

Republic of the Philippines  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
Quezon City

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS  
First Regular Session

House Bill No. 2611



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Introduced by HON. MA. THERESA V. COLLANTES

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AN ACT  
MANDATING ALL NATIONAL AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT OWNED  
BUILDINGS TO INSTALL AND UTILIZE ON-GRID SOLAR ENERGY SYSTEMS,  
PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

EXPLANATORY NOTE

According to Article II, Section 16 of the 1987 Philippine Constitution states 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". It is incumbent upon the government to ensure environmental safety, its proper utilization and the future generations to be blessed with its fruits.

Solar Energy is the most abundant source of renewable energy. Considering that the Philippines is a tropical country, we must take advantage of this unlimited and free supply of renewable energy.

Presently, our country is spending for the importation of expensive fossil fuel-based products for energy and it has been said that these oil and other fossil fuel will continue to rise in the following years due to the increase in demand for fossil use.

With the advent of solar panel manufacturing in the Philippines, prices of installation of on-grid solar energy systems have significantly been reduced. The life span of solar panels is 20 to 25 years, which makes it a viable investment that not only saves on operational costs to the government but also saves our environment as well.

By utilizing on-grid solar energy systems to help power our government owned buildings, we can cut our dependence on fossil-fuel based energy thus reducing carbon-emission and pollution into our environment and effectively reduce government utility cost on electricity.

Hence, the passage of this bill is earnestly sought.

*Theresa V. Collantes*

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

SECTION 1. **Title.** - This Act shall be known as "The On-grid Solar Energy in Government Owned Buildings Act."

SEC. 2. **Declaration of Policies.** - It is hereby declared the policy of the State:

- a) To mandate the utilization of solar energy resources in government owned buildings and offices;
- b) To reduce the cost of electric usage in government owned buildings;
- c) To ensure a sustainable and environmentally sound manner of delivering services to our people;

SEC. 3. **Coverage.** - This Act shall provide a framework for the establishment of on-grid solar energy systems in all government owned buildings and offices.

SEC. 4. **Establishment of On-Grid Solar Energy Systems in National and Local Government Owned Buildings and Offices.** - All government agencies in coordination with the Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH) and the Department of Energy (DOE) shall begin the construction and installation of on-grid solar energy systems in and retrofit their respective buildings and offices with one (1) year after the effectivity of this Act;

**SEC. 5. Definition of Terms. –**

- a) Government owned buildings - All buildings wholly owned by the National Government or any Local Government Unit that is utilized for its operation.
- b) On-Grid Solar Energy System - Solar Energy Systems shall refer to energy systems which convert solar energy into thermal or electrical energy that do not require batteries for power storage.
- c) Average Monthly Utilization (AMU) – refers to the average number of kilowatt hours utilized in one month.

**SEC. 6. Policy. –** The government agencies concerned shall ensure the twenty percent (20%) of its AMU is covered by the On-Grid Solar Energy Systems to be installed within one (1) year after effectivity of this Act.

Thereafter, Forty percent (40%) of its AMU within the second year;

Sixty percent (60%) of its AMU within the third year;

Eighty percent (80%) of its AMU within the fourth year; and,

One Hundred percent (100%) of AMU on the fifth year.

**SEC. 7. Funding. –** The amount necessary for the immediate implementation of this Act shall be charged against any available funds of the government agencies covered by this Act. Thereafter, such sums as may be necessary to implement this Act shall be included in the General Appropriations Act (GAA). The installation of On-Grid Solar Energy Systems shall be performed by DOE-accredited installers in accordance with the Government Procurement Laws.

**SEC. 8. Penalty. –** Failure to abide to the provisions of this Act shall hold the Head of said Government agencies administratively liable.

**SEC. 9. Implementing Rules and Regulations. –** The Department of Energy shall provide the necessary implementing rules and regulations for the effective implementation within thirty (30) days upon the approval of this Act. Shall rules and regulations shall take effect after they have been made and shall be published in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

**SEC. 10. Separability Clause. –** Any portion or provisions of this Act that may be declared unconstitutional shall not have the effect of nullifying other portions or provisions hereof, as long as such remaining portions or provisions can still subsist and be given effect in their entirety.

SEC. 11. **Repealing Clause.** – All laws, acts, decrees, executive orders, issuances and rules and regulations or parts thereof which are contrary to and inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed, amended or modified accordingly.

SEC. 12. **Effectivity.** – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days following its publication in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation or in the Official Gazette.

Approved.