

FIFTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES First Regular Session

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SENATE

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P.S. Res. No. 503

INTRODUCED BY SENATOR MANNY VILLAR

RESOLUTION

URGING THE LOCAL GOVERNMENTS TO CONSIDER THE EARNEST, FULL AND MEANINGFUL IMPLEMENTATION OF THE VARIOUS ANTI-LITTERING LAWS OF THE PHILIPPINES

WHEREAS, the 1987 Constitution guarantees that the "State shall protect and advance the right of the people to a balance and healthful ecology in accord with the rhythm and harmony of nature (Section 16, Article II);

WHEREAS, the country has started to experience typhoons and rainy season this month of May 2011; thus, the local governments including Metro Manila are again confronted with the need to declog storm drains, creeks and rivers to ease flood risk;

WHEREAS, the public is also reminded of the "epic floods" of Ondoy, and other nature's wrath, and that every one must fulfill his responsibility towards the environment to keep the waterways garbage-free;

WHEREAS, as the country braces for rainy season and typhoons, the Metropolitan Manila Development Authority (MMDA) has renewed its enforcement of anti-littering laws, to wit: Republic Act No. 9003 otherwise known as "Ecological Waste Management Act of 2003" and MMDA Regulation No. 96-009, amended by MMDA Regulation Number 99-006 and approved by the MMC in 1996;

WHEREAS, Section 48, paragraph (1) of RA 2003 prohibits the 'littering, throwing, dumping of waste matters in public places, such as roads, sidewalks, canals, esteros or parks, and establishment, or causing or permitting the same;

WHEREAS, Any person who violates Sec. 48, paragraph (1) shall, upon conviction, be punished with a fine of not less than Three hundred pesos (P300.00) but not more than One thousand pesos (P1,000.00) or render community service for not less than one (1) day to not more than fifteen (15) days to an LGU where such prohibited acts are committed, or both;

WHEREAS, MMDA Regulation Number 99-006 also prohibits littering and throwing of garbage or any kind of waste in open or public places. It also requires all business establishments, public or private, to maintain the cleanliness of their frontages and immediate surroundings;

WHEREAS, under the said regulation, violators shall be penalized by administrative fine of Five Hundred Pesos (P500.00) or community service of one

WHEREAS, under the said regulation, violators shall be penalized by administrative fine of Five Hundred Pesos (P500.00) or community service of one (1) day. Failure to pay the administrative fine the violator shall be penalized, after conviction, by a fine of One Thousand Pesos (P1,000.00) or imprisonment of three (3) to seven (7) days of arresto menor or both at the discretion of the court;

WHEREAS, MMDA records showed that from January 1999 to July 2002, the agency apprehended a total of 222,956 violators, 1,583 of whom rendered community service, while 20,943 cases were filed in different metropolitan trial courts;

WHEREAS, in order to prevent the repetition of the effects of Ondoy, Pepeng and other nature's wrath, there is a need to push for full implementation of the anti-littering laws in the Philippines;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Senate of the Philippines, to urge the local governments to consider the earnest, full and meaningful implementation of the various Anti-Littering Laws of the Philippines.

Adopted,

MANNY/VILLAR