


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

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SENATE

S. No. 246

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Introduced by Senator Antonio "Sonny" F. Trillanes IV

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### EXPLANATORY NOTE

The earth's natural resources are being devoured today at a rate that highlights the idea that future generations will be paying for serious consequences. For this reason, the importance of recycling has been continuously becoming an essential matter which concerns the general public and the economy.

The ban on disposing electronic waste (e-waste) through the normal solid waste stream has resulted in illegal dumping in many countries. At present, many companies and individuals are improving their recycling habits by coming up with ways to reduce what they use. This concept of recycling is not only favorable for our surroundings but also for businesses as they secure better relations with the consumers over the matter of saving the environment.<sup>1</sup>

In this light, a comprehensive legislation that will provide the people a method on how to recycle much of what is being used, instead of turning it into unusable waste, is highly called for.

This bill aims to help recycle the people's electronic devices for free by taking a "manufacturers' responsibility" approach to recycle e-waste. Applicable only to devices sold to households, this bill requires companies that produce consumer electronics to collect and recycle the products they have sold.

In view of the foregoing, the immediate approval of this bill is earnestly recommended.

  
ANTONIO "SONNY" F. TRILLANES IV  
Senator

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<sup>1</sup> The Importance of Recycling. Data retrieved on 02 July 2008 at <http://printerinkcartridges.printcountry.com/inkjet-recycling-and-buyback-recycled-empty-cartridges-related-articles/the-importance-of-recycling-and-how-we-can-help-environment>

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AN ACT  
PROVIDING FOR THE COLLECTION, TRANSPORTATION AND RECYCLING OF  
ELECTRONIC WASTE AND CELLULAR PHONES

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

ARTICLE I

TITLE

SECTION 1. *Short Title.* This Act may be cited as the "*E-waste and Cellular Phones Recycling Act of 2010*".

SEC.2. *Definition of Terms.* – For the purpose of this Act, the following are defined as follows:

- (a) "Bureau" means the Bureau of Internal Revenue;
- (b) "Cathode-ray tube" or "CRT" means a vacuum tube or picture tube used to convert an electronic signal into a visual image;
- (c) "Collection" means the aggregation of covered electronic devices from households and includes all the activities up to the time the covered electronic devices are delivered to a recycler;
- (d) "Collector" means a public or private entity that receives covered electronic devices from households and arranges for the delivery of the devices to a recycler;

- 1 (e) "Commissioner" means the Commissioner of the Bureau of Internal Revenue;
- 2 (f) "Computer" means an electronic, magnetic, optical, electrochemical, or other high-  
3 speed data processing device performing logical, arithmetic, or storage functions, but  
4 does not include an automated typewriter or typesetter, a portable hand-held  
5 calculator or device, or other similar device;
- 6 (g) "Computer monitor" means:
- 7 (1) an electronic device that is a cathode-ray tube or flat panel display  
8 primarily intended to display information from a central processing unit or  
9 the Internet;
- 10 (2) includes a laptop computer;
- 11 (h) "Covered electronic device" means computers, peripherals, facsimile machines, DVD  
12 players, video cassette recorders, and video display devices that are sold to a  
13 household by means of retail, wholesale, or electronic commerce;
- 14 (i) "Department" means the Department of Environment and Natural Resources;
- 15 (j) "Dwelling unit" means a single unit providing complete, independent, living  
16 facilities for one or more persons, including permanent provisions for living,  
17 sleeping, eating, cooking, and sanitation;
- 18 (k) "Household" means an occupant of a single detached dwelling unit or a single unit of  
19 a multiple dwelling unit who has used video display device at a dwelling unit  
20 primarily for personal use;
- 21 (l) "Manufacturer" means a person who:
- 22 (1) manufactures video display devices to be sold under its own brand as  
23 identified by its own brand label; or
- 24 (2) sells video display devices manufactured by others under its own brand as  
25 identified by its own brand label.

