



Senate
Office of the Secretary

**EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC
OF THE PHILIPPINES**
First Regular Session

)
)
)

20 FEB 17 P 4:11

**SENATE
S.B. NO. 1351**

RECEIVED BY

Introduced by Senator Maria Lourdes Nancy S. Binay

**AN ACT
INSTITUTIONALIZING RAINWATER HARVESTING SYSTEM IN METRO
MANILA AND MAJOR CITIES IN THE PHILIPPINES AND FOR OTHER
PURPOSES**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Rainwater is one of the oldest sources of water which can provide the needed water supply for humanity's survival. Aside from being free, the Philippines, being a tropical country, has abundant rainwater supply. In fact, rainwater harvesting can be traced back to the 9th to 10th century.

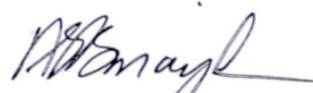
In 2012, the State of California passed the Rainwater Capture Act, authorizing residential, commercial and governmental landowners to install, maintain and operate rain barrel systems and rainwater capture systems for specified purposes, provided that the systems comply with specified requirements¹.

Persisting water shortage in the country means municipalities, businesses and private citizens alike must remain ever conscious of potable water conservation. Collecting rainwater allows for the conservation of potable water for drinking.

¹ State of California, Rainwater Capture Act of 2012

This bill seeks to institutionalize a rainwater harvesting system in the country that will supplement water supply and a contingency during water shortage or interruptions.

In view of the foregoing, the passage of this bill is earnestly requested.



MARIA LOURDES NANCY S. BINAY
Senator



Senate
Office of the Secretary

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

20 FEB 17 P4:11

SENATE
S.B. NO. 1351

RECEIVED BY:

Introduced by Senator Maria Lourdes Nancy S. Binay

AN ACT
INSTITUTIONALIZING RAINWATER HARVESTING SYSTEM IN METRO
MANILA AND MAJOR CITIES IN THE PHILIPPINES AND FOR OTHER
PURPOSES

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

1 **Section 1.** Short Title. This Act shall be known as the "Rainwater Harvesting
2 Facility Act".

3

4 **Sec. 2.** . Declaration of Policy - It is hereby declared a policy of the State to
5 maximize the use of natural resources by ensuring a mechanism that will
6 promote, regulate and sustain its utilization such as rainwater. If properly
7 managed, it can supplement the dwindling water supply and prevent flash
8 flooding.

9

10 **Sec. 3.** Definition of Terms. As used in this Act, the following terms shall mean:

11

12 a) Rainwater harvesting – refers to the accumulation and deposition of
13 rainwater for reuse on-site and water collected is redirected to a deep pit,
14 a reservoir with percolation and provides an independent water supply
15 during water restrictions and shortages or to supplement the main supply.

1 b) Rainwater harvesting system – refers to the process of collecting
2 rainwater and then storing it for domestic use such as irrigation, laundry,
3 flushing and with additional treatment as drinking water.

4
5 c) Rainwater – is liquid water in form of droplets that have condensed
6 from atmospheric water vapor and the precipitated to become heavy
7 enough to fall under gravity.

8
9 d) Rainwater catchment - is an area where rain water is collected.

10
11 **Sec. 3.** Institutionalization. A rainwater harvesting system is hereby
12 institutionalized in metro manila and major cities in the Republic of the
13 Philippines. This is to adapt and implement programs that promote sustainability
14 and maximization of natural resources and in consonance with the commitment
15 and realization by the Philippine government of the benefits of green
16 technologies.

17
18 **Sec. 4.** Installation of Rainwater Catchment. Rainwater catchment or storage
19 tanks shall be installed and constructed in all the barangays of metro manila and
20 major cities in the Republic of the Philippines through a technology that uses
21 materials that will not leach toxins into water under either normal or acid rain
22 conditions and water storage tanks that are not susceptible to contaminants.
23 While considering cost-efficiency of materials to be used, the safety of the users
24 is pivotal.

25
26 **Sec. 5.** Rainwater Treatment. To ensure the quality of rainwater for drinking
27 purposes, it shall undergo filtration and purification mechanism to make water
28 potable and safe. A rainwater treatment device shall also be installed in order for
29 rainwater to be safe for drinking.

1 **Sec. 6.** Operation and Maintenance. The operation and maintenance shall be
2 invested upon the barangay government headed by a Chairman to ensure proper
3 distribution and utilization and ensure regular cleaning and inspection of the
4 gutters and down-pipes and removal of dirt, leaves and other accumulated
5 materials. Additional care is required to avoid damage and contamination by
6 people and animals.

7

8 **Sec. 7.** Monitoring and Evaluation. The Department of Interior and Local
9 Government (DILG) shall conduct regular monitoring and evaluation on the
10 safety of the water for domestic use.

11

12 **Sec. 8.** Appropriations. The amount necessary to carry out the provisions of this
13 Act shall be included in the infrastructure projects of the concerned government
14 agency or agencies.

15

16 **Sec. 9.** Implementing Rules and Regulations. The Department of Public Works
17 and Highways and the Department of Environment and Natural Resources, in
18 consultation with the local chief executive and the legislative representative, shall
19 formulate the guidelines to fully implement the provisions of this Act.

20

21 **Sec. 10.** Separability Clause. Should any provision herein be declared
22 unconstitutional, the same shall not affect the validity of the other provisions of
23 this Act.

24

25 **Sec. 11.** Repealing Clause. This Act repeals or modifies accordingly pertinent
26 provisions of Sections 2, 3, and 4 of Republic Act No. 6959 and any law, decree,
27 order, rule, and regulation, executive order, proclamation, or other issuances or
28 parts inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or modified
29 accordingly.

30

1 **Sec. 12.** *Effectivity.* This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its
2 publication in the Official Gazette or two (2) newspaper of general circulation.

3

Approved,