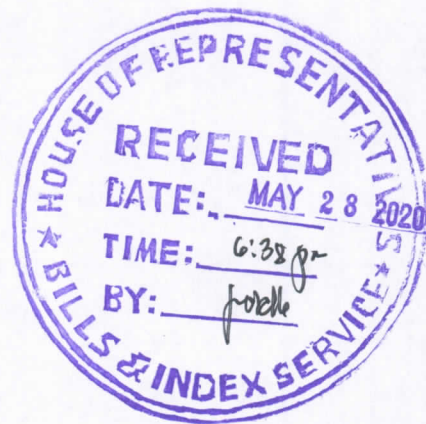




Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS

First Regular Session



COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 335

Submitted by the Defeat COVID-19 *Ad-Hoc* Committee on MAY 28 2020;

Re: House Resolution No. 926;

Recommending its adoption, in substitution of House Resolution No. 807.

Sponsors: Reps. Cayetano (A.P), Romualdez (F.), Villafuerte, Torres-Gomez and Fernando

Mr. Speaker:

The Defeat COVID-19 *Ad-Hoc* Committee to which was referred House Resolution No. 807 introduced by Rep. Fernando, entitled:

“A RESOLUTION
URGING THE NATIONAL GOVERNMENT TO FAST TRACK THE DISBURSEMENT
OF THE 2ND TRANCHE OF THE SPECIAL AMELIORATION PROGRAM (SAP) BY
GIVING THE BARANGAY THE POWER TO IDENTIFY THE BENEFICIARIES AND
TO DISBURSE THE ALLOCATION”

has considered the same and recommends the adoption of House Resolution No. 926
entitled:

**“RESOLUTION
URGING THE NATIONAL GOVERNMENT TO FAST TRACK THE
DISBURSEMENT OF THE SECOND TRANCHE OF THE SOCIAL
AMELIORATION PROGRAM EMERGENCY CASH SUBSIDY BY AUTHORIZING
THE BARANGAY TO IDENTIFY THE BENEFICIARIES AND DISBURSE THE
ALLOCATION FAIRLY, EFFICIENTLY AND RESPONSIBLY”**

in substitution of House Resolution No. 807 with Reps. Fernando, Villafuerte, Torres-Gomez, Eriguel, Roman, Acosta-Alba, Arroyo, Enverga, Gatchalian, Datol, Romulo, Go (M.),

Lacson, Pineda, Mendoza, Sarmiento, Caminero, Gonzales (A.), Hernandez, Bagatsing, Paduano, Canama and Kho (E.) as authors thereof.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'F. Romualdez', written in a cursive style.

FERDINAND MARTIN G. ROMUALDEZ

Co-Chairperson

Defeat COVID-19 *Ad-Hoc* Committee

THE HONORABLE SPEAKER
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
QUEZON CITY



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

Eighteenth Congress
First Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. **926**

(In substitution of House Resolution No. 807)

Introduced by Representatives Bayani “BF” Fernando, Raymund Luis “LRay” Villafuerte, Jr., Lucy Torres-Gomez, Sandra Eriguel, Geraldine Roman, Ma. Lourdes Acosta-Alba, Ma. Lourdes Arroyo, Mark Enverga, Weslie Gatchalian, Francisco Datol, Roman Romulo, Mark Go, Virgilio Lacson, Enrico Pineda, Raymond Democrito Mendoza, Edgar Mary Sarmiento, Wilfredo “Willy” Caminero, Aurelio “Dong” Gonzales, Ferdinand Hernandez, Cristal Bagatsing, Joseph Stephen “Caraps” Paduano, Sabiniano Canama, Elisa Kho

RESOLUTION

URGING THE NATIONAL GOVERNMENT TO FAST TRACK THE DISBURSEMENT OF THE SECOND TRANCHE OF THE SOCIAL AMELIORATION PROGRAM EMERGENCY CASH SUBSIDY BY AUTHORIZING THE BARANGAY TO IDENTIFY THE BENEFICIARIES AND DISBURSE THE ALLOCATION FAIRLY, EFFICIENTLY AND RESPONSIBLY

WHEREAS, on March 9, 2020, Presidential Proclamation No. 922, Series of 2020, was issued by President Rodrigo Duterte declaring a State of Public Health Emergency throughout the Philippines in view of the rising cases of Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) locally and globally;

WHEREAS, on March 12, 2020, the Inter-Agency Task Force for the Management of Emerging Infectious Diseases (IATF-EID) raised the COVID-19 threat to the highest level due to its sustained community transmission that prompted the imposition of an Enhanced Community Quarantine in the National Capital Region (NCR) and the entire Luzon;

WHEREAS, the Enhanced Community Quarantine restricted the mobility of people and caused the closure of almost all business establishments, disrupting economic activities all over the country and severely affecting low-income earners who have lost their livelihood;

WHEREAS, with the passage of Republic Act No. 11469, otherwise known as the "*Bayanihan to Heal as One Act*," the government provided safety nets, one of which is the Two hundred billion peso (P200,000,000,000.00) Social Amelioration Program that served as subsidy to the most affected families and individuals;

