FIFTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES First Regular Session

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S. No. 1526

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Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Article II, Section 16, of the 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"

The proximity of landfills/garbage dumps to institutions of public or private education is a vital concern to the safety and health of students. Prohibiting the issuance of permits for landfills within twenty kilometers of educational institutions allows for a safe environment essential for learning.

This bill would ensure that the experience of U.P. Los Baños as regards a neighboring dumpsite will not be replicated elsewhere. The 1-hectare open dumpsite in Los Baños is located at the buffer zone of the Mt. Makiling Forest Reserve between the Saran Creek and a private property along the Jamboree site and National Road.*

^{*} This bill was originally filed in the Fourteenth Congress, Second Regular Session

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Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

AN ACT PROHIBITING THE SITING OF LANDFILLS/GARBAGE DUMPS NEAR EDUCATIONAL FACILITIES

4 Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Philippines in Congress 5 assembled:

6 SECTION 1. *Prohibition*. No permit for a landfill/garbage dump shall be issued when 7 its premises or portion thereof is located within 20 kilometers of a public or private institution of 8 elementary, secondary, or higher education.

9 SECTION 2. *Repealing Clause.* – All laws, decrees, orders, rules and regulations or parts 10 thereof inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed, amended or modified 11 accordingly.

SECTION 3. *Effectivity Clause.* – This Act shall take effect after fifteen (15) days
following its publication in the *Official Gazette* or in two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

14 Approved,

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