

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City, Metro Manila

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

H.R. Res. No. 261



INTRODUCED BY: OFW FAMILY Representative Alberto D. Pacquiao

A RESOLUTION
DIRECTING THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES TO ADOPT AN
INSTITUTIONAL POLICY DISALLOWING THE USE OF DISPOSABLE PLASTIC
WATER BOTTLES

WHEREAS, Section 16, Article II of the 1987 Constitution 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;”

WHEREAS, reports revealed that the Philippines is the world’s third largest source of plastic products “leaking into the ocean.”¹

WHEREAS, while water bottles are not the only source of plastic waste, they are considered as a major source of plastic exposure;

WHEREAS, campaigner Ban the Bottle reports that plastic water bottles can take between 400 to 1,000 years to decompose;

WHEREAS, it has been the practice of the Philippine House of Representatives to serve bottled waters to representatives, resource speakers and staff during official functions such as committee meetings and plenary sessions;

WHEREAS, given the customary use of plastic water bottles in the House of Representatives, there is a clear and urgent need to start reducing the use of the same in government body by prohibiting the use of disposable plastic water bottles in session halls, House of Representatives lounge and in all offices as well as during committee hearings, technical working group meetings, and other gatherings held within House of Representatives premises;

WHEREAS, this also enjoins all House of Representatives staff and employees to adhere to the policy;

¹ Philippine Star, “Philippines 3rd Largest Contributor to Ocean Plastic.” Retrieved from <https://www.philstar.com/headlines/2018/06/15/1824813/philippines-3rd-largest-contributor-ocean-plastic>

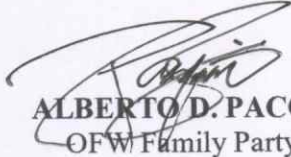
WHEREAS, this House promotes the use of eco-friendly alternatives for disposable plastic water bottles such as, but not limited to, glasses, stainless steel bottles, biodegradable water bottles;

WHEREAS, the purpose of this Resolution is to save public funds that is needlessly spent on packaged one-use water bottles which threaten the health and environment of present and future generations;

WHEREAS, this is a timely opportunity for the House of Representatives body to take an active role in advocating a policy that would decisively address this perennial global problem on plastic wastes. This is with the end view that the same policy be adopted in other government offices nationwide;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, to direct the House of Representatives of the Philippines to adopt an institutional policy disallowing the use of disposable plastic water bottles.

Adopted,


ALBERTO D. PACQUIAO
OFW Family Party-list
Representative