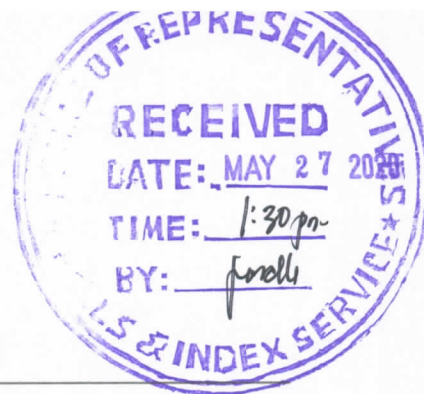


EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS)
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
First Regular Session)



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Introduced by Representative Rufus B. Rodriguez

House Res No. 913

A RESOLUTION

URGING EXECUTIVE SECRETARY SALVADOR MEDIALDEA AND THE COVID-19 INTER-AGENCY TASK FORCE FOR THE MANAGEMENT OF EMERGING INFECTIOUS DISEASES TO INCLUDE IN THE COVERAGE OF THE SECOND TRANCHE OF THE SOCIAL AMELIORATION PROGRAM (SAP) AREAS UNDER GENERAL COMMUNITY QUARANTINE (GCQ)

WHEREAS, last March 24, 2020, Republic Act 11469 or the Bayanihan to Heal as One Act was enacted;

WHEREAS, under this law, specifically Article 4, Paragraph (c), it provides that the President is authorized to:

“(c) Provide an emergency subsidy to around eighteen (18) million low income households: Provided, That the subsidy shall amount to a minimum of Five thousand pesos (P5,000.00) to a maximum of Eight thousand pesos (P8,000.00) a month for two (2) months: Provided, further, That the subsidy shall be computed based on the prevailing regional minimum wage rates: Provided, finally, That the subsidy received from the current conditional cash transfer program and rice subsidy shall be taken into consideration in the computation of the emergency subsidy as provided for in this Act;”

WHEREAS, it is clear in the law that 18 million low income households are entitled to receive 2 months subsidy;

WHEREAS, according to the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD), as of May 21, 2020, more than P98.6 billion worth of subsidies have been distributed to over 17.5 million SAP beneficiaries, which is 97.4 percent of the 18 million low-income families targeted to receive the emergency subsidies and that out of the P81.7 billion SAP funds downloaded to the LGUs, P79.9 billion has been disbursed to a total of 13,185,426 non-Pantawid Pamilya families;

WHEREAS, the above data is for the first tranche of the subsidies to be given by the government;

WHEREAS, last May 12, 2020, the government placed Metro Manila, Laguna and Cebu under modified enhanced community quarantine (MECQ) which was later amended to also include Bataan, Bulacan, Nueva Ecija, Pampanga, Zambales, and Angeles City from May 16 to 31;

WHEREAS, the rest of the country was placed under general community quarantine (GCQ);

WHEREAS; in a memorandum issued by Executive Secretary Salvador Medialdea dated May 22, 2020, it was ordered that the original number of SAP beneficiaries who will receive

the first tranche of emergency subsidies should be retained and an additional five million poor families shall be included in the list of beneficiaries of the second wave of cash assistance under the SAP;

WHEREAS, it was also announced that President Rodrigo R. Duterte finally approved the recommendation of the Inter-Agency Task Force for the Management of Emerging Infectious Diseases (IATF) to limit the coverage of the second tranche of SAP benefits to areas that will remain under enhanced community quarantine (ECQ) up to May 31, 2020;

WHEREAS, it was, however, also stated that poor families living in places under general community quarantine (GCQ) MAY also qualify to receive the second tranche of cash aid;

WHEREAS, this is contrary to the provisions of RA 11469 which does not qualify or limit the recipients of the SAP to families living in areas under ECQ or MECQ;

WHEREAS, being under GCQ does not mean that low income families living in GCQ areas will be able to go to work already and will have income;

WHEREAS, it definitely does not mean that they are disqualified from benefitting under the government's SAP.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the House of Representatives to urge Executive Secretary Salvador Medialdea and the COVID-19 Inter-Agency Task Force for the Management of Emerging Infectious Diseases to include in the coverage of the second tranche of the social amelioration program (SAP) areas under general community quarantine (GCQ)

Adopted,


RUFUS B. RODRIGUEZ