

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 882



Introduced by REPRESENTATIVE VIRGILIO S. LACSON

A RESOLUTION

DIRECTING THE APPROPRIATE COMMITTEE/S, TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, CALLING UPON THE ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION (ERC) AND MANILA ELECTRIC COMPANY (MERALCO), ON THE SUDDEN INCREASE IN ELECTRICITY RATES AND INTERRUPTIONS DURING THE ENHANCE COMMUNITY QUARANTINE AND GENERAL COMMUNITY QUARANTINE.

WHEREAS, the government's implementation of the Enhanced Community Quarantine (ECQ) and General Community Quarantine (GCQ) has forced our citizens to stay within their homes.

WHEREAS, electric consumers have complained that Meralco has suddenly increased the electricity rates as high as 3 times the normal rates during the months of April and May 2020.

WHEREAS, the prices per kilowatt-hour in March were increased to approximately six pesos (Php6.00) for about two hundred kilowatt hours (200kWh).

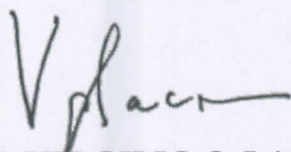
WHEREAS, in April a sudden drastic increase to twenty-one pesos (Php21.00) for about two hundred-kilowatt hours (200kWh), on top of the last six peso (Php6.00) increase.

WHEREAS, despite the increase of charges, efficiency apparently went down as have been several complaints of sudden power interruptions during the ECQ and GCQ.

WHEREAS, the need to protect our consumers is also a measure to protect our workforce performing at home during this Covid19 pandemic. Most especially affected are the consumers who have suddenly had to bear the burden on electricity consumption to perform tasks which they would otherwise have done at their usual workplace.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, by the House of Representatives that the appropriate committee/s be directed to conduct an inquiry, in aid of legislation, to call upon the Energy Regulatory Commission and the Manila Electric Company, on the sudden increase in electric rates and interruptions during Enhanced Community Quarantine and General Community Quarantine.

Adopted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'V. Lacson', with a stylized flourish at the end.

HON. VIRGILIO S. LACSON