



Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS

First Regular Session

COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 312

Submitted by the Defeat COVID-19 *Ad Hoc* Committee on MAY 26, 2020

Re: House Bill No. 6815;

Recommending its approval, in substitution of House Bills No. 6606, 6612, 6613, 6614, 6617, 6619, 6621, 6649, 6683 and 6693.

Sponsors: Reps. Cayetano (A.P.), Romualdez (F.), Salceda, Garin (S.) and Quimbo.

Mr. Speaker:

The Defeat COVID-19 *Ad Hoc* Committee to which were referred House Bill No. 6606 introduced by Rep. Quimbo, entitled:

“AN ACT
APPROPRIATING THE SUM OF THREE HUNDRED SEVENTY BILLION PESOS
(P370,000,000,000) FOR THE 2020 STIMULUS PACKAGE TO ADDRESS THE
ECONOMIC IMPACT OF COVID-19”

House Bill No. 6612 introduced by Rep. Rodriguez, entitled:

“AN ACT
APPROPRIATING THE AMOUNT OF TEN BILLION PESOS TO FUND AN
EMERGENCY TOURISM STIMULUS PROGRAM OF THE DEPARTMENT OF
TOURISM TO MITIGATE THE EFFECTS OF THE COVID-19 IN THE TOURISM
SECTOR”

House Bill No. 6613 introduced by Rep. Rodriguez, entitled:

“AN ACT

APPROPRIATING THE AMOUNT OF THREE HUNDRED BILLION PESOS TO FUND AN EMERGENCY EMPLOYMENT PROGRAM OF THE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT TO MITIGATE THE EFFECTS OF COVID-19 ON THE EMPLOYMENT SECTOR”

House Bill No. 6614 introduced by Rep. Rodriguez, entitled:

“AN ACT

APPROPRIATING THE AMOUNT OF TEN BILLION PESOS TO FUND AN EMERGENCY BUSINESS STIMULUS PROGRAM OF THE DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY TO MITIGATE THE EFFECTS OF COVID-19 ON THE EMPLOYMENT SECTOR”

House Bill No. 6617 introduced by Rep. Hipolito Castelo, entitled:

“AN ACT

MANDATING A THIRTY-DAY NATIONAL PAYMENT HOLIDAY DUE TO THE CORONA VIRUS DISEASE 2019 (COVID-19) GLOBAL PANDEMIC”

House Bill No. 6619 introduced by Rep. Salceda, entitled:

“AN ACT

PROVIDING A NATIONAL STIMULUS STRATEGY TO RESTORE ECONOMIC GROWTH AND EMPLOYMENT, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

House Bill No. 6621 introduce by Rep. Herrera-Dy, entitled:

“AN ACT

MANDATING A MORATORIUM OF FINANCIAL OBLIGATIONS UNDER STATE OF CALAMITY”

House Bill No. 6649 introduced by Rep. Hipolito Castelo, entitled:

“AN ACT

MANDATING A TAX HOLIDAY FOR ALL QUALIFIED HEALTH WORKERS SERVING AT THE FRONTLINES DURING THE CORONA VIRUS DISEASE 2019 (COVID-19) GLOBAL PANDEMIC”

House Bill No. 6683 introduced by Rep. Tambunting, entitled:

“AN ACT

PROVIDING RELIEF TO MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES (MSMEs) IN RELATION TO THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

and House Bill No. 6693 introduced by Rep. Lagman, entitled:

"AN ACT

**APPROPRIATING THE AMOUNT OF ONE TRILLION PESOS FOR THE
CONTINUED EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE AND ECONOMIC STIMULUS
PACKAGE FOR COVID-19 RESPONSE".**

has considered the same and is honored to recommend the approval of House Bill No. **6815**, entitled:

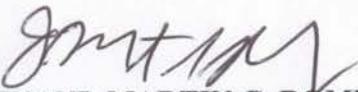
AN ACT

**ESTABLISHING AN ECONOMIC STIMULUS STRATEGY FOR THE
COUNTRY'S GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT IN THE AFTERMATH OF
COVID-19, AND PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFOR**

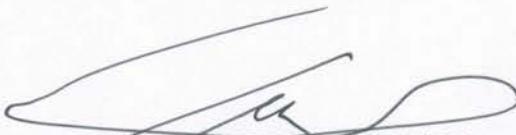
in substitution of House Bills Numbered 6606, 6612, 6613, 6614, 6617, 6619, 6621, 6649, 6683 and 6693, with Reps. Salceda, Quimbo, Garin (S.), Cayetano, (A.P.), Romualdez (F.M.), Yap (E.), Rodriguez, Castelo, Herrera-Dy, Tambunting, Lagman, Zubiri, Torres-Gomez, Padiernos, Singson-Meehan, Abu, Benitez, Defensor (L.), Garcia III (J.E.), Baronda, Bagatsing, Albano, Suansing (E.), Biazon, Aglipay, Barbers, Gorriceta, De Venecia, Romero, Nograles (J.J.), Mariño, Duavit, Suansing Jr. (H.), Savellano, Violago, Romualdez (Y.M.), Macapagal Arroyo, Legarda, Aragones, Pimentel, Fernando, Escudero, Collantes, Tallado, Suntay, Ecleo, Nolasco, Jr., Ong, Jr, (J.). Espino, Dy III (F.M.), Villa, Gonzales, Jr. (A.), Fuentebella, Garcia (P.J.), Gatchalian, Canama, Caminero, Matugas II, Salimbangon, Chipeco, Jr., Abellanosa, Lacson, Tan (A.S.), Tejada, Romualdo, Barzaga, Jr., Reyes, Fariñas (R.Ch.), Salo, Sacdalan, Dy (F.V.), Cojuangco, Abante, Abaya, Abueg-Zaldivar, Alvarez (F.), Belmonte, Bordado, Chatto, Dagooc, De Jesus, Ebcas, Fortun, Garin (J.), Guya, Hataman, Limkaichong, Mariano-Hernandez, Ramirez-Sato, Sangcopan, Tan (S.A.), Advincula, Billones, Cabatbat, Co (A.N.), Del Mar, Noel, Olivarez, Bulut Jr., Madrona, Guico III, Lopez (M.L.), Garbin Jr., Marcoleta, Saulog, Delos Santos, Tulfo, Paduano, Ong (R.), Aguinaldo, Bustos, Fortuno, Lim, Momo Sr., Datol Jr., Pineda, Defensor (M.), Taduran, Ermita-Buhain, Villaraza-Suarez, Bernos; Tan (Sh.), Hofer, Frasco, Yap (V.), Pacquiao (R.), Estrella III, Lagon, Deloso-Montalla, Panotes, Co (E.), Hernandez, Jimenez, Jr., Teves (J.), Pacquiao (A.), Geron, Velasco, Villanueva (N.), Haresco, Jr., Ty (A.), Barba, Bautista, Aumentado, Agabas, Almario, Andaya, Arbison, Bascug, Cagas, Dalipe, Daza, Dujali, Go (M.), Kho (W.), Plaza, Tiangco, Uy (J.), Valmayor, Sagarbarria, Vergara, Vargas-Alfonso, Lara, Babasa, Jr., Gasataya, Acosta, Chungalao, Suarez (A.), Roman, Loyola, Acop, Dy (I.P.), Sakaluran, Revilla, Natividad-Nagaño, Tan (Samier), Arenas, Balindong, Bolilia, Campos, Jr., Celeste, Crisologo, Cuaresma, Cueva, Dialog, Jr., Dimaporo (M.K.), Eriguel, Fariñas (R.C.), Flores, Gato, Jr., Go (E.C.), Jalosjos, Jr., Lazatin, Maceda, Mangaoang, Nieto, Ortega, Peña, Jr., Radaza, Ramos, Roque, Siao, Tupas, Valeriano, Villafuerte, Jr., Cari, Alonte, Nuñez-Malanyaon, Nava, Ouano-Dizon, Arroyo, Robes, Puno, Tan (A.), Umali (A.), Sarmiento, Fernandez, Alvarez, Jr. (G.), Acosta-Alba, Gonzalez, Singson, Jr., Lusotan, Rivera, Mendoza, Abunda, Javier, Umali (M.V.), Pichay, Jr., Biron, Lacson-Noel, Tutor, Villanueva (E.), Veloso III, Tolentino, Enverga, Cabredo, Leachon, Bautista-Bandigan, Calderon, Labadlabad, Cayetano (M.L.), Adiong, Bravo, Jr., Ferrer (J.),

Oaminal, Romulo, Ty (D.), Vargas, Bañas-Nograles, Marquez, Santos-Recto, Sanchez, Pancho, Bondoc, Palma II, Garcia (V.), Remulla, Silverio, Villar, Gonzales II (N.) and Agarao as authors thereof.

