

**NINETEENTH CONGRESS OF THE
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES**
Third Regular Session



24 JUN -3 A11 :19

SENATE

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S. B. NO. 2702

Introduced by **SENATOR JOEL VILLANUEVA**

**AN ACT
MANDATING GOVERNMENT AGENCIES AND LOCAL
GOVERNMENT UNITS TO ALLOCATE AT LEAST 25% OF THEIR
BUDGET FOR FURNITURE AND FIXTURES FOR PRODUCTS MADE
OF ENGINEERED BAMBOO AND OTHER BAMBOO-BASED
COMMODITIES**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Since the adoption of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in 2015 by all United Nations Member States, the Philippines, through its policies and programs, has shown its commitment to achieving the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) which are at the core of the Agenda. In 2019, after an assessment on the national preparedness for the SDGs implementation, the Subcommittee on SDGs was created under the Development Budget Coordination Committee to guide the integration of the SDGs into the Philippine Development Plan and related sectoral plans and ensure that programs connected to the goals are identified, monitored, and funded.¹

Recognizing that the State is a major consumer of goods and services and in order to contribute to the country's commitment to achieving the SDGs, this bill seeks to mandate all government agencies and local government units (LGUs) to allocate at least 25% of their annual budget for furniture and fixtures for the purchase of engineered bamboo and bamboo-based products. Bamboo, known for its strength, durability, and versatility, is an ideal choice for the production and use of sustainable products. As it plays a vital role in biodiversity conservation, climate change mitigation, improvement of livelihood, and land restoration, bamboo is also widely considered as a major contributor to global efforts to achieve the 17 SDGs, particularly Goal 1 (No Poverty), Goal 7 (Affordable and Clean Energy), Goal 11 (Sustainable Cities and

¹ NEDA. *Subcommittee on SDGS*. Available at <https://sdg.neda.gov.ph/sub-committee-on-sdgs/>.

Communities), Goal 12 (Responsible Consumption and Production), Goal 13 (Climate Action), and Goal 15 (Life on Land).²

Under this measure, the Philippine Bamboo Industry Development Council created pursuant to Executive Order No. 879, series of 2010, shall be directed to develop plans and programs to increase the production of bamboo, encourage the private sector to innovate and create products using engineered bamboo and bamboo-based products, and monitor the compliance of government agencies and LGUs with the allocation requirement.

As the 6th largest exporter of bamboo in the world, with bamboo stands covering a total area of 39,000 to 53,000 hectares,³ the Philippines has a unique opportunity to capitalize on the abundance of this sustainable resource to implement policies and programs that will not only reinvigorate the industry, but will also ultimately help towards environmental conservation and sustainable development.

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


JOEL VILLANUEVA 

² International Network for Bamboo & Rattan. *Bamboo, Rattan and the SDGs*. Available at https://www.un.org/esa/forests/wp-content/uploads/2015/11/INBAR_input_AHEG2016.pdf.

³ DOST-PCAARRD. *Bamboo Industry Profile*. Available at <https://ispweb.pcaarrd.dost.gov.ph/bamboo/>.

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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 “Bamboo Products
2 Procurement Act.”
3

4 **SEC. 2. Declaration of Policy.** – It is the policy of the State to promote
5 sustainable development, environmental conservation, and the utilization of
6 renewable resources as part of its commitment to the United Nations 2030
7 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the achievement of the 17
8 Sustainable Development Goals. Towards this end, the State shall implement
9 a procurement program geared towards responsible and sustainable
10 consumption and production. As a bulk consumer of goods and services, the
11 State shall use this power to stimulate the production of sustainable materials
12 through the products and services it utilizes.
13

14 For this purpose, the State shall ensure the integration of bamboo, a recognized
15 versatile, renewable, and resilient material, into policies and programs in order
16 to encourage its continuous development and foster sustainability,
17 environmental protection, and inclusive growth.
18

19 **SEC. 3. Allocation of Budget for Bamboo Products.** –
20

- 21 a) All agencies, departments, bureaus, offices, and instrumentalities of the
22 national government, as well as local government units (LGUs), shall

1 allocate a minimum of twenty-five percent (25%) of their annual furniture
2 and fixtures budget for the procurement of engineered bamboo and
3 bamboo-based products.

4
5 b) The allocation shall cover a wide range of engineered bamboo and
6 bamboo-based products, such as:

- 7
8 i. bamboo-based construction materials, including bamboo poles,
9 boards, and laminates;
10 ii. bamboo furniture and fixtures;
11 iii. bamboo handicrafts and artworks;
12 iv. bamboo fiber and textiles;
13 v. bamboo-based packaging and paper products; and
14 vi. bamboo charcoal and other value-added bamboo products.

15
16 **SEC. 4. Functions of the Philippine Bamboo Industry Development**
17 **Council.** – The Philippine Bamboo Industry Development Council created
18 under Executive Order No. 879, series of 2010, hereinafter referred to as the
19 Council, shall, in addition to its existing functions, undertake the following:
20

- 21 a) Implement programs to encourage and provide incentives to the private
22 sector to develop, innovate, and create products using engineered
23 bamboo and bamboo-based products;
24
25 b) Conduct annual fairs or exhibits showcasing products using engineered
26 bamboo or bamboo-based products to create a venue for manufacturers
27 of bamboo-based products to present their latest products, and designs,
28 as well as stimulate interest for such products;
29
30 c) Develop a plan and program to increase the production of bamboo and
31 provide a steady supply of raw materials for manufacturers and producers
32 of engineered bamboo and other bamboo-based products;
33
34 d) Identify government lands, including reservations of the Armed Forces of
35 the Philippines and State Universities and Colleges (SUCs) that may be
36 planted with bamboo;
37
38 e) Work with SUCs with academic programs on forestry, agriculture, and
39 other related courses to develop courses on the propagation of bamboo
40 and development of the product as a viable alternative to hard wood; and
41
42 f) Monitor the compliance of government agencies and LGUs.

43
44 **SEC. 5. Implementing Rules and Regulations.** – Within ninety (90) days from
45 the effectivity of this Act, the Council shall, in coordination with the Department
46 of Budget and Management and the Government Procurement Policy Board,
47 issue the necessary rules and regulations for the effective implementation of
48 this Act. This shall include provisions on the proper identification, sourcing, and
49 procurement of bamboo products, as well as mechanisms to monitor and
50 evaluate compliance of government agencies with the allocation requirement.

1 **SEC. 6. *Separability Clause.*** – If any provision of this Act is declared invalid
2 or unconstitutional, the remainder thereof not otherwise affected shall remain
3 in full force and effect.

4

5 **SEC. 7. *Repealing Clause.*** – All laws, presidential decrees, executive orders,
6 letters of instruction, proclamations, or administrative regulations that are
7 inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed, amended, or
8 modified accordingly.

9

10 **SEC. 8. *Effectivity.*** – This Act shall take effect after fifteen (15) days following
11 its publication in the *Official Gazette* or in a newspaper of general circulation.

12

13 Approved,