

FIFTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC
OF THE PHILIPPINES
Second Regular Session

15
12 JUN -6 25 104

SENATE

P.S. RES. NO. 802

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INTRODUCED BY SENATOR PIA S. CAYETANO

A RESOLUTION

DIRECTING THE SENATE OF THE PHILIPPINES TO ADOPT A SUSTAINABILITY MANDATE AS PART OF ITS INSTITUTIONAL EFFORT TOWARDS SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

WHEREAS, the 1987 Constitution in Article II, Section 16 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";

WHEREAS, according to The Brundtland Commission (formally known as *The World Commission on Environment and Development*) which was convened by the United Nations in 1983, a sustainable policy "meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs";

WHEREAS, in 1992, the Rio Summit laid the foundations for the global institutionalization of sustainable development when the *Rio Declaration on Environment and Development* was adopted;

WHEREAS, in Principle 8 of the said Declaration, it states that, "To achieve sustainable development and a higher quality of life for all people, States should reduce and eliminate unsustainable patterns of production and consumption and promote appropriate demographic policies."

WHEREAS, as the Senate is in the forefront of making laws and overseeing their implementation, including those affecting the environment, it is incumbent that this institution take the lead in the adoption of a sustainability mandate and move towards energy-efficient practices in its operations;

WHEREAS, the Senate shall take actions and make decisions in a socially and environmentally responsible way;

WHEREAS, the Senate shall come up with a sustainable plan which shall be updated periodically, which includes, but is not limited to:

1. On solid waste, the Senate shall adopt the no-segregation no-collection policy which requires all offices to segregate their waste at source. This is currently being enforced in the Senate;
2. On the use of paper and other exhaustible office supplies, the Senate and its offices shall minimize wasteful consumption and to the extent practicable, endeavor to get documents in soft copies to be distributed electronically during hearings, technical working groups and plenary sessions;
3. On the use of energy, the Senate and its offices shall make optimal use of electricity by switching to energy efficient appliances and machines;

4. On transportation, the Senate and its offices shall promote alternatives to motorized transport, encourage carpooling, the use of the shuttle service and motor pool as well as prohibit unnecessary idling of vehicles in the premises;
5. On food and beverage consumption, the Senate and its offices shall use reusable wares and/or environmentally-acceptable packaging to minimize plastic waste;
6. On buildings and facilities, the Senate and its offices shall explore ways to make existing structures more environmentally-friendly such as the establishment of pocket gardens, green roofs, etc.

WHEREAS, the Senate shall actively pursue new sustainable initiatives, taking advantage of innovative technology, to set an example to both the private and public sectors.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, that the Senate of the Philippines is directed to adopt a sustainability mandate as part of its institutional effort towards social responsibility.

Adopted,


PIA S. CAYETANO
Senate