


NINETEENTH CONGRESS OF THE)
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
Second Regular Session)



23 JUL 17 P2:43

SENATE
S. No. 2318

RECEIVED BY: 

Introduced by Senator MARK A. VILLAR

AN ACT
ESTABLISHING A NATIONAL YOUTH ENVIRONMENTAL ADVOCACY AND SUSTAINABILITY PROGRAM, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The Philippines, as an archipelagic nation located in a region heavily affected by climate change and environmental degradation, has been facing escalating environmental challenges. It becomes of paramount importance to empower the younger generation to actively engage in environmental advocacy and sustainable practices, as they will be most affected in the future.

This measure seeks to establish a National Youth Environmental Advocacy and Sustainability Program (NYEASP) that aims to create a platform for young Filipinos to participate in environmental conservation and sustainable development efforts. This platform will nurture the youth's interest in environmental sustainability, promote awareness about the importance of responsible natural resource management, and harness the collective power of our youth to build a more resilient nation.

The NYEASP envisions to create a nationwide network of environmentally-conscious Filipinos who are willing to take concrete actions and volunteer their time and talent for the betterment of the environment.

This bill represents an investment not only in the environment, but in the capabilities and potential of the Filipino youth. It is our hope that collectively, they will lead our nation towards a cleaner, greener, and more sustainable future for the generations to come.

In view of the foregoing, approval of this bill is earnestly sought.




MARK A. VILLAR

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

1 Section 1. *Declaration of Policy*- The State recognizes the vital role of the youth
2 in nation-building and their potential to contribute to environmental protection,
3 conservation, and sustainable development; thus, the State shall involve young
4 Filipinos in environmental issues and empower them through various modes of
5 participation in environmental advocacy and sustainable practices.

6 Sec. 2. *National Youth Environmental Advocacy and Sustainability Program* –
7 There is hereby established a National Youth Environmental Advocacy and
8 Sustainability Program (NYEASP) under the supervision of the Department of
9 Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) in collaboration with the Department of
10 Education (DepEd), the Commission on Higher Education (CHED), and the National
11 Youth Commission (NYC).

12 Sec. 3. *Program Components* – The NYEASP shall consist of the following
13 components:

14 a) Education and Training – Develop and implement comprehensive and age-
15 appropriate environmental education and training programs in primary,

1 secondary, and tertiary educational institutions, which shall include workshops,
2 seminars, webinars, and conferences on environmental advocacy and
3 sustainable practices.

4 b) Environmental Clubs – Establishment and strengthening of environmental
5 clubs in schools nationwide, promoting hands-on implementation and
6 monitoring of environmental and sustainable projects.

7 c) Youth Environmental Ambassadorship – Creation of Youth Environmental
8 Ambassadors who shall undergo specialized training and be responsible for
9 spearheading environmental campaigns in their respective schools,
10 communities, or regions.

11 d) Community Outreach Programs – Organization of community outreach
12 programs such as clean-up drives, tree planting, recycling initiatives, and other
13 environment-related projects, allowing young Filipinos to be actively involved
14 in their localities' efforts towards sustainability.

15 e) Annual National Youth Environmental Summit – Conducting an annual
16 summit where youth participants from different regions will convene,
17 participate in capacity building workshops, collaborate on joint projects, and
18 raise environmental concerns for policy action.

19 Sec. 4. Incentive and Recognition Program – The DENR, in coordination with
20 the NYC, shall establish an efficient incentive and recognition system to encourage
21 youth participation and acknowledge exceptional efforts, projects, or initiatives in
22 environmental activism and sustainable practices.

23 Sec. 5. *Funding.* - The amount necessary for the initial implementation of this
24 Act shall be charged against the current year's allocations of the DENR. Thereafter,
25 such sums as may be necessary for the continuous implementation of the NYEASP
26 shall be included in the agency's annual budget under the General Appropriations Act.

27 Sec. 6. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.* - The DENR, in consultation with
28 the other agencies involved, shall promulgate the necessary rules and regulations to
29 carry out the provisions of this Act within ninety (90) days from its effectivity.

30 Sec. 7. *Separability Clause.* – Any portion or provisions of this Act that may be
31 declared unconstitutional or invalid and shall not have the effect of nullifying other

1 portions or provisions hereof as long as such remaining portions or provisions can still
2 subsist and be given effect in their entirety.

3 *Sec. 8. Repealing Clause.* – All laws, presidential decrees, executive orders,
4 memoranda, circulars, and other issuances, or parts thereof, which are inconsistent
5 with the Act, are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

6 *Sec. 9. Effectivity Clause.* – This Act shall be take effect fifteen (15) days after
7 its publication in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,