

SIXTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC)
OF THE PHILIPPINES)
First Regular Session)



Senate
Office of the Secretary

'13 OCT -3 P5:33

SENATE
S. No. 1800

RECEIVED BY: *ja*

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.*

acs
Miriam Defensor Santiago
MIRIAM DEFENSOR SANTIAGO

* This bill was originally filed in the Fourteenth Congress, Second Regular Session.



'13 OCT -3 P5:33

SENATE
S. No. 1800

RECEIVED BY: *ja*

Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

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

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

5 SECTION 1. *Short Title.* – This Act shall be known as the “Water Use Efficiency and
6 Conservation Research Act.”

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

13 SECTION 3. *Definition of Terms.* – For purposes of this Act, the term—

14 (A) “DENR” refers to the Department of Environment and Natural Resources;

15 (B) “DOST” refers to the Department of Science and Technology;

16 (C) “Graywater” refers to non-industrial wastewater generated from domestic
17 processes such as dish washing, laundry, and bathing; and

18 (D) “Stormwater” refers to water from precipitation that get seeped into the ground or
19 drained into the drain system.

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

6 The program shall include the following areas of study:

7 (A) Technologies and processes that enable the collection, storage, treatment, and
8 reuse of rainwater, stormwater, and graywater;

9 (B) Water storage and distribution systems;

10 (C) Behavioral, social and economic barriers to achieving greater water use
11 efficiency; and

12 (D) Use of watershed planning directed towards water quality, conservation, and
13 supply.

14 In planning and implementing the program, the DOST and the DENR shall consider the
15 following:

16 (1) Research needs identified by water resource experts, local governments, and other
17 interested parties; and

18 (2) Technologies and processes likely to achieve the greatest increases in water use
19 efficiency and conservation.

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

24 The plan shall:

25 (A) Establish research goals and priorities for a water use efficiency and conservation
26 research agenda such as developing innovative water supply-enhancing processes and
27 technologies and improving existing processes and technologies, including wastewater treatment,
28 desalinization and groundwater recharge and recovery schemes; and

1 (B) Identify current research efforts on water use efficiency and conservation.

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

4 (A) Facilitate the adoption of technology and processes to promote water use
5 efficiency and conservation;

6 (B) Collect and disseminate information on technologies and processes to promote
7 water use efficiency and conservation such as:

8 (1) Incentives and impediments to development and commercialization;

9 (2) Best practices; and

10 (3) Anticipated increases in water use efficiency and conservation resulting
11 from the implementation of specific technologies and processes.

12 SECTION 7. *Report.* - Not later than eighteen (18) months after the date of the
13 enactment of this Act, and every two (2) years thereafter, the DOST and the DENR shall transmit
14 to Congress a progress report on the projects and researches conducted under this Act.

15 SECTION 8. *Appropriations.* - The amount necessary to carry out the provisions of this
16 Act are hereby authorized to be appropriated from the National Treasury.

17 SECTION 9. *Separability Clause.* - If any provision or part hereof is held invalid or
18 unconstitutional, the remainder of the Act or the provision not otherwise affected shall remain
19 valid and subsisting.

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

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

Approved,