



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



Eighteenth Congress
First Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 961

Introduced by Representatives Ferdinand Martin G. Romualdez
and Bienvenido M. Abante, Jr.

RESOLUTION

**COMMENDING THE HONORABLE SPEAKER ALAN PETER
“COMPAÑERO” S. CAYETANO FOR HIS EXEMPLARY AND
DYNAMIC STEWARDSHIP OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
DURING THE FIRST REGULAR SESSION OF THE EIGHTEENTH
CONGRESS**

WHEREAS, with probity and dedication to service, Speaker Alan Peter “Compañero” S. Cayetano has discharged the functions and responsibilities of his office with distinction and effectively presided over the First Regular Session of the Eighteenth Congress with great efficiency worthy of the admiration and respect of his colleagues and the Filipino people;

WHEREAS, in the first ten months of the Eighteenth Congress under the dynamic leadership and guidance of Speaker Cayetano, the House of Representatives has approved measures of major importance which were enacted into laws, such as: Republic Act (RA) No. 11465, the P4.1-Trillion 2020 General Appropriations Act which was passed in record time last September 2019; RA 11462, the law which postponed the conduct of the 2020 Barangay and Sangguniang Kabataan Elections; RA 11463, also known as the “Malasakit Centers Act;” RA 11464, the law extending the availability of the 2019 appropriations to December 31, 2020; RA 11466, also known as the

“Salary Standardization Law of 2019;” RA 11467, the law increasing the excise tax rate on alcohol beverages and electronic cigarettes; RA 11468, also known as the “National Day of Remembrance for Road Crash Victims, Survivors, and Their Families Act;” and RA 11469, also known as the “Bayanihan to Heal As One Act;”

WHEREAS, the House of Representatives also approved, on Third Reading, priority bills of President Rodrigo Roa Duterte, comprising the comprehensive tax reform program of the government, as follows: House Bill (HB) No. 304, or the *“Passive Income and Financial Intermediary Taxation Act;”* HB 4157, or the *“Corporate Income Tax and Incentive Rationalization Act;”* HB 4664, or the *“Real Property Valuation Act;”* and HB 6312, or the *“Establishment of the National Sports Academy;”*

WHEREAS, on January 22, 2020, in an unprecedented and historic move, the House of Representatives, through the initiative of Speaker Cayetano, held its first out-of-town plenary session with more than two hundred House Members in attendance at the Batangas City Convention Center, amid the PHIVOLCS placing the area under Alert Level 4, to listen to the plight of the victims of the Taal Volcano eruption, and after considering the sentiments and needs of the victims, barangay captains, mayors and other local officials of the Province of Batangas, the House of Representatives adopted unanimously House Resolution (HR) No. 655 urging the immediate release of funds for the aid, relief, resettlement, rehabilitation, livelihood, development and social programs and services to communities adversely affected by the Taal Volcano eruption; and HR 622, expressing the support and commitment of the House of Representatives to work with all the concerned agencies to pass the proposed supplemental budget to expedite effective and responsive assistance to those affected by the Taal Volcano eruption;

WHEREAS, as the country grapples with the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic crisis that is raging throughout the world since March 2020, the House of Representatives broke historic ground when Speaker Cayetano shepherded its Members to deliberate and approve on final reading HB 6616 which eventually became Republic Act No. 11469, also known as the *“Bayanihan to Heal As One Act,”* during the first-ever plenary session via video conference;

WHEREAS, Speaker Cayetano transformed the House into a digitally connected collegial body, tapping and utilizing information and communications technology applications for regular committee and plenary deliberations on ways to mitigate the spread and social impact of the COVID-19 virus and stimulate our economy;

WHEREAS, together with the other leaders of the House of Representatives, Speaker Cayetano enabled the creation of the Defeat COVID-19 Committee (DCC), as an *ad hoc* forum to meet the crisis head on and for the Members of Congress to listen to the heads of the Executive Department and experts, in order to craft appropriate government response against the adverse economic effects of the pandemic and monitor the implementation of the essential measures enacted by Congress;

WHEREAS, under the DCC, various standing and special committees of the House of Representatives were clustered into five (5) subcommittees, namely: Economic Stimulus, Health, Peace and Order, Social Amelioration, and New Normal which held a series of productive technical working group and sub-committee meetings via video conferencing, where each subcommittee presented their recommendations;

WHEREAS, thus far, a total of fifty-nine (59) measures have been referred to the DCC which approved the following: HB 6817, or the "*COVID-19-Related Anti-Discrimination Act*;" HB 6709, or the "*COVID-19 Unemployment Reduction Economic Stimulus (CURES) Act of 2020*;" HB 6815, or the "*Philippine Economic Stimulus (PESA) Act*;" HB 6622, or the "*Financial Institutions Strategic Transfer (FIST) Act*;" HB 6864, or the "*Better Normal for the Workplace, Communities and Public Spaces Act of 2020*;" and HB 6865, or the "*Crushing COVID-19 Act*;"

WHEREAS, several measures including the following are still pending with the DCC for further deliberations: HB 6633, or known the "*Modernization of Public Health Emergency Preparedness Act*;" and HB 6648, or the "*Philippine National Infectious Disease Hospital and Research Center*;"

WHEREAS, a proven politically savvy leader, Speaker Cayetano had risen above his own personal interest to pursue national and the people's welfare when he broke his silence on the closure of media giant ABS-CBN Corporation, confronted the pressure of public opinion favoring the ABS-CBN,

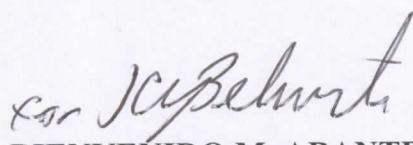
and vowed that the Committee on Legislative Franchises of the House of Representatives will conduct hearings on the franchise of ABS-CBN in a fair, impartial, thorough and comprehensive manner;

WHEREAS, outside the halls of Congress, his love for sports and the welfare of the Filipino athletes did not go unnoticed as he was chosen by President Rodrigo Roa Duterte as chairperson of the Philippine Southeast Asian Games Organizing Committee and untiringly spearheaded the preparations for the 30th Southeast Asian Games hosted by the Philippines from November 30 to December 11, 2019, and with his excellent leadership, the Southeast Asian Games was a huge success and was highly praised by the participating countries;

WHEREAS, in appreciation of the overall performance of the House of Representatives under the leadership of Speaker Cayetano, the Members express their full support and recognition for the Speaker who continues to gain the trust and confidence of the Filipino people as shown by the Pulse Asia survey last December 2019 where he received an eighty percent (80%) approval and seventy-six percent (76%) trust ratings: Now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, To commend Speaker Alan Peter “*Compañero*” S. Cayetano for his exemplary and dynamic stewardship of the House of Representatives during the First Regular Session of the Eighteenth Congress.

Adopted,


BIENVENIDO M. ABANTE, JR.


FERDINAND MARTIN G. ROMUALDEZ