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### **Introduced by Senator WIN GATCHALIAN**

# AN ACT PROVIDING FOR A NATIONAL ENERGY POLICY AND FRAMEWORK FOR A CLEAN AND JUST ENERGY TRANSITION IN THE COUNTRY, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

#### **EXPLANATORY NOTE**

In 2017, the Philippines ratified the Paris Climate Change Agreement which aims to hold "the increase in the global average temperature to well below 2°C above pre-industrial levels and pursuing efforts to limit the temperature increase to 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels, recognizing that this would significantly reduce the risks and impacts of climate change."

In 2021, the Philippines submitted its Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). Through the NDC, the Philippines commits to a projected greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions reduction and avoidance of 75% for 2020 to 2030, of which 2.71% is unconditional and 72.29% is conditional.<sup>2</sup>

Despite the submission of the NDC, including an implementation plan, there is no clear energy transition framework to support the country's NDC and the complementary

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Article 2(1)(a) of Paris Agreement (2015). United Nations. Available at https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/english\_paris\_agreement.pdf. Accessed on 7 January 2021.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Implementation Plan for the Republic of the Philippines Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) 2020 – 2030. Available at https://climate.gov.ph/public/ckfinder/userfiles/files/Knowledge/The%20Philippines'%20NDC%20Implementation%20Plan%20 -%20072024.pdf. Accessed on 29 June 2025.

policies laid out in Republic Act No. 7638, Republic Act No. 9136 and Republic Act No. 9513.

This measure thus seeks to establish a framework for introducing and institutionalizing fundamental policies on energy transition, which includes promotion of clean energy sources, decrease in the utilization of fossil-based sources of energy, and the delineation of responsibilities among various government agencies in the transport and power sectors. The Climate Change Commission is tasked with leading the implementation of this bill through the creation and implementation of an Energy Transition Plan, with assistance of various government agencies such as the Department of Energy, Department of Transportation, Department of Environment and Natural Resources, Department of Finance, Department of Trade and Industry, Department of Agriculture, Department of Labor and Employment, and Energy Regulatory Commission. Through this bill, it is hoped that the country will be able to comply with its commitments under the Paris Agreement while ensuring that the transition shall be fair and inclusive.

Given the foregoing, the immediate passage of this measure is sought.

WIN GATCHALIAN

TWENTIETH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES	
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## **Introduced by Senator Sherwin Gatchalian**

# AN ACT PROVIDING FOR A NATIONAL ENERGY POLICY AND FRAMEWORK FOR A CLEAN AND JUST ENERGY TRANSITION IN THE COUNTRY, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

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 "Energy Transition Act".

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- Sec. 2. *Declaration of Policy*. It is hereby declared the policy of the State to adopt a clean, just, and comprehensive energy transition framework which shall:
  - a. Enable the country to meet its international obligations to lower greenhouse gas emissions by reducing usage of fossil-based systems of energy production and consumption;
  - Provide protection to the environment by accelerating the exploration, development, and utilization of clean energy sources to include, among others, biomass, solar, wind, geothermal, ocean energy, hydropower, green hydrogen, and biofuels;
  - c. Ensure energy security in the country as it transitions into clean energy;
  - d. Warrant energy equity in the country during the energy transition; and

1	e. <i>F</i>	Afford protection to labor and investments while the country shifts from
2	f	ossil-based systems of energy production and consumption to clean energy
3	9	sources.
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5	Sec	c. 3. Scope. – This Act shall establish a framework for introducing and
6	institution	alizing fundamental policies on energy transition, including the promotion of
7	clean enei	rgy sources, decrease in the utilization of fossil-based sources of energy, and
8	the deline	ation of responsibilities among various government agencies in the energy
9	sector.	
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11	Sec	c. 4. Definition of Terms. – As used in this Act, the following terms shall be
12	defined as	5:
13	a.	"Carbon offset" refers to a certification attesting to a reduction in
14		greenhouse gas (GHG) by a voluntary carbon market provider. It can be
15		used for voluntary carbon reduction commitments or for compliance with
16		cap-and-trade programs, if applicable;
17	b.	"Carbon tax" refers to the tax charged on the total amount of reckonable
18		GHG emissions of a taxable facility;
19	C.	"Clean Energy Sources" refers to technologies, such as electric vehicles and
20		fuel cells, and energy sources, such as renewable energy, that when utilized
21		emits minimal or no GHG;
22	d.	"Climate Risk" refers to both physical and transition risk arising from climate
23		change;
24	e.	"Emissions Threshold" refers to the maximum amount of GHG that various
25		sources can emit without being subjected to the carbon tax as determined
26		by Climate Change Commission pursuant to Section 7 of this Act;
27	f.	"Energy Sector" refers to the sector engaged in exploration and production,