Respectfully submitted,


FERDINAND MARTIN G. ROMUALDEZ
Co-Chairperson
Defeat COVID-19 *Ad-Hoc* Committee


ERIC GO YAP
Chairperson
Committee on Appropriations


JOEY SARTESALCEDA
Chairperson
Committee on Ways and Means

THE HONORABLE SPEAKER
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
QUEZON CITY

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. **6815**

(In Substitution of House Bills No. 6606, 6612, 6613, 6614, 6617, 6619, 6621, 6649, 6683
and 6693)

Introduced by Representatives Joey Sarte Salceda, Stella Luz Quimbo, Sharon Garin, Alan Peter S. Cayetano, Ferdinand Martin G. Romualdez, Rufus B. Rodriguez, Precious Hipolito Castelo, Bernadette Herrera-Dy, Joy Myra S. Tambunting, Edcel C. Lagman, Luis Raymund "Lray" F. Villafuerte Jr., Eric Go Yap, Ferdinand L. Hernandez, Evelina G. Escudero, Loren Legarda, Conrado M. Estrella III, Prospero A. Pichay Jr., Roberto V. Puno, Eduardo C. Villanueva, Aurelio D. Gonzales Jr., Johnny Ty Pimentel, Raneo E. Abu, Dan S. Fernandez, Rosemarie "Baby" J. Arenas, Rodante D. Marcoleta, Henry S. Oaminal, Pablo John F. Garcia, Deogracias Victor "DV" B. Savellano, Vilma Santos-Recto, Mujiv S. Hataman, Michael L. Romero, Ph.D., Bienvenido M. Abante Jr., Jesus Crispin C. Remulla, Juan Miguel Macapagal Arroyo, Lianda B. Bolilia, Cristal L. Bagatsing, Juan Pablo "Rimpy" P. Bondoc, Christopher V.P. de Venecia, Marlyn "Len" B. Alonte, Xavier Jesus D. Romualdo, Josephine Veronique R. Lacson-Noel, Wilter "Sharky" Wee Palma II, Ma. Theresa V. Collantes, Ria Christina G. Fariñas, Janette L. Garin, Jose Christopher Y. Belmonte, Sharee Ann T. Tan, Joseph Stephen "Caraps" S. Paduano, Bayani F. Fernando, Jose "Bonito" C. Singson, Abraham "Bambol" N. Tolentino, Eleandro Jesus F. Madrona, Eric L. Olivarez, Anna Marie Villaraza-Suarez, Manuel Luis T. Lopez, Joseph Sto, Niño B. Bernos, Mario Vittorio "Marvey" A. Mariño, Edgar M. Chatto, Vincent Franco "Duke" D. Frasco, Sol Aragones, Lord Allan Jay Q. Velasco, Carlos O. Cojuangco, Shernee A. Tan, Elenita Milagros "Eileen" Ermita-Buhain, Jocelyn F. Fortuno, Ramon "Mon-Mon" V. Guico III, Francis Gerald Aguinaldo Abaya, Elias C. Bulut Jr., Rogelio "Ruel" D. Pacquiao, Virgilio S. Lacson, Lucy Torres-Gomez, Mark O. Go, Leslie T. Gatchalian, Edgar Mary S. Sarmiento, Roman T. Romulo, Eric A. Pineda, Joseph "Jojo" L. Lara, Noel L. Villanueva, Frederick W. Siao, Cheryl P. Delos-Montalla, Victor A. Yap, Ann K. Hofer, Angelina "Helen" D.L. Tan, Aristotle C. Aumentado, Solomon R. Chungalao, Wilfrido Mark M. Enverga, Leo Rafael M. Cueva, Sabiniano S. Canama, Elpidio F. Barzaga Jr., Geraldine B. Roman, Raymond Democrito C. Mendoza, Yedda Marie K. Romualdez, Maria Lourdes O. Acosta-Alba, Florida "Rida" P. Robes, Wilfredo "Willy" S. Caminero, Ma. Lourdes T. Arroyo, Francisco G. Datol Jr., Raul "Boboy" C. Tupas, Narciso R. Bravo Jr., Glona G. Labadlabad, Strike B. Revilla, Ma. Lucille L. Nava, Rosana "Ria" Vergara, Vicente

"Ching" S.E. Veloso III, Franz "Chicoy" E. Alvarez, Michael T. Defensor, Juliet Marie de Leon Ferrer, Robert Ace S. Barbers, Jesus "Bong" C. Suntay, Mohamad Khalid Q. Dimaporo, Allen Jesse C. Mangaolang, Manuel T. Sagarbarria, Horacio P. Suansing Jr., Estrellita B. Suansing, Amihilda J. Sangcopan, Edward Vera Perez Maceda, Ronnie L. Ong, Jericho Jonas B. Nograles, Kristine Singson-Meehan, Braeden John Q. Biron, Francisco "Kiko" B. Benitez, Michael B. Gorricta, Alyssa Sheena P. Tan, Antonio "Tonypet" T. Albano, Erico Rozzano Rufino B. Biazon, Lorenz R. Defensor, Jose Enrique "Joet" S. Garcia III, Manuel F. Zubiri, Michael Edgar Y. Aglipay, Jose Gay G. Padiernos, Presley C. de Jesus, Julianne "Jam" L. Baronda, Angelica Natasha Co, Genaro M. Alvarez Jr., Aleta C. Suarez, Jose "Jun" L. Ong Jr., Rolando M. Valeriano, Michaela S. Violago, Janice Z. Salimbangon, Juliette T. Uy, Alfel M. Bascug, Corazon T. Nuñez-Malanyaon, Jose "Pingping" I. Tejada, Joaquin M. Chipeco Jr., Anthony Peter "Onyx" D. Crisologo, Alan 1 B. Ecleo, Ramon C. Nolasco Jr., Wilton "Tonton" T. Kho, Jumel Anthony I. Espino, Joselito "Joel" S. Sacdalan, Michael John R. Duavit, Jake Vincent Villa, Arnie B. Fuenteabella, Cesar "Jawo" L. Jimenez Jr., Faustino Michael Carlos T. Dy III, Allan Benedict S. Reyes, Sonny "SL" L. Lagon, Jorge Antonio P. Bustos, Adriano A. Ebcas, Rico B. Geron, Allan U. Ty, Teodorico T. Haresco Jr., Alex "AA" L. Advincula, Lawrence "Law" H. Fortun, Sergio C. Dagooc, Alfred D. Vargas, Greg G. Gasataya, Romeo M. Jalosjos Jr., Francisco Jose "Bingo" F. Matugas II, Luisa Lloren Cuaresma, Paul Ruiz Daza, Jocelyn Sy Limkaichong, Lorna P. Bautista-Bandigan, Peter John D. Calderon, Manuel Jose "Mannix" M. Dalipe, Luis N. Campos Jr., Ed Christopher S. Go, Sandro L. Gonzalez, Rudys Caesar I G. Farinñas, Romeo S. Momo Sr., Samantha Louise Vargas Alfonso, Diego "Nonoy" C. Ty, Faustino "Inno" V.A. Dy, Lorna C. Silverio, Fernando T. Cabredo, Eddiebong G. Plaza, Maria Fe R. Abunda, Alan "Aldu" R. Dujali, John Reynald M. Tiangco, Carl Nicolas C. Cari, Gil "Kabbarangay" A. Acosta Jr., Maricel Natividad-Nagaño, Emmarie "Lolypop" Ouano-Dizon, Josefina B. Tallado, Maximo Y. Dialog Jr., Angelo Marcos Barba, Arnold "Noli" D. Celeste, Kristine Alexie B. Tutor, Munir M. Arbison, Lolita T. Javier, Alfred C. delos Santos, Hector S. Sanchez, Tyrone D. Agabas, Ian Paul L. Dy, Pablo C. Ortega, Marissa Andaya, Yasser Alonto Balindong, Godofredo N. Guya, Gabriel H. Bordado Jr., Argel Joseph T. Cabatbat, Rodrigo A. Abellanosa, Cyrille "Beng" F. Abueg-Zaldivar, Resurreccction M. Acop, Ansaruddin Abdul Malik A. Adiong, Naealla Bainto Aguinaldo, Joel Mayo Z. Almario, Leonardo L. Babasa Jr., Shirlyn Bañas-Nograles, Claudine Diana D. Bautista, Emmanuel "Tawi" Billones, Mercedes "Didi" C. Cagas, Maria Laarni Cayetano, Elizaldy S. Co, Raul V. del Mar, Sandra Y. Eriguel, Jonathan Keith T. Flores, Alfredo A. Garbin Jr., Vincent J. Garcia, Ciriaco B. Gato Jr., Carmelo "Jon" B. Lazatin II, Doy C. Leachon, Aloy Lim, Dahlia A. Loyola, Macnell M. Lusotan, Ruth Mariano-Hernandez, Carlito S. Marquez, John Marvin "Yul Servo" C. Nieto, Florencio G. Noel, Alberto "Bobby" D. Pacquiao, Gavini "Apol" C. Pancho, Marisol C. Panotes, Romulo "Kid" Peña Jr., Paz C. Radaza, Josephine Ramirez-Sato, Ma. Bernardita "Ditas" Ramos, Domingo C. Rivera, Rogelio

Neil P. Roque, Princess Rihan M. Sakaluran, Ron P. Salo, Irene Gay F. Saulog, Rowena Niña O. Taduran, Samier A. Tan, Jose "Bong" J. Teves Jr., Jocelyn P. Tulfo, Alfonso V. Umali Jr., Ma. Victoria V. Umali, and Gerardo P. Valmayor Jr.

