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HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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BY REPRESENTATIVES NOGRALES, MANALO, ABAYON, MENDOZA (R.), COSALAN, TAMBUNTING, RIVERA, ANGPING, VIOLAGO, LANETE, GUANLAO, TAN (A.), SEÑERES, DE JESUS AND KATOH, PER COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 863

AN ACT PROMOTING THE CREATION OF GREEN JOBS, GRANTING INCENTIVES AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

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

SECTION 1. Short Title. - This Act shall be known as the "Philippine
 Green Jobs Act".

3 SEC. 2. Declaration of Policy. - It is the declared policy of the State 4 to:

5 (a) Affirm labor as a primary social economic force in promoting
6 sustainable development;

7 (b) Afford full protection to labor, local and overseas, organized and 8 unorganized, and promote full and productive employment and equality of 9 employment opportunities for all; and

(c) Promote the rights of the people to a balanced and healthfulecology in accord with the rhythm and harmony of nature.

1 The State shall identify needed skills, develop training programs, and 2 train and certify workers for jobs in a range of industries that produce goods 3 and render services for the benefit of the environment, conserve natural 4 resources for the future generation, and ensure the sustainable development of 5 the country and its transition into a green economy. The State shall provide 6 incentives to recognize the participation of individuals and business enterprises 7 in jobs creation.

8 SEC. 3. Coverage. - This Act shall apply to all business enterprises
9 unless otherwise provided herein.

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SEC. 4. Definition of Terms. - As used in this Act:

(a) Business enterprises refer to establishments engaged in the
production, manufacturing, processing, repacking, assembly, or sale of goods,
and/or services including service-oriented enterprises. It shall include
self-employed or own-account workers;

(b) Climate change refers to a change in climate that can be identified
by changes in the mean or variability of its properties and that persists for an
extended period typically decades or longer, whether due to natural variability
or as a result of human activity;

19 (c) *Green jobs* refer to employment in sectors or industries that 20 contribute to preserving or restoring the quality of the environment, be it in 21 agriculture, industry or services sector. Specifically, but not exclusively, these 22 include jobs that help to protect ecosystems and biodiversity, reduce energy, 23 materials and water consumption through high efficiency strategies, 24 decarbonize the economy, and minimize or altogether avoid generation of all 25 forms of waste and pollution.

Green jobs refer to decent jobs that are productive, respect the rights of
workers, deliver fair income, provide security in the workplace and social
protection for families, and promote social dialogue;

1 refers to one which (d) Green economy is low-carbon. 2 resource-efficient, and results in the generation of green jobs and in improved 3 human well-being and social equity. while significantly reducing 4 environmental risks and ecological scarcities;

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5 (e) *Green goods and services* refer to goods and services that benefit 6 the environment or conserve natural resources, and may include research and 7 development, installation and maintenance services;

8 (f) Green technologies refer to the development and application of 9 products, equipment, and systems used to conserve the environment and 10 natural resources; and

(g) Sustainable development refers to development that meets the
needs of the present generation without compromising the ability of future
generations to meet their own needs.

14 SEC. 5. *Incentives.* — An incentive scheme is hereby created for the 15 purpose of encouraging individuals to engage in green jobs and business 16 enterprises to operate and sustain green jobs in accordance with the National 17 Green Jobs Human Resource Development Plan to be formulated by the 18 Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE) as provided under 19 Section 6(a) hereof.

Notwithstanding any law to the contrary, the Department of Finance (DOF) shall exclusively determine the fiscal incentives that can be made available for activities such as skills training and research and development (R&D) in pursuit of supporting a green economy, the development and use of green technologies and practices, and the production of green goods and provision of green services, which may include additional deduction for labor expense and duty-free importation of capital equipment.

The DOF, in coordination with the DOLE and other relevant agencies,shall prepare the necessary rules and regulations and operational standards for

the availment of the abovementioned incentives and ensure its effective
 implementation.

