

TWENTIETH CONGRESS OF THE )  
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES )  
First Regular Session )



**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

**House Bill No. 4138**

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**Introduced by REPRESENTATIVES LANI MERCADO-REVILLA,  
BRYAN B. REVILLA AND RAMON JOLO REVILLA III**

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**AN ACT  
PROMOTING THE DEVELOPMENT AND UTILIZATION OF SOLAR ENERGY IN  
ALL GOVERNMENT BUILDINGS AND OFFICES, PROVIDING FUNDS  
THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

**EXPLANATORY NOTE**

Certain legislation in the Philippines demonstrates a commitment to a sustainable future, notably Republic Act No. 11285, known as the “Energy Efficiency and Conservation Act”, which promotes the responsible use of energy technologies; and Republic Act No. 9513, the “Renewable Energy Act of 2008”, which establishes a framework for renewable energy development.

Aligned with these laws, the Inter-Agency Energy Efficiency and Conservation Committee (IAEECC)<sup>1</sup> issued Resolution No. 8, s. 2023, urging government entities to incorporate solar photovoltaic systems or any equivalent renewable energy technologies into their electricity supply. The Department of Energy (DOE) has already initiated solar demonstration projects for government offices, including the National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA) Region 9 Office in Pagadian City, DOE Luzon Field Office in Pangasinan, and Mariano Marcos State University in Ilocos Norte.<sup>2</sup>

This proposed bill seeks to reinforce the IAEECC resolution by promoting solar energy adoption in all government offices, in collaboration with the Department

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<sup>1</sup> Composed of the DOE Secretary as Chair, with Department Secretaries as Members: DBM, DOF, DILG, DPWH, DOTr, DOST, DTI, and NEDA.

<sup>2</sup>Mercurio, R. (2024, July 13). Government buildings urged to shift to solar energy. *Philstar Global*. Retrieved April 3, 2024, from <https://www.philstar.com/business/2023/07/13/2280597/government-buildings-urged-shift-solar-energy>.

of Public Works and Highways (DPWH) and the DOE.<sup>3</sup> It supports the national goal of achieving a 35 percent renewable energy share by 2030 and 50 percent by 2040.<sup>4</sup>

The Philippines, being a tropical country with abundant sunlight, has significant solar potential. According to the National Renewable Energy Laboratory, the average solar radiation of the country ranges from 128-203 watts per square meter, or an average of 16.7 watts per square meter, translating to an average solar energy potential of 4.5-5.5 kWh per square meter per day.<sup>5</sup> In fact, many establishments, from residences to commercial buildings, and even schools, have already transitioned to solar power.

Solar panels offer substantial long-term benefits, including significant financial savings. While traditional electricity costs tend to rise over time, utilizing a solar panel system allows establishments to secure energy costs at a consistent rate. Additionally, embracing solar energy, with government leading the way, reduces dependence on fossil fuels, a critical step as the Philippines commits to a 75 percent reduction in greenhouse gas emissions by 2030.<sup>6</sup>

Given these advantages and the nation's environmental commitments, we urge the swift passage of this bill.



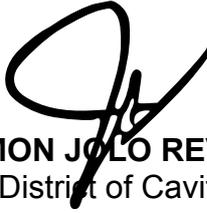
**REP. LANI MERCADO-REVILLA**

2<sup>nd</sup> District of Cavite



**REP. BRYAN B. REVILLA**

AGIMAT Partylist



**REP. RAMON JOLO REVILLA III**

1<sup>st</sup> District of Cavite

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<sup>3</sup> Except for the title, which was revised accordingly, this bill was originally introduced by Rep. Ralph G. Recto, which he had consistently championed since the 16<sup>th</sup> Congress.

<sup>4</sup> *New RE plan targets 35% share of power generation by 2030*. Philippine News Agency. (2021, November 13). <https://www.pna.gov.ph/articles/1159659>

<sup>5</sup> Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH, on behalf of the German Federal Ministry of Economics and Technology (BMWi). (2013). (issue brief). *IT'S MORE SUN IN THE PHILIPPINES: Facts and Figures on Solar Energy in the Philippines Project Development Programme (PDP) Southeast-Asia* (3rd ed., pp. 1–18). Makati City, Philippines. Retrieved April 22, 2024, from <https://www.doe.gov.ph/sites/default/files/pdf/netmeter/policy-brief-its-more-sun-in-the-philippines-V3.pdf>.

<sup>6</sup> *Philippines*. UNDP Climate Promise. (2023, November 24). <https://climatepromise.undp.org/what-we-do/where-we-work/philippines>

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ALL GOVERNMENT BUILDINGS AND OFFICES, PROVIDING 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  
National Government Offices Act”.

**SEC 2. Declaration of Policy.** – It is hereby declared the policy of the State:

- (a) To mandate the development and utilization of renewable energy  
resources in government buildings and offices;
- (b) To establish the infrastructure and mechanisms to ensure efficient, cost-  
effective and sustainable supply of power from solar energy systems; and,
- (c) To ensure energy sufficiency of government agencies for the prompt and  
unhampered delivery of services of its constituents.

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

**SEC 4. Establishment of Solar Energy Systems in National Government  
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 of solar energy systems in and retrofit their  
respective buildings and offices within sixty (60) days after the effectivity of this Act:

Provided, That Solar Energy Systems shall refer to energy systems which convert solar energy into thermal or electrical energy.

**SEC 5. General Guidelines.** – For purposes of this Act, the following are the General Guidelines for solar energy systems in national government buildings and offices:

- (a) Establishment and construction shall immediately commence to supply power to government buildings or offices;
- (b) The Department of Finance (DOF) shall apply the appropriate provisions of Chapter VII General Incentives of Republic Act No. 9513 or the Renewable Energy Act of 2008 to the RE Systems to be established and constructed for government agencies; and,
- (c) Government agencies shall enjoy the privileges granted to qualified end-users as certified by the DOE-Renewable Energy Management Bureau, as provided for in Sections 10 and 12 of Republic Act No. 9513.

**SEC 6. Minimum Standard.** – The solar energy systems to be established shall initially supply at least ten percent (10%) of the electric power requirements of the government agencies in their respective buildings or offices for the first year after the effectivity of this Act: Provided, That solar energy utilization shall be increased annually for five (5) years at which time the established solar energy systems are expected to have the capacity to supply fifty percent (50%) of the power requirements of government agencies: Provided, further, That nothing in this Act shall preclude the expansion of existing solar energy systems installed in government buildings and offices.

**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 in this Act. Thereafter, such sums as may be necessary to implement this Act shall be included in the General Appropriations Act (GAA).

**SEC 8. Implementing Rules and Regulations.** – The DOE shall provide the necessary implementing rules and regulations for the effective implementation within thirty (30) days upon the approval of this Act. Such rules and regulations shall take effect after they have been issued and shall be published in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

**SEC 9. Separability Clause.** – If any provision or part hereof is held invalid or unconstitutional, the remainder of the law or the provision or part not otherwise affected shall remain valid and subsisting.

**SEC 10. Repealing Clause.** – Any law, presidential decree or issuance, executive order, letter of instruction, administrative order, rule, or regulation contrary to or inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed, modified, or amended accordingly.

**SEC 11. Effectivity.** – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,