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refining and marketing, storage and transportation, and utilization of energy

sources such as fossil fuels and renewable energy, whichever is applicable;

g. "Energy Transition" refers to the global energy sector's shift from fossil-based

systems of energy production and consumption to clean energy sources;

1 h. "Just Transition" refers to globally recognized principles that should guide 2 the transition to environmentally sustainable economies and societies; 3 i. "Net zero emissions" refers to the state of the atmosphere where the GHG 4 emitted are balanced by its removal; 5 j. "Physical risk" refers to potential loss or damage to tangible assets arising 6 from climate change or other weather-related conditions such as floods. 7 typhoons, droughts, earthquakes, extreme weather variability, and rising 8 sea levels; 9 k. "Reckonable emissions" refers to GHG emissions of a taxable facility in 10 circumstances specified by the schedule to be prepared by the Climate 11 Change Commission pursuant to Section 7 of this Act: 12 I. "Renewable Energy" refers to energy resources that do not have an upper 13 limit on the total quantity to be used include, among others, biomass, solar, 14 wind, geothermal, ocean energy, and hydropower pursuant to the provision 15 of Republic Act No. 9513; 16 m. "Taxable facility" refers to a juridical person that emits GHG above the 17 emissions threshold; n. "Transition risk" refers to the potential economic adjustment cost resulting 18 19 from policy, legal, technology, and market changes to meet climate change 20 mitigation and adaptation requirements; 21 o. "Voluntary Carbon Market (VCM)" refers to a digital platform where natural 22 or juridical persons can buy and sell carbon offsets; 23 p. "VCM consumers" refers to natural or juridical persons who buy carbon 24 offsets in the VCM; and 25 q. "VCM providers" refers to natural or juridical persons who sell carbon offsets 26 in the VCM. 27 28 Sec. 5. National Targets – The country, through the national government 29 agencies specified in this Act, shall: 30 a. Implement a moratorium on the following:

Establishment of new fossil fuel power plants upon the effectivity of

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i.

this Act;

1	ii. Sale of new internal combustion engine vehicles within the timeframe
2	to be determined by the Energy Transition Plan;
3	b. Implement a phase out of the following:
4	i. Existing fossil fuel power plants within the timeframe to be
5	determined by the Energy Transition Plan;
6	ii. Existing internal combustion engine vehicles within the timeframe to
7	be determined by the Energy Transition Plan;
8	c. Increase the share of clean energy sources in the energy mix of the country
9	while taking into account the moratorium of new fossil fuel power plants
10	and phase out of existing fossil fuel power plants;
11	d. Reduce GHG emissions in accordance with the country's National
12	Determined Contribution (NDC) and achieve net zero emissions in the
13	energy sector by 2050;
14	
15	Sec. 6. Energy Transition Plan – There shall be an Energy Transition Plan (ETP)
16	which shall provide for a comprehensive framework in the exploration, development,
17	utilization, and distribution of energy sources as well as resilience and upgrading of
18	existing energy infrastructure in support of the country's shift from fossil-based
19	systems of energy production and consumption to clean energy sources guided by the
20	principle of just transition as defined under Section 12 of this Act. The ETP shall be
21	prepared by the Climate Change Commission (CCC), in coordination with the technical
22	working group created under Section 7 of his Act.
23	The ETP shall:
24	a. Include the following:
25	<ol> <li>The national targets under Section 5 of this Act,</li> </ol>
26	ii. The annual targeted reduction in GHG emissions for the energy
27	sector,
28	iii. Mechanisms to determine compliance with the targets by the energy
29	sector which shall be the monitored by the CCC, and
30	iv. Programs to be implemented by the Department of Energy,
31	Department of Transportation, Department of Trade and Industry,
32	Department of Environment and Natural Resources, and Department