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SEC. 6. Role of Agencies. -

4 (a) The DOLE shall, in coordination with other government agencies, 5 formulate a national green jobs human resource plan for the development, 6 enhancement and utilization of the labor force, both in the private and public 7 sectors. The plan shall have the primary objective of enabling and sustaining 8 the transition into a green economy and the generation of green jobs towards 9 more employment and equal opportunities and the promotion of social justice 10 and workers' welfare. It shall include programs, projects, and activities 11 pertaining to basic, higher and technical/vocational education and training, 12 database that identifies and links green job opportunities with private and 13 public entities, and information on knowledge and skill requirements of a green 14 economy.

15 The DOLE, in coordination with the Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA), shall also maintain a database of green careers, professions and skills. 17 It shall facilitate skills training assessment and certification, career advocacy, 18 provide productivity and livelihood training, and extend technical assistance to 19 enterprises to ensure labor law compliance.

(b) The DOF shall administer the grant of incentives as provided under
Section 5 hereof to qualified individuals and business enterprises engaged in
registered strategic activities, and shall maintain a database on the same.

(c) The Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR)
 shall establish and maintain a climate change information management system
 and network as reference in the formulation of strategies and approaches to
 develop potential green jobs.

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(d) The Department of Education (DepED) shall implement faculty,
 facility and curriculum development for primary and secondary education in
 support of the knowledge and skills requirement of a green economy.

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4 (c) The Commission on Higher Education (CHED) shall develop and 5 implement curriculum and related standards and instructional materials in 6 support of the green economy.

7 (f) The Technical Education and Skills Development Authority 8 (TESDA) shall formulate the necessary training regulations for the 9 implementation of skills training, program registration and assessment and 10 certification in support of the requirements for skilled manpower of the green 11 economy.

(g) The National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA) shallensure the mainstreaming of the green jobs paradigm in development plans.

(h) The Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) shall develop a
special business facilitation program for individuals and business enterprises
that create green jobs.

17 (i) The Professional Regulation Commission (PRC) shall encourage
18 the development of qualifications framework that can facilitate the recognition
19 of knowledge, skills, and competencies of professionals working in the green
20 economy.

(j) Any provision in their respective charters to the contrary
 notwithstanding, government financial institutions (GFIs) shall, in consultation
 with the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas (BSP), provide preferential financial
 packages to individuals and business enterprises that create green jobs.

(k) The Climate Change Commission (CCC), in consultation with
concerned agencies such as the DENR, the DTI, the DOLE, the Department of
Agriculture (DA), the Department of Energy (DOE), the Department of the
Interior and Local Government (DILG), and the Department of Science and

Technology (DOST), shall develop and administer appropriate standards for
 the assessment and certification of green goods and services, and green
 technologies and practices for the purpose of regulating the availment of
 incentives and ensuring green jobs content.

SEC. 7. Role of the Secretary of Labor and Employment. - The
Secretary of Labor and Employment shall be included as an additional member
of the CCC constituted under Section 5 of Republic Act No. 9729, as
amended, or the "Climate Change Act of 2009".

9 SEC. 8. Appropriations. - The amount necessary to carry out the
 10 implementation of this Act shall be included in the annual General
 11 Appropriations Act.

12 SEC. 9. Implementing Rules and Regulations. - Within one hundred 13 eighty (180) days from the effectivity of this Act, the Secretary of Labor and 14 Employment, in coordination with concerned agencies as may be deemed 15 necessary, shall formulate the necessary rules and regulations to implement the 16 provisions of this Act.

SEC. 10. Separability Clause. - Should any provision of this Act be
declared unconstitutional, the remainder thereof not otherwise affected shall
remain in full force and effect.

SEC. 11. Repealing Clause. - Section 5 of Republic Act No. 9729, as amended, is deemed amended or modified by Section 7 of this Act. All other existing laws, presidential decrees, executive orders, proclamations or administrative regulations that are inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed, amended, or modified accordingly.

SEC. 12. Effectivity. - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after
 its publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.
 Approved,

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