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COMMITTEE MEETING ON HOUSE MEASURES

COMMITTEE	MEASURES		SUBJECT MATTER	ACTION TAKEN/DISCUSSION
	NO.	PRINCIPAL AUTHOR		
Ecology	Substitute Bill to HBs 97, 294, 975, 1675, 1973, 3179, 4015, 4233, 4909, 6814 6892, 7033 & 7643	Reps. Acosta-Alba, Yap (V.), Deputy Speaker Romero, Reps. Villafuerte, Cabochan, Deputy Speaker Tolentino, Reps. Villarica, Biazon, Nieto, Romulo, Reyes, Deputy Speaker Revilla, and Rep. Delos Santos	Providing for the comprehensive management of hazardous waste	<p>The Committee, chaired by Rep. Glona Labadlabad (2nd District, Zamboanga del Norte), approved the Substitute Bill to the 13 bills.</p> <p>Rep. Ma. Lourdes Acosta-Alba (1st District, Bukidnon), Chair of the technical working group (TWG) that was tasked to craft the substitute bill, presented the bill's salient features. She said the proposed law seeks to develop and implement integrated and comprehensive national and local hazardous waste management programs, focusing on pollution prevention and control, and resource conservation and recovery.</p> <p>According to Rep. Acosta-Alba, under the bill, guidelines will be promulgated for the generation, collection, segregation, transport, recovery, storage, treatment, and disposal of hazardous waste, which shall include healthcare, electronic, and special household hazardous wastes. Further, she said the entry and transit of hazardous wastes into Philippine territory will also be regulated.</p> <p>The Integrated Chemists of the Philippines, Philippine Alliance for Recycling and Materials Sustainability, Mother Earth Foundation, and Health Care Without Harm gave their respective comments and insights on the bill.</p> <p>Hazardous Waste Management Section Chief Geri Geronimo Sañez of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources-Environmental Management Bureau gave assurance that all the concerns of the stakeholders have already been addressed in the bill and that some details will just have to be included in the Implementing Rules and Regulations. He also said that the management of nuclear and radioactive wastes will be better addressed in a separate bill, as recommended by the TWG.</p> <p>Rep. Labadlabad thanked Rep. Acosta-Alba and the resource persons who took part in the deliberations of the bill at the TWG level. She lauded their efforts for coming up with a substitute bill that will advance the protection of human health and the environment from the serious risks of hazardous wastes.</p>

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