, test, and disseminate model waste

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model waste minimization and reduction auditing procedures for evaluating options.

The National Ecology Center shall be headed by [the] A director, [of the Bureau in his ex-officio-capacity] WITH THE LEVEL OF DIRECTOR III, WITH ADEQUATE NUMBER OF PERSONNEL TO BE DETERMINED BY THE BUREAU. THE DIRECTOR OF THE NEC SHALL REGULARLY REPORT TO THE NSWMC IN ITS MONTHLY MEETINGS. REPORTS OF THE NEC SHALL BE CONSOLIDATED BY THE NSWMC SECRETARIAT FOR SUBMISSION TO THE NSWMC. [#] IN ORDER TO PERFORM ITS MANDATES, THE NEC

shall maintain a multi-sectoral, multi-disciplinary pool of experts including those from the academe, inventors, practicing professionals, business and industry, youth, women and other concerned sectors, who shall be screened according to qualifications set by the Commission.

SEC. 6. Chapter III of Republic Act No. 9003 is hereby amended by inserting a new article after Article 7 to read as follows:

"ARTICLE 8

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EXTENDED PRODUCER RESPONSIBILITY

"SEC. 44-A. WHO ARE COVERED BY THE EPR. - OBLIGED COMPANIES AS DEFINED UNDER SEC. 3(V) SHALL BE MANDATED TO **EXERCISE** EXTENDED **PRODUCER** RESPONSIBILITY (EPR) OVER THE PLASTIC PACKAGING WASTE USED ON THEIR PRODUCTS THAT ARE SOLD AND DISTRIBUTED WITHIN THE PHILIPPINES, WHETHER IN TRADITIONAL PHYSICAL STORES, DISTRIBUTION OUTLETS OR ONLINE PLATFORM. OBLIGED COMPANIES ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR MAKING FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTIONS TO SUPPORT THE COLLECTION, RECOVERY, TRANSPORTATION, PROCESSING, RECYCLING, AND/OR DISPOSAL OF PLASTIC PACKAGING WASTE.

"SEC. 44-B. WHAT ARTICLES ARE SUBJECT TO EPR. – THE ARTICLES COVERED BY THE EPR REFER TO THE PLASTIC PACKAGING MATERIALS OF THE GOODS PRODUCED,

IMPORTED, DISTRIBUTED OR SOLD BY OBLIGED COMPANIES
AS DEFINED UNDER SEC. 3(V). EPR SHALL NOT INCLUDE THE
PRODUCT ITSELF.

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"SEC. 44-C. EXTENDED PRODUCER RESPONSIBILITY. -OBLIGED COMPANIES, AS DEFINED UNDER SECTION 3(V), SHALL ADOPT MECHANISMS AND STRATEGIES FOR THE EFFECTIVE AND PROPER RECOVERY AND MANAGEMENT OF PLASTIC PACKAGING WASTES GENERATED AFTER THE USE OR CONSUMPTION OF THE PRODUCTS THAT HAVE BEEN PRODUCED, IMPORTED, DISTRIBUTED, RETAILED OR SOLD, AS THE CASE MAY BE, THROUGH THE INSTITUTION OF A COMPREHENSIVE EPR PROGRAM, WHICH NECESSARILY INCLUDE REUSE AND RECYCLING METHODS THAT WILL RESULT TO THE REDUCTION OF PLASTIC PACKAGING WASTES. PRODUCERS, DISTRIBUTORS AND RETAILERS PERFORMING THEIR RESPECTIVE EPR, AS DETERMINED BY THE DEPARTMENT, SHALL BE ELIGIBLE TO INCENTIVES: PROVIDED, THAT THEIR MECHANISMS AND STRATEGIES ARE SUBMITTED, THRU THE DENR, TO THE NATIONAL SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT COMMISSION. EACH **OBLIGED** COMPANY INSTITUTING AN EPR PROGRAM, MAY DO IT EITHER INDIVIDUALLY OR COLLECTIVELY THROUGH A PRODUCER RESPONSIBILITY ORGANIZATION.