AN ACT

ESTABLISHING AN ECONOMIC STIMULUS STRATEGY FOR THE COUNTRY'S GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT IN THE AFTERMATH OF COVID-19, PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFOR

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Philippines in Congress assembled:

CHAPTER I: General Provisions

1 SECTION 1. *Short Title.* - This Act shall be known as the "Philippine Economic
2 Stimulus Act" or PESA.

3 SEC. 2. *Declaration of Policy.* - It shall be the policy of the State to protect
4 Filipino families and jobs, assist workers and business entities facing hardship due
5 to the 2019 Novel Coronavirus disease, hereinafter referred to as COVID-19, and
6 preserve the country's trajectory to economic prosperity.

7 Towards these ends, the State shall set aside resources for programs and
8 policies that support the country's emergence from an economy adversely affected by
9 COVID-19 towards one of continued growth and development.

10 SEC. 3. *Definition of Terms.* – As used in this Act,

11 a. *Business entity* refers to sole proprietorship duly registered with the
12 Department of Trade and Industry (DTI), a partnership duly registered with the
13 Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC), a corporation duly organized and
14 existing under Philippine laws, a branch of a foreign corporation duly licensed to do
15 business in the Philippines, or a cooperative governed by Republic Act No. 9520
16 otherwise known as the Cooperative Code of the Philippines, as amended;

17 b. *Community Quarantine (CQ)* refers to the enhanced community
18 quarantine imposed in the entire Luzon area under Presidential Proclamation No.

1 929 dated 16 March 2020, as may be extended or modified pursuant to such other
2 laws, presidential proclamations or executive orders that may be subsequently issued
3 or promulgated for the purpose of containing the spread of COVID-19;

4 c. *Critically impacted businesses* refer to non-essential businesses that
5 have been directly and adversely impacted by the COVID-19 outbreak such that (i)
6 their liabilities have become more than their assets, or (ii) they have experienced at
7 least a 50% decline in gross receipts for at least one calendar quarter, and in either
8 instance, are generally unable to pay or perform their obligations as they fall due in
9 the ordinary course of business, as a result of the COVID-19 outbreak. For purposes
10 of this Act, critically impacted business shall include the air transport industry,
11 tourism industry, and export-import industry, but shall exclude banks and other
12 financial institutions under the supervision of the *Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas*
13 (BSP);

14 d. *Financial intermediaries* refer to persons or entities whose principal
15 functions include the lending, investing or placement of funds or evidence of
16 indebtedness or equity deposited with them, acquired by them, or otherwise coursed
17 through them either for their own account or for the account of others;;

18 e. *Fiscal stimulus* refers to any increase in government spending
19 undertaken to support economic growth, including temporary tax revenue losses
20 arising from regulatory forbearance adopted by the government;

21 f. *Freelancer* refers to a worker who is self-employed and is not necessarily
22 committed to, or does not exclusively work for, a particular employer for a specific
23 period;

24 g. *Micro, small, and medium-scale enterprise* (MSME+) refers to any
25 business activity or enterprise engaged in industry, agribusiness, or services,
26 excluding banks and other financial institutions under the supervision of the BSP,
27 whether sole proprietorship, cooperative, partnership or corporation whose total
28 assets, inclusive of those arising from loans but exclusive of the land in which the
29 particular business entity's office, plant, and equipment are situated, must have a
30 value falling under the following categories:

	At least	Not more than
Micro	-	P 3,000,000
Small	P 3,000,001	P15,000,000
Medium	P 15,000,001	P 100,000,000

1

2 *Provided*, That, for purposes of this Act, a Startup shall be considered an MSME+;

3 h. *Negosyo Centers* refer to one-stop shop centers established in provinces,
4 cities, and municipalities that are mandated to promote ease of doing business and
5 access to services for MSME+, among others, pursuant to Republic Act No. 10644 or
6 the “Go Negosyo Act”;

7 i. *Non-essential businesses* (NEB) refer to business entities engaged in
8 businesses which are not allowed to operate during the CQ under applicable laws,
9 presidential proclamations or executive orders issued or promulgated for the purpose
10 of containing the spread of COVID-19. The term excludes business entities allowed
11 to operate during CQ such as those related to (i) the production and sale of goods, or
12 provision of services related to food, medicine, health supplies, such as public
13 markets, supermarkets, groceries, convenience stores, hospitals, medical clinics,
14 pharmacies, and drug stores, (ii) food preparation and delivery services, water-
15 refilling stations, manufacturing and processing plants of basic food products and
16 medicines, (iii) banks and financial institutions under the supervision of the BSP,
17 and (iv) utility services involving power, energy, water and telecommunications;

18 j. *Overseas Filipino Worker* refers to a person who is engaged or has been
19 engaged in a remunerated activity in a state where the person is not a citizen, or on
20 board a vessel navigating the foreign seas other than a government ship used for
21 military or noncommercial purposes, or on an installation located offshore or on the
22 high seas;

1 k. *Self-Employed* refers to workers who render services or sell goods as a
2 means of livelihood outside of an employer-employee relationship or as a career.

3 l. *Startup* refers to any person or registered entity in the Philippines
4 which aims to develop an innovative product, process, or business model, as defined
5 under Republic Act No. 11337 otherwise known as “Innovative Startup Act”;

6 m. *Tourism enterprises* refer to facilities, services and attractions involved
7 in tourism, such as, but not limited to: travel and tour services; tourist transport
8 services, whether for land, sea or air transportation; tour guides; adventure sports
9 services involving such sports as mountaineering, spelunking, scuba diving, and
10 similar sports activities of significant tourism potential; convention organizers;
11 accommodation establishments, including, but not limited to, hotels, resorts,
12 apartelles, tourist inns, motels, pension houses, and home stay operators; tourism
13 estate management services, restaurants, shops and department stores, sports and
14 recreational centers, spas, museums and galleries, theme parks, convention centers
15 and zoos; and

16 n. *Transportation Industry* refers to the business sector engaged in
17 transporting paying passengers and freight by air, land and sea, and includes the
18 domestic airline companies registered with the Civil Aeronautics Board (CAB), and
19 such business entities engaged in the business of trucking, shipping, and railroad.

20 SEC. 4. *General Principles of Economic Interventions.* - The economic
21 interventions provided for in this Act shall provide immediate relief to critically
22 impacted businesses and non-essential businesses. The economic interventions aim
23 to reduce permanent damage to the economy, maintain employment levels and have
24 a demonstrable capacity to support economic output and preserve the country's
25 productive capacity.

26 These interventions shall be guided by the following principles:

27 a. Continuity: Relief to non-essential businesses shall be for purposes of
28 preventing business closure, restoring business confidence, and reinstating
29 operations of Business Entities to similar levels prior to CQ;

1 b. Compensatory: non-essential businesses shall be reasonably and
2 comparably recompensed for business expenses incurred, including wages and
3 salaries, which would have been otherwise borne by the government during the CQ;

4 c. Capacity-building: Assistance to Business Entities, local government
5 units (LGUs), and the workforce which includes the freelancers and members of the
6 informal sectors, shall be for the purpose of building the capacity of these entities to
7 adjust to post CQ business environment and achieving national resilience to future
8 economic shocks or recession; and

9 d. Proportionality: The individual and aggregate amount of the economic
10 stimulus shall be proportionate to the corresponding industry economic objectives
11 and the national economic target.

12 SEC. 5. Types of Economic Interventions. - The economic interventions shall
13 be classified as follows:

14 a. Transitional: Transitional interventions are economic relief that shall be
15 implemented to mitigate the permanent damage by the Covid-19 crisis to the
16 economy and maintain employment levels of the corresponding sector or industry.
17 Transitional interventions shall be immediate and limited to a specific period.

18 b. Financial: Financial interventions are economic relief that are intended to
19 accelerate recovery and improve economic performance of Business Entities by
20 broadening and increasing financial and credit access. Such intervention may be in
21 the form of loans and loan guarantees.

22 c. Sectoral: Sectoral interventions are economic relief intended for specific
23 sectors or industries, such as MSME+, tourism, agriculture and any other critically
24 impacted businesses. Such interventions may or may not be limited to a specific
25 period.

26 d. Structural: Structural interventions are measures designed to
27 accommodate, close gaps in, or improve any sector or industry through an
28 institutionalized mechanism or entity. A structural intervention aims to reinforce
29 resilience of the economy as well as the Business Entities in the event of future crisis

or recession. Structural interventions shall not be limited to any specific period, unless otherwise provided in this Act.

CHAPTER II: General Intervention

4 SEC. 6. Mass COVID-19 Testing. - To facilitate faster economic recovery and
5 ensure safe working environment, mass testing for COVID-19 shall be conducted
6 immediately in areas in the country where higher possibility of transmission of
7 COVID-19 may occur or have occurred.

The Department of Health (DOH) shall adopt a COVID-19 disease surveillance protocol that shall define minimum health standards for workplaces and business activities which shall include COVID-19 testing and contact tracing. DILG shall procure and distribute the test kits for COVID-19, including facilities, equipment and the necessary supplies, and shall hire the required medical personnel for the proper implementation of the disease surveillance protocols in testing centers and areas. For this purpose, procurement by the DILG shall be done in the most expeditious manner and shall be exempted from the provisions of R.A. 9184, otherwise known as the "Government Procurement Reform Act", and other relevant laws. Distribution of the test kits, facilities, equipment and the necessary supplies shall be supervised and monitored by the Economic Stimulus Board.

