

Republic of the Philippines  
**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**  
Quezon City

TWENTIETH CONGRESS

First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 3942



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Introduced by the **Honorable ANIELA BIANCA D. TOLENTINO**

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### **EXPLANATORY NOTE**

Section 16, Article II of our Constitution declares it as a policy of the country 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." While in the landmark case of *Oposa v. Factoran* (G.R. No. 101083, July 30, 1993) the Supreme Court stated that: "The right to a balanced and healthful ecology carries with it the correlative duty to refrain from impairing the environment."

These concepts carried in our fundamental law and concreted in our jurisprudence support legislation for the use of renewable sources of energy and that the government should be at the forefront of the effort to utilize more sustainable power resources. In this regard, it is just proper to require all government offices, infrastructures, buildings and activities to make use of solar power as its source of electricity.

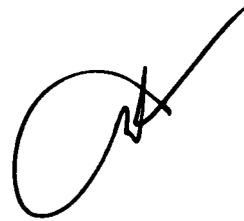
It is of public knowledge that solar energy is a renewable source of energy and its use is much more compliant to the balanced and healthful ecology clause in our Constitution. Studies have shown that the use of solar energy for electricity is more environment-friendly. As such, the bill proposed herein or the Solar Energy in Government Infrastructures and Offices Act or the "SEGIO Law" will be the trigger in the efforts of the country to further preserve the environment.

Further, the Department of Energy will be the lead agency in the implementation of the SEGIO Law as it is the office with primary jurisdiction over matters concerning energy. This representation believes that the task establishing

solar energy resources in all government facilities will be more laser-focused if the DOE will take lead.

The task of preserving and taking care of the environment is an obligation of all Filipinos as what the Supreme Court highlighted in *Oposa v. Factoran*, to wit: "Needless to say, every generation has a responsibility to the next to preserve that rhythm and harmony for the full enjoyment of a balanced and healthful ecology."

For the Filipino people, approval of the foregoing bill is earnestly being sought.

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a large, stylized loop followed by a series of smaller, connected strokes that end in a sharp upward-pointing tail.

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**AN ACT PROMOTING AND MANDATING THE USE SOLAR ENERGY IN ALL  
GOVERNMENT INFRASTRUCTURE, BUILDING, AND OFFICES IN THE  
PHILIPPINES AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR,  
AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

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

**SECTION 1. *Short Title.*** – This act shall be known as the *Solar Energy in  
Government Infrastructures and Offices Act* or the “*SEGIO Law.*”

**SECTION 2. *Declaration of Policy.*** – It is hereby declared a policy of the State to  
establish infrastructure and systems to ensure the efficient and sustainable source of  
energy from solar power systems. The State hereby mandates the development and  
use of solar energy in all government offices, buildings, infrastructures, and activities.

**SECTION 3. *General Principles.*** – For purposes of implementing and executing  
the provisions of this Act, the following principles must be upheld:

- a) As far as practicable, immediately establish and construct solar energy systems  
in all government offices, buildings, infrastructures, and offices.
- b) As far as practicable, require all government offices, agencies and  
instrumentalities to source its electricity from sources which derive power from  
solar energy.

- c) Within the first three (3) years from the approval of this Act, at least twenty percent (20%) of the energy source of government offices, buildings, and infrastructures must be from solar power.
- d) After five (5) years from the approval of this Act, at least fifty percent (50%) of the energy source of government offices, buildings, and infrastructures must be from solar power.
- e) Health and defense offices, buildings, and infrastructures

**SECTION 4. *Lead Agency.*** – The Department of Energy (DOE) shall be the lead government office which will implement this Act. The DOE shall ensure that all government offices, buildings, infrastructures, and activities must use solar energy as electricity source.

**SECTION 5. *Appropriations.*** An initial amount of Two Billion Pesos (P2,000,000,000.00) shall be appropriated for the implementation of this Act. Thereafter, such amounts necessary for the completion and implementation of this Act shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

**SECTION 6. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.*** – Within thirty (30) days from the approval of this Act, the Department of Energy, in coordination with the Office of the President, Department of Environment and Natural Resources, Department of Science and Technology, and the Department of Interior and Local Government shall issue the implementing rules and regulations necessary for the implementation of this Act.

**SECTION 7. *Separability Clause.*** – Should any provision herein be declared unconstitutional, the same shall not affect the validity of the other provisions of this Act.

**SECTION 8. *Repealing Clause.*** – All laws, executive orders, presidential decrees, rules and regulation or part thereof inconsistent with any provisions of this Act are hereby repealed, amended, or modified accordingly.

**SECTION 9. *Effectivity.*** This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

*Approved,*