i	SEC. 44-D. THE PRODUCER RESPONSIBILITY
2	ORGANIZATION (PRO) OBLIGED COMPANIES MAY
3	VOLUNTARILY ORGANIZE THEMSELVES TO FORM OR OPT TO
4	AUTHORIZE A PRODUCER RESPONSIBILITY ORGANIZATION
5	(PRO) TO COME UP WITH A VIABLE COLLECTIVE EPR
6	PROGRAM AND HAVE THE SAME IMPLEMENTED.
7	THE CONSTITUTION OR ORGANIZATIONAL DOCUMENT
8	OF PROS SHALL CONTAIN THE FOLLOWING MINIMUM
9	INFORMATION:
10	(I) ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE AND LEADERSHIP;
11	(II) MEMBERSHIP RULES AND QUALIFICATIONS;
12	(III) DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES WHICH SHALL
13	INCLUDE:
14	(A) IMPLEMENTATION PARAMETERS OF THE
15	EPR PROGRAM;
16	(B) FINANCING MECHANISMS;
17	(C) COOPERATION WITH OTHER
18	STAKEHOLDERS, SUCH AS, BUT NOT
19	NECESSARILY LIMITED TO, DISTRIBUTORS,
20	RETAILERS, GROCERY AND STORE OWNERS,
21	JUNK SHOP OPERATORS, AND INDIVIDUALS
22	IN INFORMAL SECTOR INVOLVED IN WASTE
23	MANAGEMENT;

1		(D) MEMBER LIABILITIES AND PENALITES; AND
2		(E) RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT.
3		(F) IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGIES THAT
4		REDUCE PUBLIC SPENDING.
5	SEC.	44-E. EPR PROGRAMS OBLIGED COMPANIES
6	DOING THE	IR OWN EPR OR A PRO, FOR AND ON BEHALF OF A
7	GROUP OF	OBLIGED COMPANIES, SHOULD COME UP WITH
8	THEIR RES	PECTIVE EPR PROGRAMS, WHICH SHALL INCLUDE
9	THE FOLLO	WING ELEMENTS, INFORMATION, AND FEATURES:
10	(I)	IN THE CASE OF PRO, IT SHALL INCLUDE THE LIST
11		OF OBLIGED COMPANIES THAT THE PRO
12		REPRESENTS;
13	(II)	INVOLVED PACKAGING, AND THE SPECIFIC
14		BRANDS;
15	(III)	SCOPE OF FINANCING AND CALCULATION;
16	(IV)	COLLECTION SYSTEM, COLLECTION CENTER
17		MECHANISM, AND SPECIFIC COLLECTION
18		TARGETS, WHICH INCLUDES, AT THE MINIMUM,
19		END-OF-LIFE OR RESIDUAL PLASTICS, PAYING
20		PARTICULAR ATTENTION TO COASTAL
21		COMMUNITIES AND ISLANDS;
22	(V)	SORTING, RECYCLING, AND RECOVERY TARGETS,
23		WHICH MAY BE HARMONIZED WITH THE TARGETS

1		MANDATED UNDER THIS ACT AND LINKED AND
2		INTEGRATED WITH THE TARGETS OF THE MRF AND
3		THE LGU SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN AND
4		IMPROVING AND STRENGTHENING THEM;
5	(VI)	DEPENDING ON THE RELEVANCE AND
6		APPLICABILITY TO THE BUSINESS OF THE
7		OBLIGED COMPANIES, THE FOLLOWING ARE
8		POSSIBLE EPR PROGRAMS, ACTIVITIES AND
9		STRATEGIES:
10		(1) PROGRAMS FOR THE REDESIGN OR
11		ADOPTION OF PACKAGING TO IMPROVE
12		RECYCLABILITY OR REUSABILITY OF
13		PLASTIC CONTAINERS AND OTHER PLASTIC
14		PACKAGING MATERIALS OF THEIR
15		PRODUCTS;
16		(2) PROGRAMS FOR THE WITHDRAWAL OR
17		PHASE OUT OF NON-RECYCLABLE
18		PRODUCTS AND PLASTIC PACKAGING
19		MATERIALS AND TO REPLACE THEM WITH
20		EXISTING ALTERNATIVES THAT ARE
21		ENVIRONMENTALLY SOUND AND
22		ECONOMICALLY VIABLE;