19 The Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG) shall identify and
20 prioritize the areas and business activities critically impacted and severely affected
21 by the COVID-19 and with high probability of COVID-19 transmission, and
22 coordinate with the relevant LGUs and government agencies for the implementation
23 of the COVID- 9 surveillance protocol. Testing kits shall be made available to LGUs
24 and government agencies for distribution to public and private institutions and
25 enterprises. The LGUs and other government agencies, under the guidance and
26 supervision of the DOH and DILG, shall adopt the disease surveillance protocol,
27 conduct area-based and workplace testing, and monitor compliance with the
28 minimum health standards prescribed by the DOH to protect the continued health of

1 the general public, and ensure that there will be safe resumption of work in the
2 private and government sectors, delivery of government functions and services, and
3 economic activity in all the industries in the country.

4 Mass Covid-19 testing shall be conducted no later than thirty (30) days from
5 the effectivity of this Act.

6 The amount of Ten Billion Pesos (PhP10,000,000,000.00) is hereby
7 appropriated for this Section for Fiscal Year 2020 and another Ten Billion Pesos
8 (PhP10,000,000,000.00) for Fiscal Year 2021.

9 The DILG, in consultation with the DOH, shall issue the implementing rules
10 and regulations for this Section, within (ten) 10 days after the effectivity of this Act.

11 CHAPTER III: Transitional Interventions

12 SEC. 7. *Wage subsidies.* - Wage subsidies shall be provided to non-essential
13 Businesses, Free-lancers, the Self-employed, and repatriated OFWs.

14 a. The Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE) shall offer wage
15 subsidies amounting to at least fifty percent (50%) but not more than seventy-five
16 percent (75%) of the basic salary costs of a non-essential business subject to the
17 following conditions:

- 18 i. The wage subsidy shall cover the basic salary cost of the rank and file
19 employees only and shall exclude the senior and executive officers of the
20 relevant business entities;
- 21 ii. In determining the basic salary cost of a non-essential business, the
22 maximum monthly salary of an employee shall not exceed Fifteen
23 Thousand Pesos (PhP15,000);
- 24 iii. The wage subsidy shall be based on the number of rank and file employees
25 at the time of the imposition of the CQ;
- 26 iv. The wage subsidy shall only be provided for a period of two (2) months;
- 27 v. For the duration of the wage subsidy, a non-essential business entity must
28 retain such number of employees or workers in proportion to the
29 percentage of wage subsidy to basic salary cost as offered under this
30 Section, excluding those employees whose employment are terminated for

1 just causes provided under the Labor Code of the Philippines, and those
2 employees who voluntarily terminated their employment and taking into
3 account the limitations on work arrangements prescribed under the
4 COVID-19 health and social distancing standards.

5 The maximum wage subsidy shall be offered to critically impacted businesses
6 and those that support priority government undertakings such as the Build, Build,
7 Build program.

8 b. The DOLE shall provide wage amelioration directly to freelancers,
9 professionals and the self-employed through an open-application window system:
10 *Provided*, That the amount of wage amelioration shall not be more than seventy five
11 percent (75%) of the applicable minimum wage and only for a maximum period of
12 two (2) months.

13 c. The DOLE shall provide unemployment benefits to OFWs who were
14 repatriated, whether voluntarily or mandatorily, including those whose deployment
15 to other countries were prevented, as a result of COVID-19, to aid such OFWs in job
16 search: *Provided*, That the maximum amount for such OFW unemployment benefits
17 shall be equivalent to Fifteen Thousand Pesos (PhP15,000.00) every month until the
18 recipient OFW finds gainful employment but only for a period not exceeding two (2)
19 months.

20 The Social Security System (SSS), Bureau of Internal Revenue (BIR), and
21 DOLE shall establish a central database to avoid duplication of application for and
22 to track distribution of wage subsidies, and for other purposes. The SSS and the BIR
23 shall also provide free registration for freelancers to promote their integration into
24 the formal economy.

25 The amount of One Hundred Ten Billion Pesos (Php 110,000,000,000.00) is
26 appropriated for this purpose.

27 The DOLE shall issue the implementing rules and regulations for this Section,
28 within (ten) 10 days after the effectivity of this Act.

29 SEC. 8. *Enhanced TUPAD*. - To provide temporary employment to displaced
30 workers, the DOLE shall expand the *Tulong Panghanapbuhay sa Ating*

1 Displaced/Disadvantaged Workers (TUPAD), its community-based disinfection and
2 sanitation program by including workers from the informal sector who have lost their
3 livelihood or whose earnings were affected due to the CQ. Under the enhanced
4 TUPAD, displaced workers shall be required to work as may be prescribed under the
5 guidelines of TUPAD, and may likewise include work of disinfecting and sanitizing
6 their houses, the immediate vicinity, and the common areas in their communities and
7 any other COVID-19 related work.

8 Such workers shall be paid wages equivalent to the prevailing minimum wage
9 in the region.

10 The amount of Thirty Billion Pesos (PhP 30,000,000,000.00) is appropriated
11 for this purpose.

12 SEC. 9. *Educational Subsidy to Students.* –

13 A. *Emergency Subsidy to COVID-19-impacted Tertiary Students in Private
14 Higher Education Institutions.* -

15 Pursuant to the policy of the State to protect and promote the right of all
16 students to quality tertiary education, the Tertiary Education Subsidy (TES)
17 provided under Section 7 of Republic Act No. 10931, otherwise known as “Universal
18 Access to Quality Tertiary Education Act”, shall be expanded to cover students whose
19 families are not listed in the *Listahanan* of the Department of Social Welfare and
20 Development, but which are now facing financial difficulties brought about by work
21 stoppage and closure of establishments due to the CQ: *Provided*, That, priority shall
22 be granted to children of displaced OFWs: *Provided, further*, That the Commission on
23 Higher Education (CHED) shall suspend the geographic prioritization in areas where
24 there are no state universities and colleges to enable all students of higher education
25 institutions (HEIs) to become qualified recipients of TES.

26 For the purpose of COVID-19 response, a maximum of Seven Thousand Five
27 Hundred Pesos (PhP7,500.00) subsidy per student in payment of second semester
28 tuition and other fees shall be paid directly to schools which shall be primarily
29 utilized by such schools for the salaries of teachers and non-teaching staff, based on
30 CHED determination: *Provided*, That if the semester is ended, no further

1 requirements shall be imposed on students, including online classes, except on
2 graduating students.

3 For this purpose, the amount of Eighteen Billion Pesos (P18,000,000,000.00)
4 under RA No. 11465, otherwise known as the “General Appropriations Act”, for FY
5 2020 and the amount of Nine Billion Pesos (P9,000,000,000) under RA No. 11260,
6 otherwise known as the “General Appropriations Act”, for FY 2019 allocated for TES
7 and other subsidies to students in private HEIs under RA 10931 shall be immediately
8 released by the Department of Budget and Management (DBM).

9 B. *Emergency Subsidy to COVID-19 Impacted Students in Private Educational
10 Institutions.* -

11 The following subsidies shall be granted to students who are currently not
12 grantees and recipients of existing government subsidies under various laws, but are
13 nonetheless facing financial difficulties due to work stoppage or closure of
14 establishments: *Provided*, That priority shall be granted to children of displaced
15 OFWs.:

16 i. *Expansion of the Tertiary Education Subsidy under RA 10931, otherwise
17 known as the “Universal Access to Quality Tertiary Education Act” –*

18 Students in Private Higher Education who are not part of the
19 *Listahanan* of the DSWD and are not qualified recipients of Tertiary
20 Education Subsidy under Sec. 7 of RA 10931, shall receive a tuition subsidy
21 in the amount of Seven Thousand Pesos (Php7,000.00) each: *Provided*, That
22 the geographic prioritization in areas where there are no State Universities
23 and Colleges (SUCs) and Local Colleges and Universities (LCUs) under RA
24 10931 shall be suspended in the implementation of this Act to make all
25 students in private higher education institutions qualified and eligible.

26 ii. *Expansion of government subsidies to students in basic education under RA
27 8545 otherwise known as the “Government Assistance to Students and
28 Teachers in Private Education” or GASTPE Act, and RA 10533, otherwise
29 known as “K to 12 Law”.*

1 Students in private elementary and junior high schools who are
2 currently not recipients of Education Service Contracting (ESC) under RA
3 8545; and students in private Senior High Schools who are currently not
4 recipients of the Senior High School Voucher Program (SHS VP) under RA
5 10533, shall receive a tuition subsidy in the amount of Four Thousand Pesos
6 (Php 4,000.00) each.

7 The subsidies shall be released directly to private higher education
8 institutions and private basic education schools, respectively, for the purpose
9 of applying the subsidy for unpaid tuition in SY 2019-2020: *Provided*, That the
10 subsidy shall be released prior to the opening of school year 2020-2021 or
11 within a reasonable period after school opening but before September 1, 2020:
12 *Provided, further*, That in order to expedite the processing and disbursement
13 of the subsidy, the UNIFAST and the Department of Education shall engage
14 the services of the Private Education Assistance Committee (PEAC) for the
15 disbursement and co-management of the expanded TES; and the expanded
16 subsidies under RA 8545 and RA 10931, respectively.

