

10 JUL 21 04:40

SENATE
S. No. 1779

Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The Constitution, Article 2, Section 16 mandates that 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. In Section 20 of the same article, the Constitution likewise mandates that the State recognizes the indispensable role of the private sector, encourages private enterprise and provides incentives to needed investments.

Greenhouse gases like carbon dioxide have been proven by scientists around the world to cause global warming. Despite this scientific fact, very few initiatives have been undertaken by the public and private sectors to develop and apply technologies that would reduce the emission of these substances.

This bill seeks to promote research to develop technologies applicable to various industries that would lessen their adverse effect to the environment by minimizing the emission of the greenhouse gases.¹


MIRIAM DEFENSOR SANTIAGO

¹ This bill was originally filed during the 14th Congress 1st Regular Session

SENATE
S. No. 1779

Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

1 AN ACT
2 TO FACILITATE THE DEVELOPMENT, DEMONSTRATION, AND IMPLEMENTATION
3 OF TECHNOLOGY FOR USE IN REMOVING GREENHOUSE GASES FROM THE
4 ATMOSPHERE AND CREATING A GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSION ATMOSPHERIC
5 REMOVAL COMMISSION

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

6 SECTION 1. *Short Title.* - This Act shall be known as the "Greenhouse Gas Emission
7 Atmospheric Removal Act."

8 SECTION 2. *Declaration of Policy.* - The Constitution, Article 2, Section 16 mandates
9 that the State shall protect and advance the right of the people to a balanced and healthful
10 ecology in accord with the rhythm and harmony of nature. In Article 2, Section 20, the
11 Constitution likewise mandates that the State recognizes the indispensable role of the private
12 sector, encourages private enterprise and provides incentives to needed investments. Taking into
13 account these mandates the State shall provide incentives to public and private entities who
14 develop and apply technologies to protect the environment.

15 SECTION 3. *Definition of Terms.* -For purposes of this Act, the term:

16 (A) "Commission" means the Greenhouse Gas Emission Atmospheric Removal
17 Commission established by Section 5;

18 (B) "Greenhouse gas" means--

- 19 (1) carbon dioxide;
- 20 (2) methane;
- 21 (3) nitrous oxide;
- 22 (4) sulfur hexafluoride;
- 23 (5) hydrofluorocarbon;

1 (6) perfluorocarbon; and
2 (7) any other gas that the Commission determines is necessary to achieve the
3 purposes of this Act.

4 (C) "Intellectual Property" means--

5 (1) an invention that is patentable under the Intellectual Property Code; and

6 (2) any patent on an invention described in subparagraph (1).

7 (D) "Secretary" means the Secretary of Energy.

8 SECTION 4. *Greenhouse Gas Emission Atmospheric Removal Program.* – The
9 Secretary, acting through the Commission, shall provide to public and private entities, on a
10 competitive basis, financial awards for the achievement of milestones in developing and
11 applying technology that could significantly slow or reverse the accumulation of greenhouse
12 gases in the atmosphere by permanently capturing or sequestering those gases without
13 significant countervailing harmful effects.

14 SECTION 5. *Greenhouse Gas Emission Atmospheric Removal Commission.* – There
15 shall be established a committee, within the Department of Energy a commission to be known as
16 the "Greenhouse Gas Emission Atmospheric Removal Commission".

17 SECTION 6. *Composition.* - The Commission shall be composed of eleven (11) members
18 appointed by the President, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, who shall provide
19 expertise in--

20 (A) Climate Science;

21 (B) Physics;

22 (C) Chemistry;

23 (D) Biology;

24 (E) Engineering;

25 (F) Economics;

26 (G) Business Management; and

27 (H) such other disciplines as the Commission determines to be necessary to achieve the
28 purposes of this Act.

1 The Commission shall select a Chairperson and Vice Chairperson from among the
2 members of the Commission.

3 SECTION 7. *Meetings.* - Not later than 30 days after the date on which all members of
4 the Commission have been appointed, the Commission shall hold the initial meeting of the
5 Commission.