- (3) PROGRAMS FOR THE ADOPTION OF ALTERNATIVE DELIVERY SYSTEMS THAT WILL ALLOW CUSTOMERS TO PURCHASE THEIR PRODUCTS WITH THE USE OF REFILLABLE CONTAINERS OR MULTI-USE PACKS;
- (4) PROGRAMS INVOLVING THE EFFICIENT
 RETRIEVAL OF RECYCLABLE OR REUSABLE
 PLASTIC CONTAINERS AND OTHER
 PACKAGING MATERIALS OF THEIR
 PRODUCTS AND THE DESIGNATION OR
 ESTABLISHMENT OF COLLECTION AND/OR
 RECYCLING FACILITIES;
- (5) PROGRAMS, IN COLLABORATION WITH LGUS, COMMUNITIES AND THE INFORMAL WASTE SECTORS (IWS), SUCH AS WASTE PICKERS, INVOLVING THE PROPER AND EFFECTIVE SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT, INCLUDING THE PROPER SOURCE SEGREGATION, COLLECTION, RETRIEVAL, BUY BACK, RECYCLE, AND REUSE OF PLASTIC PACKAGING MATERIALS;

1 (6) SUSTAINABLE CAMPAIGNS TO ENCOURAGE
2	CONSUMERS TO AVOID USING SINGLE-USE
3	PLASTICS AND TO VOLUNTEER IN BRINGING
4	USED PLASTIC CONTAINERS AND
5	PACKAGING MATERIALS TO IDENTIFIED
6	COLLECTION AND RECYCLING FACILITIES
7	OR MATERIALS RECOVERY FACILITIES; AND
8 (7) PROPER LABELLING OR INCLUSION OF
9	INFORMATION IN THE PACKAGING OF
10	PRODUCTS REGARDING PROPER DISPOSAL
11	OF THE CONTAINERS AND PACKAGING
12	MATERIALS AND IDENTIFICATION OF
13	COLLECTION AND RECYCLING FACILITIES,
14	OR MATERIALS RECOVERY FACILITIES.
15 (VII) E	XTENSIVE AND SUSTAINABLE INFORMATION,
16 E	DUCATION, AND COMMUNICATIONS
17 S	TRATEGIES AND CAMPAIGNS;
18 (VIII)	INVOLVEMENT OF SPECIFIC LGUS AND/OR
19 N	IATIONAL LGU ORGANIZATIONS, IF APPLICABLE;
20 (IX) C	COOPERATION WITH OTHER STAKEHOLDERS,
21 S	CUCH AS, BUT NOT NECESSARILY LIMITED TO,
22 🗖	DISTRIBUTORS, RETAILERS, RESELLERS,
23	ROCERY AND STORE OWNERS, JUNK SHOP

i	OPERATORS, AND INDIVIDUALS IN INFORMAL
2	SECTOR INVOLVED IN WASTE MANAGEMENT; AND
3	(X) PLANS AND PROGRAMS THAT WOULD ENSURE THE
4	SUSTAINABILITY, ECONOMIC VIABILITY COUPLE
5	WITH CONTINUED INCREASE IN WASTE
6	DIVERSION, RECYCLING AND UPCYCLING.
7	SEC. 44-F. EPR REGISTRATION. — OBLIGED COMPANIES
8	DOING THEIR OWN EPR AND PROS, FOR AND ON BEHALF OF
9	OBLIGED COMPANIES THEY REPRESENT, ARE REQUIRED TO
10	REGISTER THEIR EPR PROGRAMS WITH THE DEPARTMENT,
11	THROUGH THE NSWMC. EACH EPR PROGRAM SUBMITTED FOR
12	REGISTRATION SHALL BE SUBJECT TO THE APPROVAL OF THE
13	NSWMC, WHICH SHALL ALSO BE REQUIRED TO MAINTAIN THE
14	EPR REGISTRY.
15	THE EPR PROGRAMS SUBMITTED BY OBLIGED
16	COMPANIES OR PROS, AS THE CASE MAY BE, SHALL INCLUDE
17	THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION, AT THE MINIMUM:
18	I. OBLIGED COMPANY OR PRO INFORMATION AND
19	CONTACT INFORMATION OF THE PERSON
20	RESPONSIBLE FOR EPR;
21	II. SPECIFIC PACKAGING MATERIALS AND BRANDS
22	COVERED UNDER THE EPR PROGRAM PER