17 The amount of Fifteen Billion Pesos (Php 15,000,000,000.00) is
18 appropriated for the implementation this Sub-Section.

19 SEC. 10. *Economic Relief to Overseas Filipino Workers.* - Pursuant to Section
20 4 (z) of the Republic Act No. 11469, otherwise known as the "Bayanihan to Heal as
21 One Act", and to provide relief to OFWs who are uniquely burdened by the impacts
22 of Covid-19 on the global economy, OFWs shall be charged by the Philippine Health
23 Insurance Corporation (PHIC) no more than three hundred pesos (P300.00) per
24 month for premium contributions in 2020, no more than three hundred and seventy
25 five pesos (P375.00) per month in 2021, and no more than four hundred fifty pesos
26 (P450.00) in 2022: *Provided*, That, unpaid premium contributions due from March 15
27 to December 31, 2020 shall not be charged interest and penalties.

28 For this purpose, Section 10, on premium contributions, of the Republic Act
29 No. 11223, otherwise known as the "Universal Health Care Act", is hereby amended
30 accordingly.

1 SEC. 11. *Extension of Principal Loan Payments.* – Banks, other non-bank
2 financial institutions (NBFI) under the supervision of the BSP, and lending and
3 financing companies under the supervision of the SEC, are encouraged to extend the
4 term of or agree to the restructuring of existing (i) consumer loans of employees of
5 non-essential businesses, and (ii) commercial loans of or for non-essential businesses,
6 or to fund activities or investments therein, under the following conditions:

- 7 a. The payment dates of the consumer loans and commercial loans referred
8 herein, or any part thereof, are due anytime between March 16, 2020 and
9 December 31, 2020;
- 10 b. The loan term shall be extended for a period of one (1) year, and may be
11 further extended for another period of one (1) year; and
- 12 c. Only the principal payments are suspended.

13 The banks and other NBFI that agree to loan term extension or restructuring
14 pursuant to this Section shall be entitled to regulatory reliefs, which may include,
15 but not limited to, (i) non-inclusion in the bank's or NBFI's reporting on non-
16 performing loans, (ii) exemption from loan-loss provisioning, (iii) exemption, when
17 applicable, from the limits on real estate loans, and (iv) exemption from related party
18 transaction restrictions, as may be determined by the BSP.

19 SEC. 12. *Regulatory Relief for Business Entities.* - The Anti-Red Tape Authority
20 (ARTA), together with the DTI, DILG and specialized regulatory agencies, shall
21 prepare a list of non-tax and non-duty fees and charges imposed on enterprises,
22 including fees and charges imposed on business entities for registration, licensing
23 and permitting, and inspection.

24 The President of the Philippines shall have the power, through the issuance of
25 an executive order, to suspend, reduce or waive the imposition of fees and charges in
26 the said list for a period of one (1) year. The DTI and the ARTA may recommend the
27 extension of such executive order to a period not more than one (1) year.

28 The BIR, Bureau of Customs (BOC), Department of Transportation (DOTR),
29 SEC, Philippine Competition Commission (PCC), and other relevant regulatory

1 agencies shall suspend deadlines for all the filings and payments due during the CQ
2 period and extend the due dates accordingly without interests, fines or penalties.

3 Government agencies, including LGUs, shall simplify, shorten and rationalize
4 new business registration, closure, licensing and permitting processes, as well as
5 renewal thereof after the approval of this Act. One (1) year after the implementation
6 thereof, upon recommendation of DTI and ARTA, the new business registration,
7 licensing and permitting processes may be permanently implemented by the
8 corresponding government agency and LGU.

9 In addition, the BIR shall permanently simplify requirements during the life
10 cycle of a business beginning with registration until the closure of such business. This
11 includes, but not limited to, allowing and recognizing electronic receipts as proof of
12 payment and removing the limitation to filing and payment of taxes in specific
13 revenue district offices or venue.

14 Furthermore, the Commissioners of BIR and BOC, in coordination with the
15 ARTA, shall install an ARTA Taxpayer's Advocate Offices within the premises of the
16 Bureaus, who shall be in charge of safeguarding taxpayer rights.

17 Finally, LGUs shall be encouraged to reduce the number of fees/charges and
18 taxes charged where the actual revenues generated are greater than the cost of
19 compliance and administration of these fees/charges and taxes.

20 Sec. 13. *Regularization of MSME+.* - To ensure that MSME+ are able to avail
21 of programs, and to broaden the tax base and encourage business practices that are
22 compliant with the law, the Commissioner of BIR shall waive registration and other
23 related fees of MSME+ for a period of not more than eighteen (18) months and if
24 necessary, provide accommodation for the registration process and compliance of
25 MSME+ .

26 The Secretary of Trade and Industry shall be mandated to issue necessary
27 rules and regulations to provide special accommodation for the registration and
28 compliance with regulatory requirements of MSME+, including those registered
29 under SEC.

1 LGUs shall be encouraged by the DILG and the Department of Finance-
2 Bureau of Local Government Finance (DOF-BLGF) to waive similar local registration
3 and processing fees.

4 *Negosyo Centers* shall coordinate with national and local government agencies
5 and LGUs to ensure the widest dissemination of information and benefits under this
6 program, as well as programs offered by sectors, donor agencies, and bilateral
7 partners.

CHAPTER IV: Financial Interventions

Section 14. General Requirements and Provisions.-

10 a. For purposes of availing the financial relief provided under Sections 15
11 to 18 of this Act, the borrower entity must have maintained, at the time of its loan
12 application, such number of employees equivalent to seventy five percent (75%) of
13 its total employees on the date of the effectivity of this Act, and shall continue to
14 maintain such number of employees for a period of one (1) year from the loan
15 approval date. Failure to maintain minimum number of employees required herein
16 shall result in the imposition of penalty, shortening of the loan term, or withdrawal
17 of the relief, at the discretion of the bank, financial institution or agency providing
18 the relief.

19 b. For the effective and immediate implementation of the financial and
20 economic intervention provided in Sections 16 to 18 of this Act, the relevant
21 government financial institution or government agency providing the relief may allot
22 a maximum of five percent (5%) of the appropriated funds for the program being
23 implemented under its Maintenance and Other Operating Expenses (MOOE) and
24 Personal Services (PS).

25 c. LGUs shall adopt measures that will facilitate dissemination of
26 information and assist and enable their respective constituents to avail of the relief
27 provided under this Act. Implementing agencies may enter into partnerships or
28 agreements with public and private entities to ensure the timely and efficient
29 delivery of services and fulfillment of duties under this Act, including but not limited
30 to, (1) private lending institutions participating as conduits for government financial

1 institutions tasked to implement programs under this Act, and (2) financial
2 technology firms to ensure and improve access and delivery of interventions to the
3 recipients, especially MSME+ and those in the informal sector.

4 SEC. 15. *Credit Mediation and Restructuring Service.* - To ensure that MSME+
5 are able to fulfill obligations under more favorable terms of credit, strengthen
6 liquidity and financial position thereof, and to expedite the country's economic
7 recovery, there shall be created a Credit Mediation and Restructuring Service
8 (CMRS), thru Negosyo Centers or any other business assistance office of the LGU, to
9 act as credit advisers and mediators between MSME+ and the banks and lending
10 institutions, and assist MSME+ in obtaining favorable credit and loan terms from
11 the banks, lending institutions, and financial intermediaries.

12 The CMRS shall (i) ensure that an MSME+ is given sound financial advice on,
13 among others, the proposed borrowing, the risks involved, and a proper evaluation
14 of the financial position and operation of the relevant MSME+; (ii) assist in
15 evaluation of the financing options; (iii) oversee the negotiation process until terms
16 of financing are agreed upon; and (iv) ensure that an MSME+ is given better access
17 to financing and to a fair and transparent borrowing and appeals process.

18 Negosyo Centers shall coordinate with LGUs, financial institutions and
19 government agencies to ensure the widest dissemination of information and benefits
20 under this program.

21 The DTI, together with the private sector associations representing MSME+
22 and financial institutions, shall jointly draft the implementing rules and regulations
23 of this Section. The DTI shall issue the implementing rules and regulations for this
24 Section within ten (10) days from the effectivity of this Act.

25 SEC. 16. *Loans to MSME+.* - The Small Business Corporation (SBCorp) shall
26 expand its existing loan programs for MSME+ by any or a combination of the
27 following:

- 28 (a) increasing the availability of loanable funds,
29 (b) reducing eligibility requirements such as waiver of collateral,
30 (c) increasing the maximum loan amounts per borrower,

- 1 (d) reducing the interest rates,
2 (e) extending loan terms,
3 (f) utilization of financial technologies to expand reach and increase access,
4 and
5 (g) Setting and committing to faster turnaround time of loan processing.

6 In addition to the allowable uses of loans under the regular loan programs of
7 SBCorp, the proceeds of any loan granted under this Section may be used for the
8 following:

- 9 (a) payroll costs,
10 (b) materials and supplies,
11 (c) mortgage payments,
12 (d) rent,
13 (e) utilities, including fuel and storage,
14 (f) creation of new supportive businesses,
15 (g) re-purposing of existing business capital,
16 (h) any other business debt obligations that were incurred before the covered
17 period, or
18 (i) acquisition of new technologies and systems to adjust business processes
19 for resiliency.