1	of Agriculture, and other relevant agencies to reduce GHG emissions
2	to reach the annual targets;
3	b. Take into consideration, and integrate if applicable, various laws including
4	Republic Act No. 9136, Republic Act No. 9513, Republic Act No. 11285
5	otherwise known as the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Act, Republic
6	Act No. 11572 otherwise known as the Philippine Energy Research and
7	Policy Institute Act, Republic Act No. 11646 otherwise known as the
8	Microgrid Systems Act, and Republic Act No. 11697 otherwise known as the
9	Electric Vehicle Industry Development Act;
10	c. Be harmonized with the existing plans which shall include the National
11	Determined Contribution, Philippine Energy Plan, National Transport Policy,
12	Philippine Development Plan and Health and Pollution Action Plan; and
13	d. Be updated and submitted to the Office of the President and Congress not
14	later than the 15th of September of every year after approval by the Energy
15	Transition Committee.
16	
17	Sec. 7. Role of Government Agencies – In addition to their current
18	responsibilities and functions under the existing laws, the following government
19	agencies shall exercise responsibilities and functions as enumerated hereunder:
20	a. Climate Change Commission (CCC) – The CCC shall:
21	i. Serve as the lead agency in the implementation of this Act,
22	ii. Convene a technical working group (TWG), within thirty (30)
23	calendar days from the effectivity of this Act, comprised of the
24	following:
25	1. Secretary of CCC as the Chairperson,
26	2. Secretary of Department of Energy (DOE) as the Vice-
27	Chairperson,
28	3. Secretary of Department of Finance (DOF),
29	4. Secretary of Department of Transportation (DOTR),
30	5. Secretary of Department of Environment and Natural
31	Resources (DENR),
32	6. Secretary of Department of Trade and Industry (DTI),

1		<ol><li>Secretary of Department of Agriculture (DA),</li></ol>
2		8. Chairperson of the Energy Regulatory Commission
3		(ERC), and
4		9. Chairperson of the Securities and Exchange Commission
5		(SEC).
6		The members can appoint their permanent representatives to the
7		TWG. The CCC shall serve as the TWG's secretariat. The TWG shall:
8		1. Evaluate and approve the ETP,
9		2. Monitor, review, and provide strategic direction in the
10		implementation of the ETP and of this Act,
11		3. Coordinate with various national government agencies,
12		government-owned and controlled corporations, local
13		government units, and private stakeholders to ensure
14		the timely implementation of the ETP,
15		4. Provide for a forum for feedback and recommendations
16		on the implementation of the ETP, and
17		5. Perform such other functions, as may be necessary, to
18		attain the objectives of this Act,
19	iii.	Formulate the ETP, upon consultation with relevant public and
20		private stakeholders,
21	iV.	Monitor, in coordination with the members of the TWG, the
22		implementation of the ETP,
23	v.	Create, upon consultation with the other members of the TWG, and
24		other relevant public and private stakeholders, a schedule for
25		reckonable GHG emissions within one (1) year from the effectivity
26		of this Act;
27	Vİ.	Review and update annually the schedule for reckonable emissions;
28	vii.	Determine the emissions thresholds of various sources for purposes
29		of the determination of the imposition of a carbon tax pursuant to
30		Section 8 of this Act,
31	viii.	Determine carbon offsets pursuant to Section 9 of this Act; and