OBLIGED COMPANY;

1	III.	WHETHER THE EPR PROGRAM IS FOR
2		IMPLEMENTATION BY AN OBLIGED COMPANY
3		INDIVIDUALLY, OR BY OBLIGED COMPANIES
4		COLLECTIVELY, THROUGH A PRO;
5	IV.	ESTIMATED AND VERIFIABLE VOLUME OF THE
6		PLASTIC PACKAGING WASTE ON BRANDS PUT
7		INTO THE MARKET WITHIN A SPECIFIED PERIOD
8		OF TIME;
9	v.	TARGETED VOLUME OF PLASTIC PACKAGING
10		WASTE FOR RECOVERY, FOR RECYCLING AND FOR
11		REUSE;
12	VI.	OTHER EPR PROGRAMS, SUCH AS REDESIGN OF
13		PLASTIC PACKAGING TO IMPROVE
14		RECYCLABILITY OR ALLOW REUSE;
15	VII.	LABELLING ON PACKAGING MATERIALS TO
16		ENCOURAGE RECYCLING, REUSE OR PROPER
17		DISPOSAL OF PACKAGING MATERIALS;
18	VIII.	STATUS OF IMPLEMENTATION OF THE EPR
19		MECHANISMS; AND
20	IX.	STATUS OF COMPLIANCE AND VIOLATIONS, IF
21		ANY.
22	FOR '	THE INITIAL COMPLIANCE WITH THE PROVISIONS
23	HNDER TH	ITS SECTION ORLIGED COMPANIES AND DROS

ACTING FOR AND ON BEHALF OF OBLIGED COMPANIES, SHALL SUBMIT THEIR RESPECTIVE EPR PROGRAM TO THE DEPARTMENT, THROUGH THE NSWMC, SIX (6) MONTHS UPON THE EFFECTIVITY OF THIS. THE NSWMC, IN TURN, IS GIVEN A PERIOD OF THREE (3) MONTHS FROM SUBMISSION TO COMPLETE THE EVALUATION, APPROVAL AND REGISTRATION OF THE EPR PROGRAM SUBMITTED.

THE DEPARTMENT, THROUGH THE ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT BUREAU, AND IN COORDINATION WITH THE NSWMC, SHALL BE MANDATED TO MONITOR AND EVALUATE THE COMPLIANCE OF OBLIGED COMPANIES AND PROS WITH THEIR RESPECTIVE EPR PROGRAMS REGISTERED WITH THE NSWMC AND THE TARGETS ON RECOVERY AND RECYCLING INDICATED UNDER THE EPR PROVISIONS OF THIS ACT. FOR THIS PURPOSE, OBLIGED COMPANIES AND PROS SHALL BE REQUIRED TO SUBMIT ANNUAL COMPLIANCE REPORTS.

SEC. 44-G. COMPLIANCE PERIOD ON RECOVERY AND RECYCLING OF PACKAGING MATERIALS BY OBLIGED COMPANIES OR PROS. — TO GIVE THE OBLIGED COMPANIES AND THE PROS SUFFICIENT PERIOD TO ADJUST TO THEIR EPR DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES AND IMPROVE THEIR PERFORMANCE OVER TIME, THE FOLLOWING TARGETS ARE HEREBY SET:

1 (1) FOR	THE LARGE ENTERPRISES:
2 (A)	WITHIN ONE (1) YEAR FROM THE INITIAL
3	APPROVAL OF EPR PROGRAM, EVERY
4	OBLIGED COMPANY, ON ITS OWN OR
5	THROUGH A PRO, SHALL RECOVER AND
6	RECYCLE NO LESS THAN TWENTY PERCENT
7	(20%) OF THE VOLUME OF THE PLASTIC
8	PACKAGING WASTE GENERATED FOR THE
9	PRODUCTS SOLD OR DISTRIBUTED FOR THE
10	IMMEDIATELY PRECEDING YEAR;
11 (B)	ON THE SECOND YEAR, THE TARGET
12	RECOVERY AND RECYCLING SHALL BE NO
13	LESS THAN FORTY PERCENT (40%) OF THE
14	ACTUAL VOLUME OF THE PLASTIC
15	PACKAGING WASTE IT HAS GENERATED FOR
16	THE PRODUCTS SOLD OR DISTRIBUTED FOR
17	THE IMMEDIATELY PRECEDING YEAR;
18 (C)	ON THE THIRD YEAR, THE TARGET
19	RECOVERY AND RECYCLING SHALL BE NO
20	LESS THAN SIXTY PERCENT (60%) OF THE
21	VOLUME OF THE PLASTIC PACKAGING
22	WASTE IT HAS GENERATED FOR THE