- 1 (m) "Peripheral" means a keyboard, printer, or any other device sold exclusively for  
2 external use with a computer that provides input or output into or from a computer;
- 3 (n) "Program year" means the period from July 1 through June 30 of the following year;
- 4 (o) "Recycler" means a public or private individual or entity who accepts covered  
5 electronic devices from households and collectors for the purpose of recycling. A  
6 manufacturer who takes products for refurbishment or repair is not a recycler;
- 7 (p) "Recycling" means the process of collecting and preparing video display devices or  
8 covered electronic devices for use in manufacturing processes or for recovery of  
9 useable materials followed by delivery of such materials for use. Recycling does not  
10 include the destruction by incineration or other process or land disposal of recyclable  
11 materials nor reuse, repair, or any other process through which video display devices  
12 or covered electronic devices are returned to use for households in their original  
13 form;
- 14 (q) "Recycling credits" means the number of pounds of covered electronic devices  
15 recycled by a manufacturer from households during a program year, less the product  
16 of the number of pounds of video display devices sold to households during the same  
17 program year, multiplied by the proportion of sales a manufacturer is required to  
18 recycle;
- 19 (r) "Retailer" means a person who sells, rents, or leases, through sales outlets, catalogs,  
20 or the Internet, a video display device to a household and not for resale in any form;
- 21 (s) "Secretary" means the Secretary of the Department of Environment and Natural  
22 Resources;
- 23 (t) "Sell" or "sale" means any transfer for consideration of title or of the right to use, by  
24 lease or sales contract, including, but not limited to, transactions conducted through  
25 sales outlets, catalogs, or the Internet, or any other similar electronic means, by a  
26 person who conducts the transaction and controls the delivery of a video display

1 device to a consumer, but does not include a manufacturer's or distributor's wholesale  
2 transaction with a distributor or a retailer;

3 (u) "Television" means an electronic device that is a cathode-ray tube or flat panel  
4 display primarily intended to receive video programming via broadcast, cable, or  
5 satellite transmission or video from surveillance or other similar cameras;

6 (v) "Video display device" means a television or computer monitor, including a laptop  
7 computer, that contains a cathode-ray tube or a flat panel screen with a screen size  
8 that is greater than nine inches measured diagonally and that is marketed by  
9 manufacturers for use by households. Video display device does not include any of  
10 the following:

11 (1) a video display device that is part of a motor vehicle or any component part of  
12 a motor vehicle assembled by, or for, a vehicle manufacturer or franchised  
13 dealer, including replacement parts for use in a motor vehicle;

14 (2) a video display device, including a touch-screen display, that is functionally or  
15 physically part of a larger piece of equipment or is designed and intended for  
16 use in an industrial; commercial, including retail; library checkout; traffic  
17 control; kiosk; security, other than household security; border control; or  
18 medical setting, including diagnostic, monitoring, or control equipment;

19 (3) a video display device that is contained within a clothes washer, clothes dryer,  
20 refrigerator, refrigerator and freezer, microwave oven, conventional oven or  
21 range, dishwasher, room air conditioner, dehumidifier, or air purifier; or

22 (4) a telephone of any type unless it contains a video display area greater than  
23 nine inches measured diagonally.

24 (w) "Cellular telephone" means a mobile wireless telephone device that is designed to  
25 send or receive transmissions through a cellular radiotelephone service and does not

1 include a wireless telephone device that is integrated into the electrical architecture of  
2 a motor vehicle;

3 (x) "Cellular telephone service provider" means a provider of wireless voice or data retail  
4 service;

5 (y) "Retailer" means a person, firm or corporation that sells or offers to sell a cellular  
6 telephone to a consumer at retail.

7  
8 **ARTICLE II**

9 **REGISTRATION PROGRAM**

10 **SEC. 3. *Requirements for Sale.* –**

11 (a) A manufacturer must not sell or offer for sale or deliver to retailers for subsequent  
12 sale a new video display device unless:

13 (1) the video display device is labeled with the manufacturer's brand, which label  
14 is permanently affixed and readily visible; and

15 (2) the manufacturer has filed a registration with the Department.