6 The Commission shall thereafter meet at the call of the Chairperson.

7 SECTION 8. *Term.* - A member of the Commission shall serve for a term of 6 years. Any
8 vacancy in the membership of the Committee shall not affect the powers of the Commission and
9 shall be filled in the same manner as the original appointment.

10 Any member of the Committee may be removed for cause in accordance with procedures
11 established by the Committee.

12 SECTION 9. *Duties.* -The Commission shall:

13 (A) subject to Section 10, develop specific requirements for--

14 (1) the competition process;

15 (2) minimum performance standards;

16 (3) monitoring and verification procedures; and

17 (4) the scale of awards for each milestone identified under paragraph (3);

18 (B) establish minimum levels for the capture or net sequestration of greenhouse gases
19 that are required to be achieved by a public or private entity to qualify for a financial
20 award described in paragraph (C);

21 (C) in coordination with the Secretary, offer those financial awards to public and private
22 entities that demonstrate--

23 (1) a design document for a successful technology;

24 (2) a bench scale demonstration of a technology;

25 (3) technology described in subparagraph (A) that--

26 (i) is operational at demonstration scale; and

27 (ii) achieves significant greenhouse gas reductions; and

28 (4) operation of technology on a commercially viable scale that meets the
29 minimum levels described in paragraph (B); and

1 (D) submit to Congress--

2 (1) an annual report that describes the progress made by the Commission and
3 recipients of financial awards under this section in achieving the demonstration
4 goals established under paragraph (C); and

5 (2) not later than one (1) year after the date of enactment of this Act, a report that
6 describes the levels of funding that are necessary to achieve the purposes of this
7 Act.

8 SECTION 10. *Public Participation.* - In carrying out Section 9 (A), the Commission
9 shall:

10 (A) provide notice of and, for a period of at least sixty (60) days, an opportunity for
11 public comment on, any draft or proposed version of the requirements described in Section 9(A);
12 and

13 (B) take into account public comments received in developing the final version of those
14 requirements.

15 SECTION 11. *Peer Review.* - No financial award may be provided under this Act until
16 such time as the proposal for which the award is sought has been peer reviewed in accordance
17 with such standards for peer review as the Commission shall establish.

18 SECTION 12. *Intellectual Property Considerations.* - Title to any intellectual property
19 arising from a financial award provided under this Act shall vest in one (1) or more entities that
20 are incorporated in the Philippines.

21 (A) Reservation of License - The Republic of the Philippines --

22 (1) may reserve a nonexclusive, nontransferable, irrevocable, paid-up license, to
23 have practiced for or on behalf of the Republic of the Philippines, in connection
24 with any intellectual property as described in this section; but

25 (2) shall not, in the exercise of a license reserved under subparagraph (1), publicly
26 disclose proprietary information relating to the license.

27 (B) Transfer of Title - Title to any intellectual property described in this section shall not
28 be transferred or passed, except to an entity that is incorporated in the Republic of the

1 Philippines, until the expiration of the first patent obtained in connection with the
2 intellectual property.

3 SECTION 13. *Termination of Authority.* - The Commission and all authority of the
4 Commission provided under this Act terminate ten (10) years after its effectivity.

5 SECTION 14. *Appropriation.* - To carry out the provisions of this Act, such amount as
6 hereby necessary is hereby authorized to be appropriated from the National Treasury. Thereafter,
7 the amount necessary for the continuation of the program shall be included in the annual
8 appropriation of the Department of Energy.

9 SECTION 15. *Separability Clause.* - If any provision or part hereof, is held invalid or
10 unconstitutional, the remainder of the law or the provision not otherwise affected shall remain
11 valid and subsisting.

12 SECTION 16. *Repealing Clause.* - Any law, presidential decree or issuance, executive
13 order, letter of instruction, administrative order, rule or regulation contrary to or is inconsistent
14 with the provision of this Act is hereby repealed, modified, or amended accordingly.

15 SECTION 17. *Effectivity Clause.* - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its
16 publication in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

17 Approved,