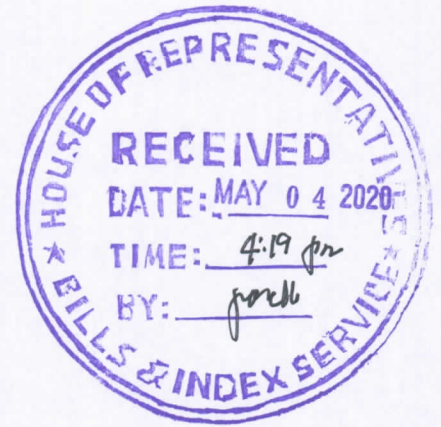




Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

EIGHTEENTH (18TH) CONGRESS
First Regular Session

House Resolution No. 819



Introduced by Representative **EDGAR R. ERICE**

RESOLUTION URGING THE DEFEAT COVID-19 COMMITTEE TO DIRECT THE DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE (DOF) AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNITS (LGUs) THROUGH THE DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT (DILG) TO WAIVE FEES FOR THE DECLARATION OF CLOSURE / CESSATION OF BUSINESSES AFFECTED BY THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC FOR ONE CALENDAR YEAR

WHEREAS, COVID-19 is a mild to severe respiratory illness caused by a coronavirus and is transmitted chiefly by contact with infectious material such as respiratory droplets or with objects or surfaces contaminated with the causative virus;

WHEREAS, based on the latest data from the Department of Health, there are 8,928 total number of COVID-19 cases in the country with 1,124 recoveries and 603 deaths;

WHEREAS, the Office of the President issued Proclamation No. 929 on 16 March 2020, declaring a State of Calamity throughout the Philippines due to COVID-19 and imposing Enhanced Community Quarantine (ECQ) throughout Luzon;

WHEREAS, with the shutdown of all economic activities in the whole of Luzon, including the country's capital, the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas (BSP)¹ predicts that the COVID-19 pandemic would have a longer and more disruptive impact on the economy for the rest of 2020 and expects the economy to rebound by 2021;

¹CNN Philippines. <https://www.cnnphilippines.com/business/2020/3/20/coronavirus-PH-economy.html> retrieved on 03 May 2020.

WHEREAS, while the national government has prepared economic stimulus packages for Micro, Small to Medium enterprises (MSMEs), some business owners may decide to close their businesses and cease all operations;

WHEREAS, the process of business closure in the country is a long and tedious one, with business owners required to inform several government offices, such as, but not limited to: local city/municipal business permit and licensing offices, Department of Trade and Industry (DTI), Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE), Bureau of Internal Revenue (BIR), Social Security System (SSS), Philippine Health Insurance Corporation (PhilHealth), and Home Development Mutual Fund (HDMF) among others, of their decision to cease operations and, consequently, pay for the necessary business cancellation fees;

WHEREAS, these fees pose additional burden to business owners who have suffered great economic loss and are in the process of rebuilding their lives and adapting to the "new normal";

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED THAT the Defeat COVID-19 Committee direct the Department of Finance and the Local Government Units through the Department of the Interior and Local Government to waive fees for the declaration of closure / cessation of businesses affected by the COVID-19 pandemic for one calendar year.

Adopted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'ERICE', with a large, stylized circular flourish to the left.

EDGAR R. ERICE

Representative

District 2, Caloocan City