

SIXTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC)
OF THE PHILIPPINES)
Second Regular Session)

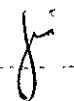


Senate
Office of the Secretary

14 JUL 21 P2:31

SENATE

Senate Bill No. 2315

RECEIVED BY: 

INTRODUCED BY SEN. JINGGOY EJERCITO ESTRADA

AN ACT
PROMOTING THE CREATION OF GREEN COLLAR JOBS, PROVIDING A
STRATEGIC INITIATIVE FOR ITS IMPLEMENTATION, AND FOR OTHER
PURPOSES

EXPLANATORY NOTE

In light of the increasing consciousness and social responsibility on the protection and preservation of the environment, there is a need to support green employment or green collar jobs through the promotion of ecological protection and development of renewable sources of energy. Such scheme would create thousands of new jobs which would address the high unemployment rate in the country and at the same time, help in improving the sustainability of the environment.

Accordingly, green collar jobs involve products and services that are environment-friendly. An employment company or organization that seeks to improve upon the environment is considered noteworthy and may be considered "green". Green collar jobs include any that involve the design, manufacture, installation, operation, and/or maintenance of renewable energy and energy efficiency technologies. Green collar employments satisfy the demand for green development. Generally, they implement environmentally conscious design, policy, and technology to improve conservation and sustainability.

This bill seeks to formulate and implement a Strategic Initiative for the Creation of Green Collar Jobs which will provide a framework for the promotion and creation of green collar employment. A Green Collar Jobs Council shall be established under the Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE).

This measure was previously filed by Sen. Manny Villar in the 15th Congress. The immediate passage of this bill is earnestly sought.


JINGGOY EJERCITO ESTRADA
Senator

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

1 **SECTION 1. Short Title.** – This Act shall be known as the “*Promoting Green*
2 *Collar Jobs in the Philippines Act of 2014*”.

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5 **SEC. 2. Declaration of Policy.** – In accordance with the constitutional policy that
6 “The State shall protect and advance the right of the people to a balanced and
7 healthful ecology in accord with the rhythm and harmony of nature.” it is hereby
8 declared that it is every citizen’s responsibility to one another and to the future
9 generations to see that the Philippine environment is preserved and protected
10 and that the government has the supreme intergenerational responsibility and
11 mandate to ensure the sustainable development of the country’s environment
12 and Mother Earth.

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15 **SEC. 3. Creation of Green Collar Jobs Council.** – A Green Collar Jobs Council,
16 hereinafter called as the Council, is hereby created as a special organization
17 under the Department of Labor and Employment. The Council shall be tasked as
18 the premier government body to implement the provisions of this Act.

19
20 The Council shall be headed by the Secretary of the Department of Labor
21 and Employment and will have the Secretaries of the Department of Trade and
22 Industry, Environment and Natural Resources and Energy and the Director-
23 General of the National Economic Development Authority as members. Four (4)
24 representatives from the private sector and non-government organizations
25 representing management and industry, environmental and conservation
26 advocacy, academic community and local government shall be appointed by the
27 President of the Philippines.

28
29 The Council shall have an Executive Director who will head a lean corps
30 of competent personnel which shall serve as the administrative and technical
31 secretariat.

32

1 **SEC. 4. *Strategic Initiative for the Creation of Green Collar Jobs.*** The Council
2 shall formulate a Strategic Initiative which serve as framework for the promotion
3 and creation of green collar employment.
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5 The Strategic Initiative shall contain:
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- 7 a) Strategies and approaches to adopt new ways of looking at industry
8 sectors and the development of potential new technologies combined with
9 innovative public policy and strategic investments to stimulate the growth
10 of new markets for green products and services;
11
- 12 b) Action plans identifying the framework, strategies, programs and policies,
13 partnerships and opportunities necessary to address the growing need for
14 a highly skilled and well-trained workforce to meet the needs of the
15 emerging green economy;
16
- 17 c) A database that identifies and links green collar job opportunities with
18 entities, agencies and corporations requiring green collar employments. It
19 shall include training programs to assist and prepare specific sectors such
20 as displaced and retrenched workers, at-risk youth and out-of-school
21 youth, students, veterans, persons with disabilities and others facing
22 barriers to employment;
23
- 24 d) Dossiers and information emerging green industries workforce needs,
25 trends and job growth and funding recommendations on how to expand
26 and leverage these funds;
27
- 28 e) Such other data that may be significant in the promotion and propagation
29 of green collar jobs.
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32 **SEC. 5. *Immediate Needs for Green Collar Jobs in the Country.*** Initially, the
33 Department of Labor and Employment must publish in its website and must avail
34 of all free media advertisements announcing immediate green collar jobs
35 opportunities, in such areas as:
36