1	ix. Compile all the GHG emissions report of the various sectors
2	identified in this Act and determine its compliance with the targets
3	set out in the ETP;
4	b. Department of Energy (DOE) – The DOE shall:
5	i. Assist the CCC in the implementation of the ETP ,
6	i. Formulate, implement, enforce, and monitor programs in the
7	energy sector towards the implementation and accomplishment of
8	the targets set out in the ETP, and ensure a just transition in the
9	sector,
10	ii. Monitor and prepare an annual report on the GHG emissions of the
11	energy sector in accordance with the targets set out in the ETP,
12	iii. Submit annually the GHG emissions report of the energy sector to
13	the CCC, and
14	iv. Ensure that the carbon tax is not passed on to end consumers of
15	petroleum products sold at retail fuel outlets;
16	c. Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE) – The DOLE shall, in
17	coordination with the DOE, ensure the protection of rights of the employees
18	under the labor sector affected by the implementation of the ETP. It shall
19	also undertake training programs, together with the Technical Education
20	and Skills Development Authority, for affected employees by the
21	implementation of the ETP to allow them to find gainful employment in
22	other sectors;
23	d. Department of Finance (DOF) – The DOF, shall:
24	i. Review regularly the effectivity of the carbon tax in reducing GHG
25	emissions, and propose remedial legislation, if necessary,
26	ii. Determine, upon consultation with the CCC, other members of the
27	TWG, and other relevant public and private stakeholders, the
28	prioritization of programs for the implementation of the ETP to be
29	funded through the Energy Transition Fund, and
30	iii. Provide for mechanisms to assist companies to access green
31	financing;

1	e.	Depart	ment of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) – The DENR
2		shall, ir	n coordination with the CCC and other concerned agencies, establish
3		the gu	idelines for the determination of the amount of GHG emissions
4		attribu	ted to various sources;
5	f.	Depart	ment of Transportation (DOTr) – The DOTr shall:
6		i.	Assist the CCC in the implementation of the ETP in the transport $\ensuremath{I}$
7			sector,
8		ii.	Formulate, implement, enforce, and monitor programs in the
9			transport sector towards the implementation and accomplishment
10			of the targets set out in the ETP while ensuring a just transition for
11			public utility vehicles,
12		iii.	Monitor and prepare an annual report on the GHG emissions of the
13			transport sector in accordance with the targets set out in the ETP,
14			and
15		iv.	Submit annually the GHG emissions report of the transport sector
16			to the CCC;
17	g.	Depart	tment of Agriculture (DA) – The DA shall:
18		i.	Assist the CCC in the implementation of the ETP in the agriculture,
19			fisheries, and forestry (AFF) sector,
20		ii.	Formulate, implement, enforce, and monitor programs in the AFF
21			sector towards the implementation and accomplishment of the
22			targets set out in the ETP while ensuring a just transition for the
23			sector,
24		iii.	Monitor and prepare an annual report on the GHG emissions of the
25			AFF sector in accordance with the targets set out in the ETP, and
26		iv.	Submit annually the GHG emissions report of the AFF sector to the
27			CCC;
28	h.	Depar	tment of Trade and Industry - The DA shall:
29		i.	Assist the CCC in the implementation of the ETP in the industry
30			sector,
31		ii.	Formulate, implement, enforce, and monitor programs in the
32			industry sector towards the implementation and accomplishment of

