

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS
Second Regular Session
7336

House Bill No. _____



INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVE ALFRED VARGAS

EXPLANATORY NOTES

The Republic of the Philippines is an archipelagic country situated in the western Pacific Ocean, it consisting of about 7,641 islands that are estimated under the three main geographical divisions Luzon, Visayas, and Mindanao. It has the fifth longest coastal lines in the world at 6,289 kilometers.

The country is also endowed with abundant natural resources both land and water, and boasts of some of the world's greatest biodiversity.

The 1987 Constitution, particularly in its Article 12, Section 2, Paragraph 2 states that:

"The State shall protect the nation's marine wealth in its archipelagic waters, territorial sea..."

However, the country's seas, lakes and other marine resources are not spared from human destructive practices, especially the inconsiderate dumpings of garbage, debris and other wastes in our waterways..

It is with vital importance to have a National Coastal Clean-up Day to increase the consciousness of the Filipino people on the importance of preserving the marine resources.

In view of the foregoing, the immediate enactment of this measure is earnestly sought.


ALFRED VARGAS

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**AN ACT INSTITUTIONALIZING INTERNATIONAL COASTAL CLEANUP DAY
IN THE PHILIPPINES PRESCRIBING EVERY SECOND SUNDAY OF
SEPTEMBER A NATIONAL COASTAL CLEAN-UP DAY**

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

SECTION 1. Short Title. This Act shall be known as the “National Coastal Clean-Up Day”

SECTION 2. Declaration of Policy. The State shall protect and advance the right of the people to a balanced and healthful ecology in accordance with the rhythm and harmony of nature and to promote consciousness over the protection of our marine resources.

SECTION 3. Observance of the National Coastal Clean-Up Day. An annual program of activities that would promote water pollution prevention via coastal cleanups shall be prepared and implemented by the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR). In support thereof, the:

- Department of Education (DepEd);
- Commission on Higher Education (CHED);
- Civil Service Commission (CSC);
- Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG);
- Philippine National Police (PNP); and
- Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP)
- Schools (Public and Private);and
- National and Local Government Agencies.

Shall facilitate and encourage the commemoration of this day.

In addition, the Philippine Information Agency (PIA), in coordination with the abovementioned agencies, shall ensure the effective information dissemination of this Act.

SECTION 4. Funding. The amount necessary for the effective implementation of this Act shall be charged to the appropriations of the DENR under the current General Appropriations Act (GAA). Thereafter, such sum as may be necessary for the continued implementation of this Act shall be included in the annual GAA.

SECTION 5. Repealing Clause. All laws, rules and regulations or parts thereof inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or modify accordingly.

SECTION 6. Separability Clause. If any part, section or provision of this Act shall be held invalid or unconstitutional, no other part, section or provisions thereof shall be affected thereby.

SECTION 7. Effectivity. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days following the completion of its publication in the Official Gazette or two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,