

Republic of the Philippines
Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao
BANGSAMORO TRANSITION AUTHORITY
Cotabato City

SECOND PARLIAMENT
Second Regular Session

Parliament Bill No. 248

Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao
Parliament
BILLS AND INDEX DIVISION
RECEIVED
Name: ADELIAH DWA-TUM Signature: 
Date: AUG 31 2023 Time: 10:00 AM

Introduced by
MPs AMILBAHAR S. MAWALLIL, RASOL Y. MITMUG, JR.
Co-authored by

**MPs LAISA M. ALAMIA, BAIN TAN A. AMPATUAN,
DON MUSTAPHA A. LOONG, SUHARTO M. AMBOLOD TO, RASUL E. ISMAEL**

AN ACT
REGULATING THE DISTRIBUTION AND/OR USE OF SINGLE-USE
PLASTICS PRODUCTS IN THE BANGSAMORO AUTONOMOUS REGION
IN MUSLIM MINDANAO

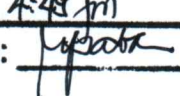
EXPLANATORY NOTE

The negative impacts of single-use plastics on the environment are well-documented, ranging from pollution of water bodies and soil to harm caused to wildlife through ingestion and entanglement. Additionally, the improper disposal of single-use plastics contributes significantly to the degradation of forests, parks, zoos, and other protected areas within the region. As responsible stewards of our environment, it is incumbent upon us to take decisive action to curb the use of these harmful materials.

To achieve this goal, this Act proposes a comprehensive approach that encompasses the regulation of the distribution and use of single-use plastic products within the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region. Specific exemptions have been incorporated to ensure the continued availability of essential medical and hygiene-related items, disaster relief necessities, and accommodations for persons with disabilities.

Moreover, the Act emphasizes the promotion of sustainable alternatives to single-use plastics. The Bangsamoro Government, in collaboration with local communities, businesses, and stakeholders, will actively encourage the use of eco-friendly materials, such as reusable bags, biodegradable, and compostable products, to replace single-use plastics.

Recognizing the vital role of government procurement in shaping consumption patterns and market demand, this Act mandates all government agencies to lead by example in adopting sustainable procurement practices. The government shall prioritize the procurement of products and materials with eco-friendly packaging options and collaborate with suppliers who align with these environmental goals.

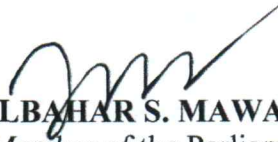
Bangsamoro Tr. City
OFFICE OF MP AMIR S. MAWALLIL
RELEASED
Date: Aug. 30, 2023
Time: 4:45 pm
Signature: 

In addition, this Act extends its scope to include regulations on single-use plastic usage in forests, parks, zoos, and similar protected areas. By enforcing a strict prohibition on single-use plastics in these natural habitats, we aim to preserve and protect the integrity of these ecosystems and enhance visitor experiences.

This legislative measure also highlights the importance of public awareness and education campaigns. By engaging with schools, public spaces, and media channels, the regional government intends to instill a sense of responsibility and foster behavioral changes that support the transition away from single-use plastics.

Through this proactive and holistic approach, we seek to create a paradigm shift towards sustainable practices that promote environmental conservation, public health, and economic prosperity. We firmly believe that by implementing the Bangsamoro Single-Use Plastic Regulation Act, we can make significant strides in ensuring a greener, cleaner, and more sustainable future for the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao.

In view of the foregoing, the passage of this bill is earnestly sought.


AMILBAHAR S. MAWALLIL
Member of the Parliament

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Parliament
BILLS AND INDEX DIVISION
RECEIVED
Name: ROELAN D. DAPATA Signature: 
Date: AUG 31 2023 Time: 10:00 AM

Introduced by
MPs AMILBAHAR S. MAWALLIL, RASOL Y. MITMUG, JR.
Co-authored by
MPs LAISA M. ALAMIA, BAIN TAN A. AMPATUAN,
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AN ACT
REGULATING THE DISTRIBUTION AND/OR USE OF SINGLE-USE
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BE IT ENACTED by the Bangsamoro Transition Authority in Parliament assembled:

Section 1. Title. – This act shall be known as the "*BARMM Single-Use Plastic Regulation Act of 2023.*"

Section 2. Declaration of Policy. – It hereby declared the policy of the Bangsamoro Government to regulate, restrict or prohibit the use, importation, transit, transport, deposit, disposal, and dumping of toxic or hazardous substances within the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region. It shall, in the same manner, regulate activities that may adversely impact the environment and may be harmful to the health, safety, and welfare of the Bangsamoro people.

The Bangsamoro Government also appreciates the value of realizing the objectives set by the United Nations for sustainable development in the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region. This pertains to ensuring the well-being of all individuals across their lifespans, encouraging sustainable patterns of consumption and production, and safeguarding and responsibly utilizing marine resources to promote lasting development.

Towards this end, it shall adopt a systematic, comprehensive, and ecological regulation of single-use plastic materials within the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region to advance the right of the people to a balanced and healthful ecology in accord with the rhythm and harmony of nature.

Section 3. Definition of Terms. – For purposes of this Act, the following terms shall mean as hereunder defined:

- a. **Single-use plastic material** refers to disposable plastics which are commonly used for plastic packaging and include items intended to be used only once before they are thrown away or recycled. These include, but are not limited to, items such as grocery bags, food packaging films and bags, bottles, straws, stirrers, containers, Styrofoam, cups, sachets, and cutlery;
- b. **Plastic** refers to a synthetic material made from a wide range of organic polymers such as polyethylene terephthalate, high-density polyethylene, low-density polyethylene, polypropylene, polystyrene, PVC, and nylon that can be processed to form solid objects of various shapes;
- c. **Reusable material** refers to any material specifically designed or manufactured for multiple usages which may be capable of composting, is biodegradable, and does not contain any toxic or harmful substance or chemical.