1	PRODUCTS SOLD OR DISTRIBUTED FOR THE
2	IMMEDIATELY PRECEDING YEAR;
3	(D) ON THE FOURTH YEAR, THE TARGET
4	RECOVERY AND RECYCLING SHALL BE NO
5	LESS THAN SEVENTY PERCENT (70%) OF
6	THE ACTUAL VOLUME OF THE PLASTIC
7	PACKAGING WASTE IT HAS GENERATED FOR
8	THE PRODUCTS SOLD OR DISTRIBUTED FOR
9	THE IMMEDIATELY PRECEDING YEAR; AND
10	(E) ON THE FIFTH YEAR AND FOR THE
11	SUCCEEDING YEARS THEREAFTER, THE
12	TARGET RECOVERY AND RECYCLING SHALL
13	BE NO LESS THAN EIGHTY PERCENT (80%)
14	OF THE ACTUAL VOLUME OF THE PLASTIC
15	PACKAGING WASTE IT HAS GENERATED FOR
16	THE PRODUCTS SOLD OR DISTRIBUTED FOR
17	THE IMMEDIATELY PRECEDING YEAR.
18	FOR THE PURPOSE OF THIS SECTION, LARGE
19	ENTERPRISES SHALL REFER TO OBLIGED COMPANIES WHOSE
20	TOTAL ASSETS ARE MORE THAN ONE HUNDRED MILLLION
21	PESOS (P 100,000,000.00) AND DO NOT FALL UNDER THE
22	CATEGORIES OF ENTERPRISES COVERED BY REPUBLIC ACT

1	NO. 9501, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE MAGNA CARTA FOR
2	MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES (MSMES)".
3	(II) FOR THE MEDIUM ENTERPRISES, AS
4	CATEGORIZED UNDER REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9501:
5	(A) WITHIN TWO (2) YEARS FROM THE INITIAL
6	APPROVAL OF EPR PROGRAM, EVERY
7	OBLIGED COMPANY, ON ITS OWN OR
8	THROUGH A PRO, SHALL RECOVER AND
9	RECYCLE NO LESS THAN TWENTY PERCENT
10	(20%) OF THE VOLUME OF THE PLASTIC
11	PACKAGING WASTE GENERATED FOR THE
12	PRODUCTS SOLD OR DISTRIBUTED FOR THE
13	IMMEDIATELY PRECEDING YEAR;
14	(B) THEREAFTER, THE TARGET RECOVERY AND
15	RECYCLING SHALL BE INCREASED
16	ANNUALLY TO NO LESS THAN FORTY
17	PERCENT (40%), SIXTY PERCENT (60%),
18	SEVENTY PERCENT (70%), AND EIGHTY
19	PERCENT (80%), RESPECTIVELY."
20	: PROVIDED, THAT MAJORITY OF THE VOLUME UNDER
21	THESE TARGETS ARE DIRECTED TOWARDS RECYCLING
22	AND UPCYCLING, AND OBLIGED COMPANIES AND PROS
23	SHALL CONSISTENTLY INCREASE THESE TARGETS TO

PREVENT MEASURES THAT STILL REQUIRE FINAL DISPOSAL, FAILURE TO TRACE OR COLLECT, OR PRODUCTION OF HARMFUL EMISSIONS.