16 (b) A retailer who sells or offers for sale a new video display device to a household  
17 must, before the initial offer for sale, review the Department Web site specified in  
18 Section 4 (g) to determine that all new video display devices that the retailer is  
19 offering for sale are labeled with the manufacturer's brands that are registered with  
20 the Department;

21 (c) A retailer is not responsible for an unlawful sale if the manufacturer's registration  
22 expired or was revoked and the retailer took possession of the video display device  
23 prior to the expiration or revocation of the manufacturer's registration and the  
24 unlawful sale occurred within six months after the expiration or revocation.

25  
26 **SEC. 4. *Manufacturer's Registration.* –**

1 (a) A manufacturer of video display devices sold or offered for sale to households must  
2 submit a registration to the Department that includes:

3 (1) a list of the manufacturer's brands of video display devices offered for sale in  
4 the country;

5 (2) the name, address, and contact information of a person responsible for  
6 ensuring compliance with this Act; and

7 (3) a certification that the manufacturer has complied and will continue to comply  
8 with the requirements of the Sections under Article II of this Act.

9 (b) Each year, a manufacturer of video display devices sold or offered for sale to a  
10 household must include in the registration submitted under paragraph (a) of this  
11 Section, a statement disclosing whether:

12 (1) any video display devices sold to households exceed the maximum  
13 concentration values established for lead, mercury, cadmium, hexavalent  
14 chromium, polybrominated biphenyls (PBBs), and polybrominated diphenyl  
15 ethers (PBDEs); or

16 (2) the manufacturer has received an exemption from one or more of those  
17 approved maximum concentration values.

18 (c) A manufacturer who begins to sell or offer for sale video display devices to  
19 households, and has not filed a registration under this Section must submit a  
20 registration to the Department within ten (10) days of beginning to sell or offer for  
21 sale video display devices to households;

22 (d) A registration must be updated within ten (10) days after a change in the  
23 manufacturer's brands of video display devices sold or offered for sale to  
24 households;

25 (e) A registration is effective upon receipt by the Department and is valid until August  
26 1 of each year;

1 (f) The Department must review each registration and notify the manufacturer of any  
2 information required by this Section that is omitted from the registration. Within  
3 thirty (30) days of receipt of a notification from the Department, the manufacturer  
4 must submit a revised registration providing the information noted by the  
5 Department;

6 (g) The Department must maintain on its Web site the names of manufacturers and the  
7 manufacturers' brands listed in registrations filed with the Department. The  
8 Department must update the Web site information promptly upon receipt of a new  
9 or updated registration. The Web site must contain prominent language stating, in  
10 effect, that all Sections in this Act are directed at household equipment and the  
11 manufacturers' brands list is, therefore, not a list of manufacturers qualified to sell  
12 to industrial, commercial, or other markets identified as exempt from the  
13 requirements of this Act.

14  
15 **SEC. 5. *Collector's Registration.*** - No person may operate as a collector of  
16 covered electronic devices from households unless that person has submitted a registration with  
17 the Department on a form prescribed by the Secretary. Registration information must include the  
18 name, address, telephone number, and location of the business and a certification that the  
19 collector has complied and will continue to comply with the requirements of Sections under  
20 Article II of this Act. A registration is effective upon receipt by the Department and is valid until  
21 July 1 of each year.

22  
23 **SEC. 6. *Recycler's Registration.*** - No person may recycle video display devices  
24 generated by households unless that person has submitted a registration with the Department on a  
25 form prescribed by the Secretary. Registration information must include the name, address,  
26 telephone number, and location of all recycling facilities under the direct control of the recycler



1 that may receive video display devices from households and a certification that the recycler has  
2 complied and will continue to comply with the requirements of Sections under Article II of this  
3 Act. A registered recycler may conduct recycling activities that are consistent with this Act. A  
4 registration is effective upon receipt by the Department and is valid until July 1 of each year.

5

6 **SEC. 7. *Manufacturer's Registration Fee.*** – Each manufacturer who registers under  
7 Article II of this Act must, each year, pay to the Commissioner of the Bureau an annual  
8 registration fee. The Commissioner of the Bureau must deposit the fee in the account established  
9 in Section 4 of this Act.

