

Republic of the Philippines
House of Representatives
Quezon City, Metro Manila

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS

First Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 129



Introduced by Rep. Dale "Along" R. Malapitan

RESOLUTION

CALLING ON THE NATIONAL HOUSING AUTHORITY TO EFFECT AND IMPLEMENT A SOCIALIZED HOUSING PROGRAM ON A PARCEL OF LOT ALSO KNOWN AS "PRINTING SITE" LOCATED AT BARANGAY 173 IN THE CITY OF CALOOCAN WHICH IS CURRENTLY BEING OCCUPIED BY SOME TWO HUNDRED THIRTY ONE (231) INFORMAL SETTLER FAMILIES WHO HAVE ORGANIZED THEMSELVES INTO AN ENTITY IN ORDER TO PURSUE A COLLECTIVE GOAL TO SECURE AND LEGITIMIZE THEIR TENURIAL RIGHT OVER SAID PARCEL OF LAND.

WHEREAS, the National Housing Authority is the lead agency of the government tasked to develop and implement a comprehensive and integrated housing program in line with Section 9, Article XIII of the Constitution which provides, inter alia, that "the State shall, by law and for the common good, undertake, ... a continuing program of urban land reform and housing which will make available at affordable cost decent housing and services to underprivileged and homeless citizens in urban centers and resettlement areas...";

WHEREAS, Section 2 of Republic Act No. 7279 also known as the Urban Development and Housing Act of 1992 declares to be the policy of the State to undertake, in cooperation with the private sector, a comprehensive and continuing Urban Development and Housing Program which shall, among others, uplift the conditions of the underprivileged and homeless citizens in urban areas and in resettlement areas by making available to them decent housing at affordable cost, basic services, and employment opportunities;

WHEREAS, there exist a parcel of land in Barangay 173, in the City of Caloocan, which is commonly known as "Printing Site" where some two hundred thirty-one informal settler families, belonging to the underprivileged or homeless sector, have been occupying said lot for more than a decade now;

WHEREAS, this parcel of land is an institutional lot and part of the Congressional Employees Home Site which was established by virtue of Republic No. 3091 enacted in July 1961;

WHEREAS, letter (c), Section 5 of Republic Act No. 7279 which list down the type of lands exempted from the coverage of socialized housing program however provides that:

“(c) Those used, reserved or otherwise set aside for government offices, facilities and other installations, whether owned by the National Government, its agencies and instrumentalities, including government-owned or-controlled corporations, or by the local government units: ***Provided, however, That the lands herein mentioned, or portions thereof, which have not been used for the purpose for which they have been reserved or set aside for the past ten (10) years from the effectivity of this Act, shall be covered by this Act.***

WHEREAS, following this proviso of letter (c), Section 5 of Republic Act No. 7279, the parcel of land which is also known as “Printing Site” is therefore qualified for socialized housing inasmuch as it has been reserved or set aside for government offices, facilities and/or installations as early as 1961 or fifty-five years (55) ago and has never been used or utilized for the purpose or purposes for which it has been reserved or set aside even after fourteen (14) years since Republic Act No. 7279 was enacted into law;

WHEREAS, Section 8 of Republic Act No. 7279 which govern the identification of sites for socialized housing provides that “Government-owned lands ...which have not been used for the purpose for which they have been reserved or set aside for the past ten (10) years from the effectivity of this Act and identified as suitable for socialized housing, shall immediately be transferred to the National Housing Authority subject to the approval of the President of the Philippines or by the local government unit concerned, as the case may be, for proper disposition in accordance with this Act.”;

WHEREAS, Section 9 of Republic Act No. 7279 gives the highest priority to government-owned lands as well as that of any of its subdivisions, instrumentalities or agencies, including government-owned or-controlled corporations and their subsidiaries in the acquisition of lands for socialized housing;

WHEREAS, the United Settlers Neighborhood Association Incorporated or USNAI, the juridical entity which now bonded these informal settlers, passed and/or issued Board Resolution No. 01, Series of 2016 which seeks, inter alia, the assistance and support of Barangay 173 of Caloocan City as well as that of the city government through its chief local executive, the honorable Oscar G. Malapitan, for the eventual awarding of the land in issue to its members in consonance with the constitutional mandate for continuing program of urban land reform and housing;

WHEREAS, the right to housing is a fundamental human right which the State has the obligation to protect and promote in order to ensure that its homeless citizens will live in security, peace, and dignity;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, to call on the National Housing Authority to effect and implement a socialized housing program on a parcel of lot, also locally known as "Printing Site", located at Barangay 173 in the City of Caloocan which is currently being occupied by some two hundred thirty one (231) informal settler families for the purpose of securing their tenurial right thereto that guarantees them protection against force eviction, harassment, displacement and other forms of threat, and the opportunity to live in peace, security, harmony and dignity.

Adopted,


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