20 SBCorp shall prioritize startups, micro and small enterprises, including those
21 in the informal sector. Moreover, SBCorp shall also give preference to establishments
22 requiring financing for any activity that supports initiatives of the DOH towards
23 ensuring an adequate and responsive supply of health care services.

24 The amount of Five Billion Pesos (PhP5,000,000,000.00) is appropriated as
25 additional paid up capital of SBCorp and Forty Five Billion Pesos
26 (Php45,000,000,000.00) is appropriated as Special Program Fund of SBCorp COVID-
27 19 loan programs for Fiscal Year 2020 and another Twenty-Five Billion Pesos (Php
28 25,000,000,000.00) for the special fund program shall be appropriated for Fiscal Year
29 2021.

1 The SBCorp shall provide a loan-forgiveness program for borrowers who pay
2 their installments on time. The maximum amount that SBCorp may waive through
3 the loan-forgiveness program is fifteen percent (15%) of the loan amount.

4 Measures aimed at digitization of loan application, approval and disbursement
5 process shall be implemented. The SBCorp shall coordinate with the DICT and BSP
6 and solicit assistance from the private sector in accomplishing this mandate.

7 The SBCorp shall issue implementing rules and regulations for this Section
8 within fifteen (15) days after the effectivity of this Act.

9 Sec. 17. *Interest Free Loans.* - The Land Bank of the Philippines (LBP) and the
10 Development Bank of the Philippines (DBP) shall introduce an interest-free loan
11 program available to non-essential businesses to assist and encourage them to
12 continue investing in their businesses: *Provided*, That the interest-free loans shall be
13 granted in accordance with the following guidelines and such other conditions as may
14 be imposed under the implementing rules that will be issued by the DOF and the
15 BSP:

16 a. The maximum loanable amount shall be equivalent to one hundred
17 percent (100%) of the borrower's direct labor costs for a period of three (3)
18 months; and

19 b. The loan shall be payable within three (3) to five (5) years:

20 *Provided, further*, That priority shall be given to agri-fishery businesses, and non-
21 essential businesses that are small and medium enterprises, including startups:
22 *Provided, finally*, That the LBP and DBP shall give preference to MSME+ requiring
23 financing for an activity that supports the initiatives of the DOH towards ensuring
24 an adequate and responsive supply of health care services.

25 Notwithstanding the foregoing, the President of the Philippines shall have the
26 power to (i) declare moratorium on the payment of loans of MSME; (ii) make available
27 emergency loans to MSME+ in critically impacted businesses for additional capital
28 outlay under this Section; and (iii) ease regulations to ensure that MSME+ have
29 facilitated access to the loan facility provided herein.

1 Fifty Billion Pesos (PhP 50,000,000,000.00) shall be appropriated as Special
2 Interest Free Fund for the implementation of this Section. The fund shall be allocated
3 to LBP and DBP in proportion to the current loan portfolio of the said banks at the
4 time of effectivity of this Act. The DOF and the BSP shall jointly issue implementing
5 rules and regulations and guidelines for this Section, within fifteen (15) days upon
6 the effectivity of this Act.

7 *SEC. 18. Loan Guarantee by Philippine Guarantee Corporation.* - To ensure
8 that non-essential businesses are able to fulfill their loan obligations, whether
9 existing, outstanding or new loans, to banks, lending or financing institutions, and to
10 help strengthen the liquidity and financial position of these non-essential businesses
11 towards expediting the country's economic recovery, the Philippine Guarantee
12 Corporation (PGC) shall:

13 a. Issue an expanded government guarantee program for non-essential
14 businesses by increasing the maximum loan guarantee coverage per borrower,
15 widening the coverage of guarantees to loans provided by non-bank financial
16 institutions, lending and financing companies supervised by the SEC, reducing
17 eligibility requirements and guarantee fees, waiving the right of excussion under the
18 guarantee, relaxing the guidelines on claims by allowing lenders to call on the
19 guarantee when there is an occurrence of payment default, and other measures
20 necessary to give non-essential businesses and MSME+ access to better terms of
21 credit.

22 b. Ease its current rules and regulations and give preference to critically
23 impacted businesses and MSME+, including those in the informal sector, in issuing
24 government guarantees to help achieve the policy objectives of this Act.

25 c. PGC is mandated to implement a loan portfolio guarantee scheme
26 whereby it can guarantee a specified loan portfolio of partner financial institutions
27 which cover eligible loans of MSME+ subject to the criteria set under the
28 implementing rules and regulations of this Act. The criteria for accrediting partner
29 financial institutions shall likewise be stipulated therein.

1 d. Regardless of the size of the business entity, PGC shall give preference
2 to business entities requiring financing for an activity that supports initiatives of
3 the DOH towards ensuring an adequate and responsive supply of health care
4 services.

For the efficient and faster implementation of the Section, PGC may require assistance, such as facilities and personnel resources, from other government financial institutions. PGC shall also implement measures aimed at the digital transformation of its guarantee application and enrollment process. PGC shall coordinate with the DICT, BSP, and solicit assistance from the private sector for the proper implementation of this Section.

11 For the implementation of this Section, the amount of Twenty Billion Pesos
12 (PhP 20,000,000,000.00) is appropriated as PGC's Special Guarantee Fund and
13 another Twenty Billion Pesos (PhP 20,000,000,000.00) is appropriated as additional
14 paid up capital of PGC, for Fiscal Year 2020. An additional amount of Twenty Billion
15 Pesos (PhP 20,000,000,000.00) for the PGC's Special Guarantee Fund shall be
16 appropriated for Fiscal Year 2021. The PGC shall set up a sinking fund as a
17 percentage of the total allocated amount to immediately cover losses from defaults.

18 The DOF shall issue the implementing rules and regulations for this Section,
19 within fifteen (15) days from the effectivity of this Act with the end-in-view of
20 achieving the policy objectives of this Act.

CHAPTER V: Sectoral Interventions

22 SEC. 19. Assistance to MSME+. - The DTI shall provide technical assistance
23 or offer grants for the education, training, and consultancy services for MSME+ on:

24 a. Innovation in business practices to include product research and
25 development, digital transformation of business management, production,
26 distribution, retail, and other business areas to ensure resilience to future disruptions
27 including managing the risk of cyber threats;

28 b. Up-skilling and re-skilling of workers to adapt to the new nature of
29 work;

1 c. Market assistance for identification of new market trends to allow
2 enterprises to pivot to high-value and high-necessity products, including any activity
3 that supports initiatives of the DOH towards ensuring an adequate and responsive
4 supply of health care services;

5 d. Utilizing online platforms as a means to facilitate product distribution
6 or delivery channels, including website development, and the set-up of logistics to
7 support online sales platforms;

8 e. The management and practice of tele-work, online consultancy, tele-
9 consulting of professional services, and customer service, including managing the risk
10 of cyber threats; and

11 f. Other relevant business practices introduced for purposes of mitigating
12 the economic effects of COVID-19.

13 The DTI shall give preference to MSME+ that shall require assistance for any
14 activity that supports the *Balik Probinsya, Bagong Pag-asa* Program under EO 114
15 series of 2020.

16 The amount of Ten Billion Pesos (Php10,000,000,000.00) shall be appropriated
17 for the implementation of this Section.

18 The DTI shall issue the implementing rules and regulations of this Section
19 within fifteen (15) days from the effectivity of this Act.

20 SEC. 20. *Assistance to the Tourism Industry.* - The Department of Tourism
21 (DOT) and its instrumentalities shall assist critically impacted businesses that are
22 DOT-accredited tourism enterprises, in any of the following programs:

23 i. interest-free loans or issuance of loan guarantees with terms of up to five (5)
24 years for maintenance and operating expenses;

25 ii. credit facilities for upgrading, rehabilitation, or modernization of current
26 establishments or facilities to be compliant with new health and safety standards;

27 iii. marketing and product development promotions and programs;

28 iv. grants for education, training, and advising for tourism stakeholder for new
29 normal alternative livelihood programs;

1 v. utilization of information technology for the improvement of tourism
2 services, development of a tourist tracking system for emergency response, and
3 establishment of spatial database to improve planning capacity; and

4 vi. Other relevant programs, including infrastructure, necessary to mitigate
5 the economic effects of COVID-19 on the tourism industry.

6 For purposes of items (i) and (ii) herein, the DOT or any of its attached agencies
7 and instrumentalities shall administer the loan or credit facility programs through
8 government financial institutions such as the LBP and DBP: *Provided*, That the loan
9 interventions implemented under this Section shall be exclusively for accredited
10 tourism enterprises only.

11 Availment of grants, loans or loan guarantees through other provisions of this
12 Act does not disqualify any tourism enterprise from availing of any other form of
13 economic relief measures in this Section.

14 DOT shall also give preference to establishments requiring assistance for any
15 activity that supports the (1) *Balik Probinsya, Bagong Pag-asaya* Program under EO
16 114 series of 2020, and (2) initiatives of the DOH towards ensuring an adequate and
17 responsive supply of health care services.

