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SENATE  
P.S. Res. No. 114

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**INTRODUCED BY SENATOR RISA HONTIVEROS**

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**RESOLUTION URGING THE SENATE TO SIGNIFY ITS COMMITMENT IN SUPPORT OF  
THE PROMULGATION OF A JUST TRANSITION FRAMEWORK IN ADDRESSING LABOR  
AND CLIMATE ISSUES AS ADOPTED BY VARIOUS INTER-GOVERNMENTAL AND  
INTERNATIONAL BODIES**

**WHEREAS**, the Climate Change Act of 2009 or Republic Act No. 9729 provides that "it is the policy of the State to afford full protection and the advancement of the right of the people to a healthful ecology in accord with the rhythm and harmony of nature. In this light, the State has adopted the Philippine Agenda 21 framework which espouses sustainable development, to fulfill human needs while maintaining the quality of the natural environment for current and future generations."<sup>1</sup>

**WHEREAS**, the Act furthermore requires the State to adhere to the objectives of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and "to cooperate with the global community in the resolution of climate change issues, including disaster risk reduction." The State should also encourage the involvement of "national and local governments, businesses, non-government organizations, local communities and the public to prevent and reduce the adverse impacts of climate change and, at the same time, maximize the benefits of climate change.";

**WHEREAS**, On 22 April 2015, 197 parties including the Philippines signed the Paris Agreement which deals with the commitment of signatory countries in the reduction and mitigation of greenhouse gases (GHGs) to help limit global warming to well below 2, preferably to 1.5 degrees Celsius, compared to pre-industrial levels.<sup>2</sup>

**WHEREAS**, the Green Jobs Act of 2016 or Republic Act No. 10771 aims to "to promote sustainable growth, create decent jobs and build resilience against climate change through incentives to businesses generating green jobs", with its framework adopted from the ILO Guidelines on Just Transition (2015).<sup>3</sup>

**WHEREAS**, according to a 2021 report from the UN Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), the planet will reach the vital threshold of 1.5 degrees Celsius (2.7 degrees Fahrenheit) as early as 2030 if the matter at hand continues to be overlooked;<sup>4</sup>

**WHEREAS**, the Philippine government pledged 75% GHG reduction from business-as-usual that the country pledged in its first Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) of the Paris Agreement of 2015 and the goals and spirit of the Climate Change Act of 2009, in consideration of the drastic policy transformations recommended by the IPCC, there is a need to promote a governmental framework on "Just Transition" to actively facilitate and support the transition of work to be affected by climate policies including, but not limited to, a plan for decarbonization.

**WHEREAS**, the aforementioned framework must strive for the urgent need to transition to a low-carbon and sustainable economy that maintains an equitable society, as a central principle

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.officialgazette.gov.ph/2009/10/23/republic-act-no-9729/>

<sup>2</sup> <https://unfccc.int/process-and-meetings/the-paris-agreement/the-paris-agreement>

<sup>3</sup> <https://www.officialgazette.gov.ph/2016/04/29/republic-act-no-10771/>

<sup>4</sup> [https://www.ipcc.ch/site/assets/uploads/sites/2/2019/05/SR15\\_SPM\\_version\\_report\\_LR.pdf](https://www.ipcc.ch/site/assets/uploads/sites/2/2019/05/SR15_SPM_version_report_LR.pdf)

<sup>5</sup> [https://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/@ed\\_emp/@emp\\_ent/documents/publication/wcms\\_432859.pdf](https://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/@ed_emp/@emp_ent/documents/publication/wcms_432859.pdf)

espoused as well in the International Labor Organization's (ILO) Guidelines on Just Transition launched in 2015.<sup>5</sup>

**WHEREAS**, Just Transition as a framework to be promulgated in addressing intersecting labor and climate issues, among other intersectionalities, should abide by the ILO Guidelines on Just Transition (2015) that lays down the following core guiding principles:

- (a) Strong social consensus on the goal and pathways to sustainability is fundamental. Social dialogue has to be an integral part of the institutional framework for policymaking and implementation at all levels. Adequate, informed and ongoing consultation should take place with all relevant stakeholders;
- (b) Policies must respect, promote and realize fundamental principles and rights at work;
- (c) Policies and programmes need to take into account the strong gender dimension of many environmental challenges and opportunities. Specific gender policies should be considered in order to promote equitable outcomes;
- (d) Coherent policies across the economic, environmental, social, education/training and labour portfolios need to provide an enabling environment for enterprises, workers, investors and consumers to embrace and drive the transition towards environmentally sustainable and inclusive economies and societies;
- (e) These coherent policies also need to provide a just transition framework for all to promote the creation of more decent jobs, including as appropriate: anticipating impacts on employment, adequate and sustainable social protection for job losses and displacement, skills development and social dialogue, including the effective exercise of the right to organize and bargain collectively;
- (f) There is no "one size fits all". Policies and programmes need to be designed in line with the specific conditions of countries, including their stage of development, economic sectors and types and sizes of enterprises;
- (g) In implementing sustainable development strategies, it is important to foster international cooperation among countries. In this context, we recall the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio +20), including section VI on means of implementation;<sup>6</sup>

**WHEREAS**, this Just Transition framework shall inform and illumine labor and climate issues, especially for people in our society who are most vulnerable to it -- our farmers, fisherfolks, women in rural areas, victims of disasters, urban poor, and the youth;

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Senate signify its commitment in supporting the promulgation of a Just Transition framework in addressing labor and climate issues as adopted by various inter-governmental and international bodies;

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, the Climate Change Commission is urged to convene to review and to update the public on the National Climate Change Action Plan that includes a framework on Just Transition with the Joint Congressional Oversight Committee on Climate Change monitoring the implementation of this Plan.

**Adopted,**

  
**RISA HONTIVEROS**  
*Senator*

<sup>5</sup> [https://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/@ed\\_emp/@emp\\_ent/documents/publication/wcms\\_432859.pdf](https://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/@ed_emp/@emp_ent/documents/publication/wcms_432859.pdf)

<sup>6</sup> [https://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/@ed\\_emp/@emp\\_ent/documents/publication/wcms\\_432859.pdf](https://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/@ed_emp/@emp_ent/documents/publication/wcms_432859.pdf)