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SEC. 44-H. AUDITS. — OBLIGED COMPANIES ARE REQUIRED TO PERFORM AUDITS ON THEIR EPR PROGRAMS AND MAY PREDEFINE THEIR AUDIT CRITERIA BY THEMSELVES, COLLECTIVELY OR BY THEIR PRO. CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANIZATIONS CONDUCTING BRAND AUDITS MAY REGISTER THEIR ACTIVITIES WITH THE NEC FOR VALIDATION AND THEIR RESULTS SHALL BE CONSIDERED BY THE LATTER IN THE PERFORMANCE OF ITS MANDATES. ADDITIONALLY, THE NEC SHALL CONTRACT AN INDEPENDENT AUDIT OF ALL EPR EVERY TWO (2) YEARS."

SEC. 7. Section 45 of Republic Act No. 9003 is hereby amended to read as follows:

"SEC. 45. Incentives. – (a) Rewards **AND RECOGNITIONS**, monetary or otherwise, shall be provided to individuals, private organizations, entities, **OBLIGED COMPANIES**, **AND PRODUCER RESPONSIBILITY ORGANIZATIONS**, including nongovernment organizations, that have undertaken outstanding and innovative projects, technologies, processes and techniques or activities in re-use, recycling and reduction. Said rewards shall be sourced from the Fund herein created.

	×х) ××	(b)	1
x x x) x x	(1)		2
a) xxx	(a)			3
(i) ×××				4
(ii) ×××				5
(iii) xxx				6
b) xxx	(b)			7
c) xxx	(c)			8
(1) ×××				9
(6) INCENTIVES OF OBLIGED				10
COMPANIES DOING EPR. –				11
(6.1) TAX AND DUTY EXEMPTION ON				12
IMPORTED CAPITAL				13
EQUIPMENT UNDER EPR. —				14
WITHIN TEN (10) YEARS UPON				15
EFFECTIVITY OF THIS ACT				16
OBLIGED COMPANIES AND				17
PROS, ACTING FOR AND ON				18
BEHALF OF OBLIGED				19
COMPANIES, SHALL ENJOY TAX				20
AND DUTY-FREE IMPORTATION				21
OF MACHINERY, EQUIPMENT				22
VEHICLES AND SPARE PARTS				23

1	USED FOR COLLECTION,
2	TRANSPORTATION,
3	SEGREGATION, RECYCLING, RE-
4	USE, COMPOSTING OF SOLID
5	WASTES, AND OTHER
6	ACTIVITIES CONSIDERED AS
7	PART OF AN EPR PROGRAM:
8	PROVIDED, THAT THE
9	IMPORTATION OF SUCH
10	MACHINERY, EQUIPMENT,
11	VEHICLE AND SPARE PARTS
12	SHALL COMPLY WITH THE
13	FOLLOWING CONDITIONS:
14	(I) THEY ARE NOT
15	MANUFACTURED
16	DOMESTICALLY IN
17	SUFFICIENT QUANTITY,
18	OF COMPARABLE QUALITY
19	AND AT REASONABLE
20	PRICES;
21	(II) THEY ARE REASONABLY
22	NEEDED AND WILL BE
23	USED ACTUALLY,

1 DIRECTLY AN	D
2 EXCLUSIVELY FOR TH	ΙE
3 ABOVEMENTIONED	
4 ACTIVITIES;	
5 (III) THE APPROVAL OF TH	ΙE
6 BOARD OF INVESTMEN	IT
7 (BOI) OF THE DTI WA	S
8 OBTAINED FOR TH	ΙE
9 IMPORTATION OF SUC	Н
10 MACHINERY, EQUIPMENT	т,
VEHICLE AND SPAR	ŁΕ
12 PARTS:	
13 PROVIDED, FURTHER, THAT TH	ΙE
14 . PRESIDENT OF TH	ΙE
15 PHILIPPINES MAY EXTEN	D
SUCH PERIOD FOR ANOTHE	R
17 FIVE (5) YEARS: PROVIDER	D,
18 FINALLY, THAT THE SALI	Ε,
19 TRANSFER OR DISPOSITION O	F
20 SUCH MACHINERY, EQUIPMEN	Г,
VEHICLE AND SPARE PARTS	s,
22 WITHOUT PRIOR APPROVAL O	F
THE DEPARTMENT OF TRAD	Έ