1		the targets set out in the ETP while ensuring a just transition for
2		the sector,
3	iii.	Monitor and prepare an annual report on the GHG emissions of the
4		industry sector in accordance with the targets set out in the ETP,
5		and
6	iv.	Submit annually the GHG emissions report of the industry sector to
7		the CCC;
8	a. Energy R	egulatory Commission (ERC) – The ERC shall ensure that carbon tax
9	shall not	be passed on to end consumers of fossil fuel power plants.
10		
11	Sec. 8. <i>Ca</i>	arbon Tax – A carbon tax shall be levied, assessed, and collected on
12	a taxable facility	amounting to the following:
13	a. Php 100 p	er ton of carbon dioxide equivalent (tCO2e): three (3) years after the
14	effectivity	of this Act, and
15	b. Php 250 p	per tCO2e: five (5) years after the effectivity of this Act.
16	The amount levie	ed shall accrue to the Energy Transition Fund under Section 15 of this
17	Act. The carbon	tax shall not be passed on to end consumers of fossil fuels and fossil
18	fuel power plants	5.
19		
20	Sec. 9. 1	<i>Yoluntary Carbon Market (VCMs)</i> – VCMs shall be allowed to be
21		operate in the country. The CCC and the SEC shall, upon consultation
22	with public and	private stakeholders and taking into consideration internationally
23	recognized best p	practices of VCMs, establish and implement streamlined and simplified
24	guidelines and re	gulations for the establishment and operations of VCMs in the country
25	within one (1) ye	ear from the effectivity of this Act. The DOE and SEC shall regularly
26	review and upda	te, if necessary, these guidelines and regulations.
27		
28		Mandatory Disclosure – The SEC shall make it mandatory for listed
29	·	close climate risks as the country shift from fossil fuels to clean energy
30	sources.	
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1	Sec. 11. Just Transition – Under the principle of just transition, the TWG, in
2	approving the ETP and its implementation, shall ensure a fair and inclusive energy
3	transition by minimizing its negative impacts to communities that are reliant on fossil-
4	based system of production and utilization. This shall include labor programs which
5	includes conduct of training for employees that are under fossil-based system of
6	production and utilization industries prior the implementation of this Act to ensure
7	their continuous employment, if practicable, and to protect their rights and benefits in
8	accordance with the existing labor laws and rules and regulations.
9	
10	Sec. 12. Application of Incentives under RA 9513 or Renewable Energy Act of
11	2008 and RA 11285 or the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Act - Projects for the
12	implementation of the ETP under this Act shall be entitled to the incentives under RA
13	9513 and RA 11285.
14	
15	Sec. 13. <i>Prohibited Acts</i> – The following acts are prohibited:
16	a. For natural or juridical entities:
17	i. Failure to pay the carbon tax under Section 8 of this Act,
18	ii. Passing on the carbon tax to end-consumers,
19	iii. Failure to disclose climate risks under Section 10 of this Act,
20	iv. Violation of any provision of this Act, its implementing rules and
21	regulations, and other issuances promulgated in accordance with
22	this Act.
23	b. For government agencies: Failure to comply with their responsibilities and
24	comply with the time frames under this Act.
25	
26	Sec. 14. Fines and Penalties – Without prejudice to civil and criminal liability,
27	the following administrative penalties shall be imposed upon the following for every
28	prohibited act enumerated below:
29	a. Section 13(a):
30	i. First Offense: A fine ranging from Fifty thousand pesos

(P50,000.00) to Five hundred thousand pesos (P500,000.00),

1 ii. Second Offense: A fine ranging from Five hundred thousand pesos 2 (P500,000.00) to One million pesos (P1,000,000.00) and revocation 3 of permits. b. Section 13(b): 4 5 i. First offense: six (6) months suspension, ii. 6 Second offense: Dismissal from service. 7 8 Sec. 15. Energy Transition Fund - A Special Account in the General Fund (SAGF) 9 for energy transition, which shall be maintained and managed by the Bureau of 10 Treasury, shall be established to support the programs for energy transition and the 11 implementation of the ETP. The SAGF for energy transition shall recognize and accept 12 grants, contributions, and donations for energy transition, for the implementation of the ETP and its relevant programs. 13 14 15 Sec. 16. Appropriations - There is hereby appropriated out of the General 16 Appropriations Act, the sum of Fifty Million Pesos (P50,000,000.00) for the initial 17 Energy Transition Fund. Thereafter, such amounts necessary for the sustainable 18 implementation of the ETP and its relevant programs shall be appropriated from the 19 General Appropriations Act. 20 21 Sec. 17. Implementing Rules and Regulations - The CCC shall, in consultation 22 with TWG and other public and private stakeholders, promulgate the Implementing 23 Rules and Regulation of this Act within ninety (90) calendar days from its effectivity. 24 25 Sec. 18. Oversight Committee. - Upon the effectivity of this Act, the Joint 26 Congressional Energy Commission established under Republic Act No. 9136 and renamed under Republic Act No. 11285, shall exercise oversight powers over the 27 28 implementation of this Act. 29 30 Sec. 19. Repealing Clause. — All laws, presidential decrees, executive orders, 31 and rules and regulations, or parts thereof, inconsistent with the provisions of this Act 32 are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

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Sec. 20. Separability Clause. - If, for any reason, any section or provision of this Act is held unconstitutional or invalid, the other sections or provisions hereof shall

not be affected thereby. 4

> Sec. 21. Effectivity Clause. - This Act shall take effect after its complete publication in at least two (2) national newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,

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