

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

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

9 MAR 17 01:47

SENATE
S.B. No. 3131

RECEIVED



Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Article II, Section 16 of the Constitution states:

Sec. 16. 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.

Climate change is here and is happening. The U.N.'s Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) said that climate change is "unequivocal, is already happening, and is caused by human activity. The IPCC listed likely effects of global warming such as arid regions will grow dryer, rising seas will flood coastal areas, and melting glaciers will flood communities downstream and then dry up the source of future water supplies.

With climate change identified as the biggest threat to the world's resources, a more proactive stance must be adopted by our country in order to mitigate the likely effects of climate change.

This bill aims to facilitate the research, development, education and technology transfer activities related to water use efficiency and conservation technologies, processes and best practices. This bill gives emphasis to our water resource which is identified as one of the critical resources affected by the global warming phenomenon.


MIRIAM DEFENSOR SANTIAGO

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1 AN ACT
2 PROVIDING FOR RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, EDUCATION AND
3 TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER ACTIVITIES RELATED TO WATER USE
4 EFFICIENCY AND CONSERVATION TECHNOLOGIES AND PRACTICES

5
6 *Be it enacted by the Senate and the House of Representatives of the Philippines in*
7 *Congress assembled:*
8

9 SECTION 1. *Short Title.* – This Act shall be known as the “Water Use Efficiency
10 and Conservation Research Act of 2009.”

11 SECTION 2. *Declaration of Policy.* – It is the policy of the State to advance the
12 right of the people to a balanced and healthful ecology in accord with the rhythm and
13 harmony of nature. The State must therefore ensure the protection, conservation and
14 sustainability of our natural resources. With climate change and other human activities
15 posing a threat to our water resources, the State must adequately respond by promoting
16 water use efficiency and conservation through research, development, education and
17 technology transfers.

18 SECTION 3. *Definition of Terms.* – For purposes of this Act, the following terms
19 are defined:

20 (1) “DENR” – Department of Environment and Natural Resources

21 (2) “DOST” – Department of Science and Technology

22 (3) “Greywater – non-industrial wastewater generated from domestic processes
23 such as dish washing, laundry and bathing

24 (4) Stormwater – water from precipitation that get seeped into the ground or
25 drained into the drain system

1 SECTION 4. *Research Program.* – The Department of Science and Technology
2 (DOST), together with the Department of Environment and Natural Resources and other
3 concerned government agencies, boards and bureaus shall establish a research and
4 development program (hereinafter referred to as “Program”) that promotes water use
5 efficiency and conservation.

6 The program shall include the following areas of study:

- 7 1. Technologies and processes that enable the collection, storage, treatment
8 and reuse of rainwater, stormwater and greywater;
- 9 2. Water storage and distribution systems;
- 10 3. Behavioral, social and economic barriers to achieving greater water use
11 efficiency; and
- 12 4. Use of watershed planning directed towards water quality, conservation
13 and supply.

14 In planning and implementing the program, the agency/ies-in-charge shall
15 consider the following:

- 16 1. Research needs identified by water resource experts, local governments
17 and other interested parties;
- 18 2. Technologies and processes likely to achieve the greatest increases in
19 water use efficiency and conservation.

20 SECTION 5. *Strategic Research Plan.* - The DOST, together with DENR and
21 other concerned government agencies, boards and bureaus, shall coordinate the
22 development of a strategic research plan for the Water Use Efficiency and Conservation
23 Research and Development Program.

24 The plan shall:

1 1. Establish research goals and priorities for a water use efficiency and
2 conservation research agenda such as developing innovative water supply-
3 enhancing processes and technologies and improving existing processes
4 and technologies, including wastewater treatment, desalinization and
5 groundwater recharge and recovery schemes; and

6 2. Identify current research efforts on water use efficiency and conservation.

7 SECTION 6. *Technology Transfer.* - Technology transfer shall be facilitated
8 under the Program. The following technology transfer activities shall be specifically
9 undertaken:

10 1. Facilitate the adoption of technology and processes to promote water use
11 efficiency and conservation;

12 2. Collect and disseminate information on technologies and processes to
13 promote water use efficiency and conservation such as:

14 a. Incentives and impediments to development and
15 commercialization;

16 b. Best practices; and

17 c. Anticipated increases in water use efficiency and conservation
18 resulting from the implementation of specific technologies and
19 processes.

20 SECTION 7. *Report.* – Not later than eighteen (18) months after the date of the
21 enactment of this Act, and every two (2) years thereafter, the lead government agency
22 shall transmit to Congress a progress report on the projects and researches conducted
23 under the Program.

24

1 SECTION 8. *Appropriations.* – The amount necessary to carry out the provisions
2 of this Act, are hereby authorized to be appropriated from the National Treasury.

3 SECTION 9. *Separability Clause.* – If any provision or part hereof, is held invalid
4 or unconstitutional, the remainder of the Act or the provision not otherwise affected shall
5 remain valid and subsisting.

6 SECTION 10. *Repealing Clause.* - Any law, presidential decree or issuance,
7 executive order, letter of instruction, administrative order, rule or regulation contrary to,
8 or inconsistent with the provisions of this Act is hereby repealed, modified or amended
9 accordingly.

10 SECTION 11. *Effectivity Clause.* - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days
11 after its publication in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

12

13 Approved,

14 /ctr