1	AND INDUSTRY-BOARD OF
2	INVESTMENTS (DTI-BOI),
3	WITHIN FIVE (5) YEARS FROM
4	THE DATE OF ACQUISITION
5	SHALL BE PROHIBITED,
6	OTHERWISE THE OBLIGED
7	COMPANIES AND PROS, AND
8	THE VENDEE, TRANSFEREE OR
9	ASSIGNEE SHALL BE
10	SOLIDARILY LIABLE TO PAY
11	TWICE THE AMOUNT OF TAX
12	AND DUTY EXEMPTION GIVEN
13	IT.
14	(6.2) THE EPR EXPENSES OF OBLIGED
15	COMPANIES SHALL BE
16	DEDUCTED FROM THEIR
17	ANNUAL INCOME ON THE
18	CONDITION THAT THEY HAVE
19	MET OR EXCEEDED THE
20	TARGETED VOLUME PURSUANT
21	TO SEC. 44-F (V) OF THIS ACT."
22	SEC. 8. Section 49 of Republic Act No. 9003 is hereby amended to read

23 as follows:

1	"SEC. 49. Fines and Penalties. – (a) $\times \times \times$
2	(G) FINES AND PENALTIES CONCERNING EPR
3	(1) THE OBLIGED COMPANY SHALL PAY A FINE
4	EQUIVALENT TO TWO PERCENT (2%) OF THE
5	ANNUAL GROSS TURNOVER OF THE OBLIGED
6	COMPANY FOR FAILURE TO ESTABLISH AN
7	ANNUAL EPR PROGRAM;
8	(2) FOR FAILURE TO MEET THE REQUIRED
9	TARGET OF RECOVERY AND RECYCLING IN
10	ANY YEAR, THE FINE SHALL BE TWICE THE
11	COST OF RECOVERY FOR THE SHORTFALL AS
12	DETERMINED BY THE DEPARTMENT AND
13	NSWMC.
14	(3) FOR UNDER-DECLARATION OF THE VOLUME
15	OF PACKAGING MATERIALS COVERED BY
16	THIS ACT SOLD OR DISTRIBUTED FOR
17	EVERY YEAR OR AN OVER-DECLARATION OF
18	THE VOLUME OF PLASTIC PACKAGING
19	WASTE COLLECTED BY AN OBLIGED
20	COMPANY OR BY A PRO, ACTING FOR AND
21	ON BEHALF OF AN OBLIGED COMPANY OR
22	COMPANIES, PAY A FINE CORRESPONDING
23	TO THREE PERCENT (3%) OF THE OBLIGED

1	COMPANY'S GROSS TURNOVER DURING THE
2	PERIOD OF NON-COMPLIANCE.
3	(4) FOR REPEATED FAILURE TO COMPLY, THE
4	PENALTY UNDER SECTION 49(F) HEREIN
5	SHALL APPLY."
6	SEC. 9. Mandatory Review Within five (5) years after the effectivity of this
7	Act, or as the need arises, Congress shall conduct a review of the accomplishments
8	and impact of this Act, as well as the performance and organizational structure of its
9	implementing agencies, for purposes of determining the need for remedial legislation.
10	SEC. 10. Appropriation. – The sum necessary for the effective implementation
11	of this Act shall be charged against the appropriations for the Department of
12	Environment and Natural Resources under the General Appropriations Act: Provided,
13	That obliged companies and the respective PROs shall be responsible for the funds
14	necessary to operationalize and maintain the EPR programs, in compliance with this
15	Act and its implementing rules and regulations.
16	SEC. 11. Implementing Rules and Regulations The Department of
17	Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), in consultation with relevant government
18	agencies, representatives from obliged companies, and other stakeholders shall
19	formulate the rules and regulations necessary to implement the provisions of this Act
20	within ninety (90) days from its effectivity.
21	SEC. 12. Separability Clause. – If any portion or provision of this Act is declared
22	unconstitutional or invalid, the remainder of this Act or any provisions hereof not
23	affected thereby shall continue to be in force and effect.

- SEC. 13. Repealing Clause. Any law, presidential decree or issuance,
- 2 executive order, letter of instruction, rule or regulation inconsistent or contrary to the
- 3 provisions of this Act is hereby repealed or modified accordingly.
- 4 SEC. 14. Effectivity. This Act shall take effect after fifteen (15) days following
- 5 its complete publication in the Official Gazette or a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,