Republic of the Philippines

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Quezon City

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS

First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 6868



Introduced by HON. LUIS RAYMUND "LRAY" F. VILLAFUERTE JR., and HON. FERDINAND MARTIN G. ROMUALDEZ

AN ACT

DECLARING THE EXISTENCE OF A CONTINUING NATIONAL EMERGENCY ARISING FROM THE CORONAVIRUS DISEASE 2019 (COVID-19) SITUATION, AMENDING SECTION 9 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 11469, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE "BAYANIHAN TO HEAL AS ONE ACT", AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Based on the Department of Health (DOH) report as of May 27, 2020, there are fifteen thousand five hundred eighty-eight (15,588) total number of COVID cases nationwide that includes nine hundred twenty-one (921) deaths. With those overwhelming recorded numbers, the continuing community transmission cannot be denied. Hence, the country coming to an end from this public health crisis is yet improbable and unforeseeable. There still persists a threat not only to the people's livelihood but most importantly to one's precious life.

Thus, the government must be allowed to continue its response in alleviating the impact of COVID-19 to the Filipinos by extending the validity and effectivity of Republic Act NO. 11469 also known as the "Bayanihan to Heal as One Act" until September 30, 2020. The aforementioned extension shall give the President the opportunity to continuously exercise the power of realigning items in the national budget for the more essential necessary and relevant items and expenses of the government. As well as the other powers granted to him under the said law and be

able to provide emergency assistance for vulnerable groups and individuals, expand medical resources to fight COVID-19, and finance emergency initiatives keeping the economy inundated.

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

LUIS RAYMUND 'LRAY" /F. VILLAFUERTE, JR.

FERDINAND MARTIN G. ROMUALDEZ

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Be it enacted by the Senate and the House of Representatives of the Philippines in Congress assembled:

SECTION 1. Section 9 of Republic Act No. 11469 otherwise known as the "Bayanihan to Heal as One Act" is hereby amended to read as follows:

"SEC. 9. Effectivity. - This Act shall take effect immediately upon its publication in a newspaper of general circulation or in the Official Gazette and shall be in full force and effect [only for three (3) months] UNTIL SEPTEMBER 30, 2020, unless extended by Congress: Provided, That the powers granted under this Act may be withdrawn sooner by means of a concurrent resolution of Congress or ended by Presidential Proclamation."

SEC. 2. Effectivity. - This Act shall take effect immediately upon its publication in a newspaper of general circulation or in the Official Gazette.

Approved,