Section 4. Scope. – This Act shall apply to all persons, stores, point-of-sale areas, food establishments, and all other business establishments within the jurisdiction of the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao.

Section 5. Regulation on the Use, Sale or Provision of Single-use Plastics Materials. All commercial establishments engaged in the sale of food and beverages, including fast food outlets, market vendors, sari-sari stores, and food kiosks, as well as business establishments including department stores, pharmacies, and drug stores, shall charge and collect a Single-use Plastic Fee amounting to Ten Pesos (P10.00) per single-use plastic material provided, regardless of size, except the following:

- A. **Hygiene Products:** Single-use plastic products such as disposable gloves, aprons, and masks used in healthcare facilities, food processing, and other industries where hygiene and safety standards are critical.
- B. **Medical Devices:** Single-use plastic products necessary for medical procedures and interventions, such as syringes, catheters, and IV bags, in compliance with health regulations.
- C. **Disaster Relief and Humanitarian Aid:** Single-use plastic products used in emergency response and disaster relief efforts to ensure the delivery of essential items and provisions to affected communities.
- D. **Persons with Disabilities:** Single-use plastic products designed to accommodate the needs of persons with disabilities, such as straws and utensils for individuals with limited mobility.

Exceptions granted under this section shall be subject to periodic review and may be revisited as sustainable alternatives become more widely available and feasible.

Section 6. Regulation of Single-use Plastic Materials in Forests, Parks, Zoos, and Similar Areas. – In addition to the regulations outlined in Section 5, the use of single-use plastic materials is strictly prohibited in forests, parks, zoos, wildlife sanctuaries, and other natural and protected areas within the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao.

Signs and educational materials shall be prominently displayed within these areas, informing the public about the prohibition of single-use plastics and promoting sustainable practices.

Visitors, tourists, and concessionaires in the mentioned areas shall be encouraged to utilize reusable and eco-friendly reusable materials for packaging and carrying food, beverages, and other items. The MENRE, in coordination with the concerned authorities managing these areas, shall implement monitoring and enforcement measures to ensure compliance with this provision.

Section 7. Government Procurement for Sustainable Materials. – All government agencies within the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region shall prioritize the procurement of products and materials with sustainable packaging and alternatives to single-use plastics. In government procurement processes, preference shall be given to suppliers and products that utilize environmentally friendly, biodegradable, and compostable materials over single-use plastics.

The Bangsamoro Government, through the Ministry of Environment, Natural Resource and Energy (MENRE), shall collaborate with local industries to identify and promote sustainable alternatives and packaging options for various products and services procured by the government. It shall provide guidelines and recommendations on sustainable procurement practices, including a list of approved sustainable materials and suppliers, to assist government agencies in their procurement decisions.

In addition, in the bidding and awarding of contracts, specific provisions promoting the use of sustainable materials and alternatives to single-use plastics shall be included in the contract requirements.

Section 8. Promotion of Reusable Materials and Single-Use Plastic Refusal Campaign. – The Bangsamoro Government, through the Ministry of Environment, Natural Resources, and Energy (MENRE) shall actively promote and encourage the use of environmentally friendly and sustainable alternatives to single-use plastic materials. This includes reusable bags, biodegradable or compostable materials, and other eco-friendly options. Educational initiatives shall likewise be carried out in schools, public spaces, and through various media channels to reach a broad audience.

In addition, all establishments shall display conspicuously in their stores, especially in the transaction counter, the notice – “SAVE THE ENVIRONMENT, REFUSE SINGLE-USE PLASTIC” or “SAVE THE ENVIRONMENT, SAY NO TO SINGLE-USE PLASTIC” together with the parliament act title, parliament act number, and the date of effectivity.

Section 9. Incentives for Shifting to Alternatives. – Business enterprises, individuals, cooperatives, partnerships and corporations which engage in the manufacture of identified alternatives to single-use plastics shall be given incentives provided for under Republic Act No. 9178, otherwise known as the Barangay Micro-Business Enterprise Act of 2002, Republic Act No. 9501, otherwise known as the Magna Carta for Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises, Republic Act No. 10771, otherwise known as the Green Jobs Act of 2016, Executive Order No. 226, otherwise known as the Omnibus Investment Code of 1987, and other relevant laws.

Section 10. Implementing Rules and Regulations. – Within six (6) months upon approval of this Act, the Ministry of Environment, Natural Resources, and Energy, in

coordination with the Ministry of Interior and Local Government, shall promulgate the necessary rules and regulations for the effective implementation of the provisions of this Act.

Section 11. Appropriations. – Such amount as may be necessary to implement the provisions of this Act is hereby included in the annual appropriations of the MENRE and other implementing agencies under the General Appropriations Act for BARMM.

Section 12. Separability Clause. – If any section or part of this Act is held unconstitutional or invalid, all other sections or provisions not otherwise affected shall remain in full force and effect.

Section 13. Repealing Clause. – All ordinances, executive orders, administrative orders, or other rules and regulations contrary to or inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or amended accordingly.

Section 14. Effectivity. – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after publication in a newspaper of general circulation in the region.

Approved,

Author/s:


AMILBAHAR S. MAWALLIL
Member of the Parliament

Certified correct:

PROF. RABY B. ANGKAL
Secretary General

Attested by:

ATTY. PANGALIAN M. BALINDONG
Speaker