

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Batasan Hills, Quezon City

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 729



Introduced by Honorable Representatives
ARLENE D. BROSAS (Gabriela Women's Party);
CARLOS ISAGANI T. ZARATE, EUFEMIA C. CULLAMAT and FERDINAND R. GAITE (Bayan Muna);
FRANCE L. CASTRO (ACT Teachers); and SARAH JANE I. ELAGO (Kabataan)

RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON POVERTY ALLEVIATION AND COMMITTEE ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT TO CONDUCT AN INVESTIGATION, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF DILG MEMORANDUM ORDER NO. 121 SERIES OF 2019 AND ITS EFFECTS ON THE WELFARE OF SIDEWALK VENDORS

WHEREAS, on July 29, 2019, the Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG) issued the memorandum circular 2019-121, that contains the presidential directive to all provincial governors, city and municipal mayors, punong barangays, heads of local sanggunians, DILG regional directors, BARMM regional governor and all other concerned offices to clear road of illegal structures and constructions. Hence, this operation targets illegally parked vehicles, barangay and police outposts and most especially sidewalk vendors;

WHEREAS, the memorandum order directs concerned authorities to reclaim public roads which are being used for private ends and for the riddance of illegal structures and constructions. From the time it was issued, local executives were given 60 calendar days to accomplish the order;

WHEREAS, pursuant to the memorandum order 121 s. 2019, local executives were directed to revoke permits that give authority to private entities to occupy public roads, alleys and other thoroughfares;

WHEREAS, local government units who failed to comply and got failing marks received show cause orders for non-compliance or under compliance. They were only given five days to explain their act;

WHEREAS, last October, DILG Undersecretary and Spokesperson Jonathan Malaya stated that the road clearing operation, that ended in September 29, is now a continuous program of the government. DILG will release a new memorandum circular about the continuation of the program and the quarterly validation of the operations of all LGUs which started last December;

WHEREAS, DILG Memorandum Circular 2020-027, the new memorandum that contains the order on the continuation of the said clearing operations, was released last February 7, 2020;

WHEREAS, Secretary Eduardo Año said that more roads will be cleared of all forms of obstruction starting February. The program, set to begin in February 16, will focus on tertiary or barangay (village) roads;

According to him, local governments have 75 days to clear tertiary roads from common obstructions including illegally-parked vehicles, sidewalk vendors, street dwellers, and barangay outposts;

WHEREAS, as declared in the memorandum order, local governments are likewise encouraged to develop and implement strategies that will address the displacement issues caused by the implementation of this directive;

WHEREAS, in certain areas, any form of consultation with the affected vendors were not conducted., thus resulting in the disruption of the livelihood of these vendors;

WHEREAS, displaced street vendors in Divisoria staged a protest against this operation last November 18, 2019. The group of more than 5,000 vendors said that no consultations were conducted, and neither were they offered an alternative place for their livelihood. Hence, it has been months that said vendors were deprived of regular income for their families;

WHEREAS, street vendors along Batasan road were also displaced without a definite place where they can transfer. Since the implementation of this order, the said vendors do not have a concrete source of income;

WHEREAS, as stated in section 4, (b) of Republic Act 11291 or the Magna Carta of the Poor, "right to decent work is the right to the opportunity to obtain decent and productive employment, in conditions of freedom, equity, gender equality, security, and human dignity";

WHEREAS, section 4, (b), (3) of the same law declares that the Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE) and other implementing agencies concerned shall "promote livelihood among the poor where implementing agencies shall provide technical and administrative support to help the poor establish their livelihood enterprise";

WHEREAS, section 6 of the aforementioned law says "the government shall implement a sustainable mechanism to build an effective social protection system to ensure the access of the poor to protection from any risk or contingency";

WHEREAS, this DILG memorandum order and the negligence of concerned officials to address the issue of vendors clearly manifests the lack of concern on the welfare of street vendors;

WHEREAS, there is a need to review the implementation of the DILG Memorandum Order, and that concerned agencies should protect and uphold the rights and welfare of the marginalized;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the House Committee on Poverty Alleviation and the House Committee on Local Government conduct an investigation, in aid of legislation, on the implementation of DILG memorandum order no. 121 series of 2019 and its effects on the welfare of sidewalk vendors.


Adopted,



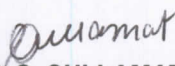
ARLENE D. BROSAS
Gabriela Women's Party



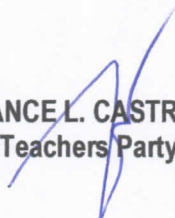
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