WHEREAS, the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) was tasked to administer the distribution of the emergency cash subsidies amounting to Five thousand pesos (P5,000) to Eight thousand pesos (P8,000) monthly for two months to low-income families with at least one member belonging to the informal economy and most vulnerable sectors of the society, or whose entire family totally lost their source of income during the implementation of the Luzon-wide Enhanced Community Quarantine;

WHEREAS, the Social Amelioration Program cash subsidies were to be downloaded to the poorest of the poor and most vulnerable sectors affected by the lockdown and distributed directly by the local government units (LGUs) to the intended beneficiaries identified under Republic Act No. 11469, but when complaints that certain LGUs were delayed in the implementation of the Social Amelioration Program due to politics and the usual bureaucratic red tape, President Rodrigo Duterte decided to designate the DSWD as the administrator of the funds;

WHEREAS, in the distribution of cash subsidies under the first tranche of the Social Amelioration Program, there were reports especially in the NCR that the rightful beneficiaries were unfairly prejudiced as their names were not included in the list of qualified beneficiaries and the names listed by the barangay were eventually over-ruled by the DSWD, which had the final say on the matter;

WHEREAS, the inefficiency in the distribution of the cash subsidy was made evident in the April 23, 2020 monitoring report by the Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG), where only 25.4 percent of the Social Amelioration Program funds had so far been distributed by the LGUs all over Luzon and only 104 out of 1,632 LGUs had completed the cash aid distribution as of May 1, 2020;

WHEREAS, for more expeditious and orderly implementation of the Social Amelioration Program, the same must be delegated instead to the DILG and coursed through the barangays, as they know their constituency better and

thus, will be more effective at the forefront while at the same time relieving the DSWD of the additional burden of aid distribution, so it may concentrate more on its regular programs and mandates;

WHEREAS, the National Government is urged to consider the following courses of action:

1. Provide every family nationwide with cash assistance under the Social Amelioration Program in the amount of Five thousand pesos (P5,000.00) across the board, regardless of social status, physical or mental condition, age, gender, and vocation or trade;
2. Mandate the barangay captains to prepare a barangay family registry containing the list of family beneficiaries, their addresses, and number of family members, in their barangays which must be certified by the Sangguniang Barangay by way of a resolution;
3. Require the immediate posting of the list of family beneficiaries in every street corner in the barangay to inform the beneficiaries and the public, for purposes of accuracy and transparency, as the immediate neighbors are the best to know the legitimate families in their neighborhood and public censure is a sure deterrent to the padding of the lists;
4. Within three (3) days after the initial posting of the certified list, and after subsequent and necessary corrections and final posting have already been made, the list shall be submitted to the Secretary of the Interior and Local Government for review, who shall in turn submit the list to the Department of Budget and Management(DBM);
5. Direct the DBM to release the Social Amelioration Program funds directly to the barangays which shall immediately disburse the allocated amount to the beneficiaries through the barangay treasurer, with the barangay captains and treasurers taking responsibility for the accounting of the funds, as the barangay is the only unit of government with a treasurer authorized and accountable to receive and disburse funds in the smallest, or biggest, or farthestmost barangays in the country, and thus, may immediately, safely and effectively distribute the funds;
6. Require the barangay to post in every street corner within the barangay the disbursements made in the prescribed form and report to the DILG within the number of days in accordance with the following schedule:

- | | | |
|----------------------------|---|-----------------|
| (a). 500 families | - | 2 calendar days |
| (b). 501 to 1000 families | - | 3 calendar days |
| (c). 1001 to 5000 families | - | 4 calendar days |
| (d).over 5001 families | - | 5 calendar days |

7. Require the DILG to post copies of the submitted final report in every street corner within the barangay, in addition to the barangay posting;
8. The final report of the DILG shall indicate that each beneficiary in the list has received the full amount of Five thousand pesos(P5,000.00);
9. Impose the maximum possible administrative penalty against erring barangay captains and treasurers who will commit any anomaly in the listing and disbursement of Social Amelioration Program funds during this critical emergency situation;
10. Direct the DSWD, in consultation with the Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA), to immediately prescribe the definition of family for this purpose, assist the DILG in the review of the barangay submitted list, monitor and provide feedback and advice to the DILG; and
11. Direct the PSA to provide the DILG the statistical data it may need for its review of the barangay submitted list, and immediately after the disbursement period, make its own inventory and assessment of the scale and reach of the program for reference of the DILG in checking the performance of barangays all over the country.

WHEREAS, it is imperative for the National Government, through the DILG, to revisit the implementation of the Social Amelioration Program and introduce procedural changes as herein proposed to ensure that emergency subsidies will reach the people who need it most in the fastest, most orderly and efficient way: Now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Representatives, To urge the National Government to fast track the disbursement of the second tranche of the Social Amelioration Program Emergency Cash Subsidy by authorizing the barangay to identify the beneficiaries and disburse the allocation fairly, efficiently and responsibly.

Adopted,