18 The amount of Fifty-Eight Billion Pesos (Php58,000,000,000.00) shall be
19 appropriated for the implementation of this Section.

20 The DOT shall issue the implementing rules and regulations for this Section
21 within fifteen (15) days after the effectivity of this Act.

22 SEC. 21. *Assistance to the Transportation Industry.* - The Department of
23 Transportation (DOTr) and such other agencies or instrumentalities that may be
24 authorized under this Act and its implementing rules and regulations (IRR), shall
25 extend the following assistance to critically impacted businesses in the transportation
26 industry:

- 27 a. Grant emergency credit lines for purposes of funding operations;
- 28 b. Grant interest-free loans or long-term credit facility to allow the
29 restructuring of existing debts and assist in rehabilitation;
- 30 c. Provide credit guarantee schemes to guarantee bank loans and credit lines;

- d. Provide grants for applicable regulatory fees;
- e. Allow substitution of refund option to travel vouchers; and
- f. Provide grants for training, equipment, facilities, test kits and necessary personnel, on coping with increased health risks arising from infectious diseases.

Within fifteen (15) days from the effectivity of this Act, the DOTr or any of its instrumentalities shall prescribe the eligibility requirements and other terms and conditions for any of the above-mentioned assistance, subject to the guidelines issued under this Section.

For purposes of item (d) herein, the grants may include reductions in (i) rates through the removal of value-added tax (VAT) and local taxes as may be applicable, and (ii) fees and charges imposed by any regulatory agency and LGU. Such grants shall be payable, respectively, to the BIR, the relevant regulatory agencies and LGUs: *Provided*, That, the grant shall be chargeable against the fund created for the purpose of implementing this Section: *Provided, further*, That any critically impacted business may avail of the grant for a period of not more than six (6) months.

For purposes of items (b) and (c) herein, the DOTr or any of its instrumentalities shall utilize the loan and loan guarantee programs and other loan related measures provided under this Act, subject to the rules, regulations and guidelines issued under the corresponding intervention: *Provided*, That, loan interventions implemented under this Section shall be exclusively for critically impacted business in the transportation industry only.

Availment of any economic relief such as wage subsidy, loan, and loan guarantees and other relief under the other provisions of this Act, does not disqualify such critically impacted businesses belonging to the transportation industry from availing the economic relief provided under this Section.

The DOTr shall give preference to business entities that shall require assistance for any activity that supports the *Balik Probinsya, Bagong Pag-asa* Program under EO 114 series of 2020.

1 The amount of Seventy-Five Billion Pesos (Php 75,000,000,000.00) shall be
2 appropriated for the implementation of this Section.

3 The DOTR shall issue the implementing guidelines of this Section within
4 fifteen (15) days after the effectivity of this Act.

5 *SEC. 22. Assistance to Industry and Service Sectors.* - The DTI, its attached
6 agencies, and the Board of Investments (BOI), shall offer grants and technical
7 assistance to business entities engaged in the manufacture of products and supply
8 services, the export thereof, and their respective supply chains, in order to meet the
9 needs of the domestic market and export commitments, restore or expand to new
10 global markets and market spaces, enhance competitive advantage, and for other
11 purposes as may be determined by the DTI or the BOI.

12 (a) For the manufacture or supply of critical and essential goods and services
13 for the control of COVID-19 transmission, grants and other investment support shall
14 be provided, including subsidized or soft loans, subsidy for loan guaranty, equity
15 investments through the National Development Company, and preference for
16 domestic sourcing as provided under this Act, for the following purposes:

17 i. research and development, prototyping, testing and certification, and
18 other necessary activities for developing local capability for the
19 manufacture of COVID-19 critical and essential products and services;
20 repurposing of manufacturing activities to produce the COVID-19
21 critical and essential products and services.

22 For this purpose, COVID-19 critical and essential products include
23 medicines, medical equipment and devices, personal protective
24 equipment (PPE), surgical equipment and supplies, laboratory
25 equipment and its reagents, medical supplies, tools, and consumables
26 such as alcohol, sanitizers, tissue, hand soap, detergent, sodium
27 hydrochloride, cleaning materials, povidone iodine, including the
28 production or manufacture of raw materials, semi-finished/intermediate
29 goods, and machinery and equipment for use in the production or
30 manufacture of the said products.

1 COVID-19 critical and essential services include crematoriums,
2 health waste treatment and disposal, laboratories, test facilities,
3 hospitals, and quarantine facilities.

4 The above notwithstanding, subject to the determination by the BOI, shall also cover
5 programs and projects of National Government, any of its agencies or departments,
6 or LGUs.

7 (b) For exporters of goods, grants shall be provided on any activity with the
8 purpose of market retention, identification, and expansion such as:

- 9 i. participation in trade fairs, international business matching missions,
10 conferences and other promotion events, physically or through digital
11 means, to restore or identify new global markets for exports, or identify
12 new products and services to be bought or sold in global markets; and
- 13 ii. research and development for purposes of introducing new products and
14 services, improving existing products and services, or any form of
15 innovation in business processes, to increase competitive advantage in
16 existing or new export markets;

17 (c) For foreign companies and their support industries, subsidies shall be
18 provided to support and facilitate the relocation to the Philippines by providing option
19 to diversify risks and vary its range of products or field of operation, keep supply
20 chain integrity, and access to market opportunities.

21 (d) For BPOs, grants and other forms of assistance shall be provided in
22 setting up facilities and equipment for the services sector including BPO workers and
23 companies to mitigate the economic impact of the COVID-19 pandemic and for the
24 workforce to continue to work from home and ensure their health and safety.

25 (e) For critically impacted manufacturing businesses, including those
26 serving domestic and export markets, the following shall be provided:

- 27 i. grant or subsidy;
- 28 ii. education, training, and counseling; and
- 29 iii. and interest-free loans with terms of up to five (5) years through loan
30 programs and other loan related measures granted under this Act:

1 *Provided*, That availment of grants and loans or loan guarantees under
2 other provisions of this Act does not disqualify a business entity from
3 availing of any other form of economic relief measures in this Section.

4 The support for education, training, and counseling shall include:

- 5 i. improving business resiliency;
- 6 ii. coping with global supply chain disruptions caused by COVID-19 and
7 such other similar causes in the future, including changes in quantity
8 and lead time, quality, and technology;
- 9 iii. use of online platforms as an alternative or supplementary means to
10 facilitate product distribution channels and delivery of services;
- 11 iv. management and practice of tele-work, online consultancy, online
12 professional services, freelancers, and customer service, including risk
13 management of cyber threats; and
- 14 v. other relevant new business models and business practices introduced
15 for purposes of mitigating the economic effects of COVID-19 on trade
16 relations.

17 The grant or subsidy shall cover the following:

- 18 i. Innovation in business practices, such as product research and
19 development, and digital transformation of business management,
20 production, distribution retail, and other business areas, to ensure
21 resilience to future disruptions including managing the risk of cyber
22 threats;
- 23 ii. Upskilling and reskilling of workers; and
- 24 iii. Market assistance for identification of new market trends to allow
25 enterprises to pivot to high-value and high-necessity products.

26 For the interventions provided herein, priority shall be granted to business
27 entities requiring assistance for any activity, including new business investments
28 and operations, that support initiatives of the DOH towards ensuring an adequate
29 and responsive supply of health care products and services.

1 To ensure adequate and responsive supply of critical products and supplies,
2 the government as the procuring entity shall give preference to the purchase of
3 domestically-produced and manufactured goods, supplies and materials in the
4 interest of availability, efficiency and timely delivery thereof: *Provided*, That the
5 specified or desired quality and standards are complied with.

6 The DTI shall give preference to MSME+ that shall require for any activity
7 that supports the *Balik Probinsya, Bagong Pag-aso* Program under EO 114.

8 The amount of Forty-Four Billion Pesos (Php 44,000,000,000.00) shall be
9 appropriated for the implementation of this Section.

10 The DTI and BOI shall issue the implementing rules and regulations for this
11 Section within fifteen (15) days from the effectivity of this Act.

