


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

7 JUN 16

SENATE
 S.B. No. 1266

RECEIVED BY: 

Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The Constitution, Article 2, Section 16 provides that:

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.

Recycling is a program which has become more and more indispensable to society as a possible solution to various environmental problems. The government itself should take the lead in recycling and other environmentally-sound practices as part of its commitment to a balanced and healthful ecology and achieving growth through sustainable development.

There are three main reasons why using recycled paper is necessary. First, producing recycled paper involves between 28 - 70% less energy consumption than virgin paper and uses less water. This is because most of the energy used in papermaking is the pulping needed to turn wood into paper. Second, recycled paper produces fewer polluting emissions to air and water. Recycled paper is not usually re-bleached and where it is, oxygen rather than chlorine is usually used. This reduces the amount of dioxins which are released into the environment as a by-product of the chlorine bleaching processes. Third, paper is a biodegradable material. This means that when it goes to landfill, as it rots, it produces methane, which is a potent greenhouse gas (20 times more potent than carbon dioxide). It is becoming increasingly accepted that global warming is a reality, and that methane and carbon dioxide emissions have to be reduced to lessen its effects.

Because of these reasons, this bill¹ makes it mandatory for all government offices to use recycled paper and other paper products.


Miriam Defensor Santiago
MIRIAM DEFENSOR SANTIAGO
Sen.

¹ This bill was originally filed by the Senator during the 13th Congress

FOURTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC)
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7 JUL 18 2012

SENATE
S.B. No. 1266

RECEIVED BY: 

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1 AN ACT
2 TO REQUIRE CONGRESS TO PURCHASE RECYCLED PAPER
3 AND PAPER PRODUCTS TO THE GREATEST EXTENT PRACTICABLE

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

6 SECTION 1. *Title.* - This Act shall be known and cited as the "Government
7 Recycling Act of 2007".

8 SECTION 2. *Requirement for Government Offices to Purchase Recycled Paper*
9 *and Paper Products.* -

10 (1) Paper Purchased by Government Offices -

11 (A) All government offices, agencies, subsidiaries, instrumentalities, and
12 government-owned and controlled corporations shall take such action as may be
13 necessary to assure that recycled paper and paper products are used to the greatest
14 extent practicable in their operations. Any decision not to use recycled paper or
15 paper products shall be based on a determination that such items are:

- 16 (i) not available; or
- 17 (ii) available only at an unreasonable price.

18 (B) In carrying out the requirement of paragraph (A), the department or
19 division of government offices, agencies, subsidiaries, instrumentalities, and
20 government-owned and controlled corporations responsible for the procurement
21 of paper and other paper products shall, at a minimum, take such action as may be
22 necessary to assure that recycled paper or paper products are purchased under

1 each contract, or subcontract under a contract, for the procurement of 10,000
2 pounds or more of paper or paper products.

3 (2) Unreasonable Price - For purposes of this Act, an unreasonable price is one
4 which exceeds by more than ten percent (10%) the price of non-recycled paper or paper
5 products.

6 SECTION 3. *Annual Reports.* - Each government office, agency, subsidiary,
7 instrumentality, and government-owned and controlled corporation shall publish a report
8 on the implementation of this Act. Each report shall include information on the progress
9 and problems associated with such implementation, and findings and recommendations
10 with respect to such implementation.

11 SECTION 4. *Separability Clause.* - If any provision or part thereof is held invalid
12 or unconstitutional, the remainder of the law or the provision not otherwise affected shall
13 remain valid and subsisting.

14 SECTION 5. *Repealing Clause.* - All laws, presidential decrees or issuances,
15 executive orders, letter of instruction, administrative orders, rules and regulations
16 contrary to, or inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed, modified,
17 or amended accordingly.

18 SECTION 6. *Effectivity Clause.* - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days
19 following its publication in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

20 Approved,