

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



Senate
Office of the Secretary

14 JUN -9 P 1:54

SENATE
S. NO. **2276**

RECEIVED BY: *J.*

Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

AN ACT
MANDATING THE USE OF BIODEGRADABLE FILTERS ON CIGARETTES

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The Constitution, Article 2, Section 15 mandates:

The State shall protect and promote the right to health of the people and instill health consciousness among them.

This bill aims to mandate the use of biodegradable filters on cigarettes.¹ Cigarette filters are the most commonly discarded piece of waste worldwide. It is estimated that 1.69 billion pounds of filters wind up as toxic trash each year. Cigarette filters do not decompose and return to the soil. Consequently they produce unsightly litter as well as posing a possible threat to any water system that they may be flushed into, through plumbing or natural drainage. It is the intent of this legislation to improve the quality of life by removing the litter and reducing the danger of possible chemical reaction through the use of biodegradable filters.

Miriam Defensor Santiago
MIRIAM DEFENSOR SANTIAGO

all

¹ This bill is patterned after Senate Bill No. 3427 of the New York State Assembly.

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

1 AN ACT
2 MANDATING THE USE OF BIODEGRADABLE FILTERS ON CIGARETTES

3
4 SECTION 1. Short Title. – This act shall be known and may be cited as the
5 “Biodegradable Cigarette Filters Act of 2014.”

6 SECTION 3. Prohibition. – Within two years after the effectivity of this law, no
7 filtered cigarettes shall be sold or offered for sale unless the manufacturer has certified in
8 writing to the Department of Health that the filter is biodegradable

9 SECTION 4. Penalty. – Any person or corporation who violates any provision or
10 any rule or regulation promulgated to implement this provision shall be civilly liable for
11 penalty not to exceed two hundred fifty thousand pesos (P250,000) for each day during
12 which such violation continues. In addition, such person or corporation may be enjoined
13 from continuing such violation.

14 SECTION 6. Separability Clause. - If any provision or part hereof is held invalid
15 or unconstitutional, the remainder of the law or the provision not otherwise affected shall
16 remain valid and subsisting.

17 SECTION 7. Repealing Clause. - Any law, presidential decree or issuance,
18 executive order, letter of instruction, administrative order, rule or regulation contrary to
19 or inconsistent with, the provisions of this Act is hereby repealed, modified, or amended
20 accordingly.

1 SECTION 8. Effectivity Clause. - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after
2 its publication in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

3 Approved,

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