### 10 **ARTICLE III**

#### 11 **REPORTING REQUIREMENTS**

12 **SEC. 8. *Manufacturer's Reporting Requirements.*** –

13 (a) By August 1 of each year, each manufacturer must report to the Bureau:

14 (1) the total weight of each specific model of its video display devices sold to  
15 households during the previous program year;

16 (2) the total weight of its video display devices sold to households during the  
17 previous year; or

18 (3) an estimate of the total weight of its video display devices sold to households  
19 during the previous program year based on national sales data. A  
20 manufacturer must submit with the report required under this paragraph a  
21 description of how the information or estimate was calculated;

22 (b) By August 1 of each year, each manufacturer must report to the Bureau the total  
23 weight of covered electronic devices the manufacturer collected from households  
24 and recycled or arranged to have collected and recycled during the preceding  
25 program year.

1 (c) By August 1 of each year, each manufacturer must report to the Bureau:

2 (1) the number of recycling credits the manufacturer has purchased and sold  
3 during the preceding program year;

4 (2) the number of recycling credits the manufacturer retains at the beginning of  
5 the current program year.  
6

7 **SEC. 9. *Recycler's Reporting Requirements.*** – By August 1 of each year, a recycler of  
8 covered electronic devices must report to the Department and the Bureau the total weight of  
9 covered electronic devices recycled during the preceding program year and must certify that the  
10 recycler has complied with Article IV of this Act.

11 **SEC. 10. *Collector's Reporting Requirements.*** – By August 1 of each year, a collector  
12 must report to the Department the total pounds of covered electronic devices collected, and  
13 provide a list of all recyclers to whom collectors delivered covered electronic devices.  
14

## 15 ARTICLE IV

### 16 RESPONSIBILITIES

17 **SEC. 11. *Manufacturer's Responsibilities.*** –

18 (a) In addition to fulfilling the requirements of this Act, a manufacturer must comply  
19 with paragraphs (b) to (e);

20 (b) A manufacturer must annually recycle or arrange for the collection and recycling of  
21 an amount of covered electronic devices equal to the total weight of its video  
22 display devices sold to households during the preceding program year, multiplied  
23 by the proportion of sales of video display devices required to be recycled, as  
24 established by the Department under Section 14 (c) of this Act;

- 1 (c) The obligations of a manufacturer apply only to video display devices received  
2 from households and do not apply to video display devices received from sources  
3 other than households;
- 4 (d) A manufacturer must conduct and document due diligence assessments of collectors  
5 and recyclers it contracts with, including an assessment of the items. A  
6 manufacturer is responsible for maintaining, for a period of three years,  
7 documentation that all video display devices recycled, partially recycled, or sent to  
8 downstream recycling operations comply with the necessary requirements;
- 9 (e) A manufacturer must provide the Department with contact information for a person  
10 who can be contacted regarding the manufacturer's activities under this Act.

11

12 **SEC. 12. *Recycler's Responsibilities.* –**

- 13 (a) As part of the report submitted under this Act, a recycler must certify, except as  
14 provided in paragraph (b) of this Section, that facilities which recycle video display  
15 devices, including all downstream recycling operations:
- 16 (1) comply with all applicable health, environmental, safety, and financial  
17 responsibility regulations;
- 18 (2) are licensed by all applicable governmental authorities;
- 19 (3) use no prison labor to recycle video display devices; and
- 20 (4) possess liability insurance for environmental releases, accidents, and other  
21 emergencies.
- 22 (b) A nonprofit corporation that contracts with a correctional institution to refurbish  
23 and reuse donated computers in schools is exempt from paragraph (a) (3) and (4);
- 24 (c) Except to the extent otherwise required by law, a recycler has no responsibility for  
25 any data that may be contained in a covered electronic device if an information  
26 storage device is included in the covered electronic device;



1 (2) the estimated per-pound price of recycling covered electronic devices sold to  
2 households;

3 (3) the base registration fee; and the multiplier established for the weight of  
4 covered electronic devices collected.

5 If the Department determines that any of these values must be changed in  
6 order to improve the efficiency of the activities regulated under this Act, it shall  
7 present those recommendations and the reasons for them to Committees of the  
8 Congress with jurisdiction over solid waste policy.