- 37 a) Coastal clean-up and bay watch projects;
- 38 b) Reforestation efforts and tree planting;
- 39 c) Construction and designation of bike lanes and installation of solar-
40 powered street lights and other clean energy initiatives;
- 41 d) Garbage collection;
- 42 e) Planting and replanting of coconut trees to ensure bio-fuel feed stock;
- 43 f) Opportunities in refitting public utility vehicles with liquefied petroleum
44 gas;
- 45 g) Re-electrification of barangays using solar panels and hydro-electric
46 grids.
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48 **SEC. 6. *Coordination with Local Government Units.*** – Local government units
49 must assist in the implementation of this Act through the promotion of green
50 collar jobs creation.
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53 **SEC. 7. *Incentives.*** – An incentive scheme is hereby provided for the purpose of
54 encouraging LGUs, enterprises, or private entities, including NGOs, to develop or
55 undertake an effective program to generate green collar jobs or actively
56 participate in any program geared towards the promotion thereof as provided for
57 in this Act.

1 The Council shall provide a system of incentives to businesses and
2 industries that are in the promotion and generation of green collar jobs.

3
4 Government Financial Institutions (GFIs) such as the Development Bank
5 of the Philippines (DBP), Landbank of the Philippines (LBP), Government Service
6 Insurance System (GSIS), and such other government institutions providing
7 financial services shall, in accordance with and to the extent allowed by the
8 enabling provisions of their respective charters or applicable laws, accord high
9 priority to extend financial services to individuals, enterprises, or private entities
10 that creates green collar jobs.

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13 **SEC. 8. *Public Education and Information.*** – The Council shall, in coordination
14 with the Philippine Information Agency (PIA) and mass media organizations,
15 conduct a continuing education and information campaign on the development
16 and generation of green collar jobs including:

- 17
18 a) Aim to develop public awareness of the positive effects of green economy;
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20 b) Encourage the general public to patronize green products and services
21 and endorse and patronize environmentally acceptable products and
22 packaging materials.

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25 **SEC. 9. *Appropriations.*** – For the initial operating expenses of the Council, the
26 amount of Twenty Million Pesos (P20,000,000.00) is hereby appropriated from
27 the budget of the DOLE. Thereafter, the Council shall submit to the Department
28 of Budget and Management its proposed budget for inclusion in the General
29 Appropriations Act.

30
31 In the next five (5) years following the approval of this Act, the government
32 must appropriate one half of one percent (0.5%) of the annual appropriation act
33 for various green collar jobs/employment. Additionally, the government agencies
34 are encouraged to utilize their savings for short- and medium-term green collar
35 jobs/employment.

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38 **SEC. 10. *Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR).*** – The Council, in
39 coordination with the Committees on Environment and Ecology of the Senate
40 and House of Representatives, respectively, the representatives of the League of
41 Provinces, Cities, Municipalities and Barangay Councils, the MMDA and other
42 concerned agencies, shall promulgate the implementing rules and regulations of
43 this Act, within one (1) year after its enactment.

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46 **SEC. 11. *Transitory Provision.*** – Pending the establishment of the Strategic
47 Initiative under Section 4 hereof, existing laws, regulations, programs and
48 projects on generation of green collar jobs shall be enforced: *Provided*, That for
49 specific undertaking, the same may be revised in the interim in accordance with
50 the intentions of this Act.

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53 **SEC. 12. *Report to Congress.*** – The Council shall report to Congress not later
54 than March 30 of every year following the approval of this Act, giving a detailed
55 account of its accomplishments and progress on promotion of green collar jobs
56 during the year and make the necessary recommendations in areas where there
57 is need for legislative action.

1 **SEC. 13. *Separability Clause.*** – If any provision of this Act shall at any time be
2 found to be unconstitutional or invalid, the remainder thereof not affected by such
3 declaration shall remain in full force and effect.

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6 **SEC. 14. *Repealing Clause.*** – All laws, decrees, rules or regulations inconsistent
7 with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

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10 **SEC. 15. *Effectivity Clause.*** – This Act shall take effect after fifteen (15) days
11 following its complete publication in two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

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17 *Approved,*