9 (d) By January 15 each year, the Department shall calculate estimated sales of video  
10 display devices sold to households by each manufacturer during the preceding  
11 program year, based on national sales data, and forward the estimates to the Bureau;

12 (e) On or before December 1 each year, the Department shall provide a report to the  
13 legislature on the implementation of this Act. For each program year, the report must  
14 discuss the total weight of covered electronic devices recycled and a summary of  
15 information in the reports submitted by manufacturers and recyclers under Article III.

16 The report must also discuss the various collection programs used by manufacturers  
17 to collect covered electronic devices; information regarding covered electronic  
18 devices that are being collected by persons other than registered manufacturers,  
19 collectors, and recyclers; and information about covered electronic devices, if any,  
20 being disposed of in landfills in the country. The report must include a description of  
21 enforcement actions under this Act. The Department may include in its report other  
22 information received by the Department regarding the implementation of this Act;

23 (f) The Department shall promote public participation in the activities regulated under  
24 this Act through public education and outreach efforts;

- 1 (g) The Department shall enforce this Act accordingly, except for those provisions  
2 enforced by the Bureau. The Department may revoke a registration of a collector or  
3 recycler found to have violated this Act;
- 4 (h) The Department shall facilitate communication as regards the collection and recycling  
5 centers, and manufacturers to ensure that manufacturers are aware of video display  
6 devices available for recycling;
- 7 (i) The Department shall develop a form retailers must use to report information to  
8 manufacturers under Article IV and post it on the Department's Web site;
- 9 (j) The Department shall post on its Web site the contact information provided by each  
10 manufacturer under Section 11, paragraph (e) of this Act.

11 **SEC. 15. Duties of the Bureau. –**

- 12 (a) The Bureau must collect the data submitted to it annually by each manufacturer on  
13 the total weight of each specific model of video display device sold to households,  
14 if provided; the total weight of video display devices sold to households; the total  
15 weight of covered electronic devices collected from households that are recycled;  
16 and data on recycling credits, as required under Article III of this Act. The Bureau  
17 must use this data to review each manufacturer's annual registration fee submitted  
18 to the Bureau to ensure that the fee was calculated accurately according to the  
19 necessary formula.
- 20 (b) The Bureau must estimate, for each registered manufacturer, the sales of video  
21 display devices to households during the previous program year, based on the data  
22 provided by a manufacturer on sales of video display devices to households,  
23 including documentation describing how that amount was calculated and  
24 certification that the amount is accurate; or

1 (c) The Bureau must enforce Section 7 of this Act. The Commissioner may grant  
2 extensions to pay, and impose and abate penalties and interest on the fee due under  
3 Section 7 of this Act.

4 (d) The Bureau may disclose nonpublic data to the Department only when necessary  
5 for the efficient and effective administration of the activities regulated under this  
6 Act. Any data disclosed by the Bureau to the Department retains the classification it  
7 had when in the possession of the Bureau.

## 8 9 ARTICLE VI

### 10 RECYCLING OF CELLULAR PHONES

11 **SEC. 16. *Collection System.*** A retailer shall accept, at no charge, used cellular  
12 telephones from any person. A retailer required to accept used cellular telephones under this  
13 Section shall post, in a prominent location open to public view, a notice printed in boldface type  
14 and containing the following language: "We accept used cellular telephones at no charge."

15  
16 **SEC. 17. *Disposal Ban.*** – A person may not dispose off a cellular telephone in solid  
17 waste for disposal in a solid waste disposal facility.

18  
19 **SEC. 18. *Reports.*** – Every year, a cellular telephone service provider shall report to the  
20 Bureau the number of cellular telephones collected pursuant to this Section and how the  
21 collected cellular telephones were disposed of, reused or recycled. The Bureau shall report on the  
22 collection system to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over  
23 natural resources matters.

1           **SEC. 19. *Separability Clause.*** - If any part or provision of this Act is held  
2 unconstitutional or invalid, other parts or provisions hereof which are not affected thereby shall  
3 continue to be in full force and effect.

4  
5           **SEC. 20. *Effectivity.*** - This Act shall take effect after fifteen (15) days following its  
6 complete publication in at least two (2) national newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,