12 SEC. 23 *Assistance to the Agri-Fishery Sector*

13 The Department of Agriculture (DA) and such other agencies or
14 instrumentalities that may be authorized under this Act and its implementing rules
15 and regulations (IRR), shall extend the following assistance to entities in the agri-
16 fishery industry:

- 17 i. Enhanced Plant, Plant, Plant Program to ensure food security,
18 including, but not limited to, Rice Buffer stocking Program, *Kadiwa ni*
19 *Ani at Kita* Program, Rice Resiliency Project, Integrated Livestock and
20 Corn Resiliency Project, Expanded Small Ruminants and Poultry
21 Project, Enhanced White Corn Production for Food Resiliency and
22 Coconut-based Diversification Project;
- 23 ii. Fishery Resiliency Program for sustainability of the sector through, but
24 not limited to, Urban Aquaponics Project, Enhanced Aquaculture and
25 Sustainable Capture Fisheries in Inland Waters and Immediate Fish
26 Production Support Program for the Rehabilitation and Restoration of
27 Disrupted Fish Supply Chains in Luzon;
- 28 iii. Urban Agriculture Project to establish a resilient food system and
29 Revitalized Gulayan Project for enhanced production;

- iv. Interest-free loans, issuance of loan guarantees, insurance coverage and other credit facilities through, but not limited to, the Expanded SURE Aid and Recovery Project and Expanded Agricultural Insurance Project;
- v. Sustained information, education and communication of products, product developments and programs;
- vi. Social assistance to registered farmers and fishers whose income have been severely affected due to the CQ;
- vii. Food logistics and food market interventions and improvements for Food to Fork related programs;
- viii. Strengthening of price monitoring and enforcement systems;
- ix. Marketing, multi-platform communication and information exchange to support DA programs, especially the Plant, Plant, Plant Program;
- x. Expansion of agri-extension support to the LGUs for the development and implementation of province-led agricultural and fisheries extension programs for every province;
- xi. Data capture systems through the Agricultural and Fisheries Commodity Exchange system to aggregate the product supply and demand;
- xii. Enhanced DA Quick Response and Service Continuity through digitalization;
- xiii. Digital agriculture programs through the development of mobile and information systems-based monitoring, e-learning and research and development;
- xiv. Grants for education, training, and advising, including temporary employment programs, to agri-fishery workers and *Balik Probinsya*, *Bagong Pag-aso* participants; and
- xv. Any other relevant programs, including infrastructure, necessary to mitigate the economic effects of COVID-19 on the agri-fishery industry and to ensure food security.

1 For the implementation of this Section, the DA or any of its attached agencies
2 and instrumentalities shall administer the loan, loan guarantee or credit facility
3 programs through government financial institutions: *Provided*, That the loan
4 interventions implemented under this Section shall be exclusively for agri-fishery
5 sector only.

6 Availment of grants, loans or loan guarantees through other provisions of this
7 Act does not disqualify any tourism enterprise from availing of any other form of
8 economic relief measures in this Section.

9 DA shall also give preference to establishments requiring assistance for any
10 activity that supports the *Balik Probinsya, Bagong Pag-asa* Program under EO 114
11 series of 2020.

12 The amount of Sixty-Six Billion Pesos (Php66,000,000,000.00) shall be
13 appropriated for the implementation of this Section.

14 The DA shall issue the implementing rules and regulations for this Section
15 within fifteen (15) days after the effectivity of this Act.

16 SEC. 24. *Condonation of Loans of Agrarian Reform Beneficiaries for Land*
17 *Acquisition under Government Land Redistribution Programs.* To provide agrarian
18 reform beneficiaries the opportunity to enhance access to credit facilities after the
19 disruption of the food supply chain by the Covid-19 pandemic, the payment of unpaid
20 principal, interests, penalties, and surcharges of loans used for land acquisition to
21 any and all government agencies and government owned corporations including Land
22 Bank of the Philippines shall be condoned: *Provided*, That the condonation of unpaid
23 principal, interests, penalties and surcharges from these loans shall be in conformity
24 with the applicable general banking laws and regulations of the BSP: *Provided*,
25 *further*, That the Land Bank of the Philippines shall issue the appropriate
26 certification to the agrarian reform beneficiary, after the write-off of the principal,
27 unpaid interest, penalties and surcharges condoned to facilitate reintegration into
28 the financial and banking system: *Provided, finally*, that condonation as provided
29 herein shall lift all liens and encumbrances attached to the land acquired.

1 The Secretary of Finance and the Secretary of Agrarian Reform, in
2 consultation with the Land Bank of the Philippines, shall promulgate the rules and
3 regulations to implement this Section.

CHAPTER VI: Structural Interventions

5 SEC. 25. Additional Mandate of the National Development Corporation. – To
6 minimize permanent damage to the economy and enable faster recovery of certain
7 critically impacted businesses vital to the economy but have been severely and
8 adversely affected by the COVID-19, the National Development Company (NDC) is
9 hereby mandated and authorized to perform the following pursuant to and in
10 accordance with its current charter:

- a. Identify critically impacted businesses which are vital to the economy, such as those belonging to the transport industry and tourism industry, but excluding banks and financial institutions under the supervision of the BSP, that would otherwise have continued operations but are at risk of bankruptcy or insolvency due to COVID-19;
 - b. Extend loans and other forms of financial accommodation to, or make equity investments in such identified critically impacted businesses;
 - c. Assume, in exchange for equity of the same value, the financial obligations of such identified critically impacted businesses;
 - d. Merge or consolidate the identified critically impacted businesses in consultation with the relevant regulators;
 - e. Evaluate the performance and ensure good corporate governance in the business entities where the NDC invested; and
 - f. Perform due diligence activities inherent in its nature as a capital allocation firm of the Government;
 - g. Perform such other functions as may be inherent or necessary to dispense of its role as a capital allocation firm from whom reasonable returns are expected;
 - h. Create a separate unit within its organization structure that will specifically handle and manage the investments, loan, and all other related activities undertaken under this Act; and

- 1 i. Exercise the foregoing additional functions and powers in case of national
2 emergencies of similar nature and magnitude to the COVID-19.

3 To implement this Section, the authorized capital stock of the NDC shall be
4 increased by One Hundred Billion Pesos (Php 100,000,000,000.00) and the amount of
5 Twenty-Five Billion Pesos (Php 25,000,000,000.00) is hereby appropriated for Fiscal
6 Year 2020 for this purpose. An additional amount of Twenty-Five Billion Pesos (Php
7 25,000,000,000.00) for the implementation of this Section shall be appropriated for
8 Fiscal Year 2021.

9 SEC. 26. *Enhanced “Build, Build, Build” Program* – As enhancements to the
10 programmed infrastructure spending, there shall be “Build, Build, Build” projects in
11 universal health care, education, and food security. In addition to the portfolio of the
12 Presidential Adviser for Flagship Projects, the following projects shall be integrated
13 in the National Expenditure Programs in FY 2021, 2022, and 2023:

14 (a) The construction and development of modern health facilities that will
15 complement the Universal Health Care Law and national preparedness for surges
16 in demand for pandemics;

17 (b) The construction and improvement of public-school facilities, and
18 provision of efficient internet connectivity to all public schools and state
19 universities and colleges, with the aim of creating “Schools for the Future,” or
20 schools geared towards competitiveness in the Fourth Industrial Revolution;

21 (c) The construction, improvement, and renovation of infrastructure
22 supportive of creative industries;

23 (d) The construction, improvement, and renovation of infrastructure for the
24 agri-fishery industry geared towards food security and agricultural resilience:
25 *Provided*, That, recognizing the high multiplier effects and labor intensity of
26 infrastructure projects, implementing agencies shall prioritize the completion of
27 all infrastructure projects in FY 2020 to pump prime the economy after the CQ;

28 (e) The construction and upgrading of transportation passenger ports and
29 terminals including related facilities, such as, but not limited to, airports,
30 seaports, land transport terminals and railway stations, in accordance to with

1 social distancing and health standards, for the accelerated recovery of tourism and
2 travel activities;

3 (f) The construction, improvement and renovation of police stations and
4 military barracks to provide more facilities, spaces, and amenities complying with
5 social distancing and health standards;

6 (g) The construction, improvement and renovation of prisons infrastructure
7 to decongest existing jails and provide humane accommodations complying with
8 social distancing and health standards for persons deprived of liberty (PDL);

9 The construction, improvement and renovation of social housing projects and
10 resettlement areas;

11 (h) The construction, improvement, and renovation of digital infrastructure
12 to complement the national broadband plan, geared towards increasing internet
13 access in unserved and underserved areas. For any public-private partnerships
14 entered into for purposes of rolling out infrastructure under this Sub-Section,
15 disbursement of payment shall be based on compliance with clear service targets,
16 to be determined by the DICT; and

17 (i) The construction, improvement and renovation of infrastructure
18 supporting the objectives of EO No. 226 series of 1987, otherwise known as "The
19 Omnibus Investments Code of the Philippines", as amended, including the
20 relocation of manufacturing and service facilities from other countries to the
21 Philippines.

22 For this purpose, the amount of Six Hundred and Fifty Billion Pesos (Php
23 650,000,000,000.00) shall be appropriated over three (3) years starting FY 2021,
24 chargeable against funds sourced through any of the methods authorized under
25 Chapter IX of this Act: *Provided*, That the implementing agencies shall expedite
26 settlement of accounts payables as of December 2019 and prioritize the payment
27 for the outstanding progress billings/invoices of contractors with complete
28 documentation or the partial release of payments to contractors based on
29 submission of deliverables: *Provided, further*, That the COA and DBM shall
30 streamline documentary requirements for processing payment across

1 government: *Provided, finally,* That the DOF shall establish a project finance
2 relief facility for the government financial institutions to monetize future
3 receivables of the contractors.

4 SEC. 27. *Coordination of Monetary and Fiscal Policies.* - The BSP and the SEC
5 are hereby encouraged to adopt measures, including the relaxation of regulatory and
6 statutory restrictions and requirements for a period of not more than ten (10) years
7 from their date of effectivity to encourage the banking industry and other financial
8 institutions to extend loans and other forms of financial accommodation to help
9 business recover from the economic effects of COVID-19 crisis and to enable the
10 banking industry to manage appropriately its risks and potential losses.

11 The BSP and the SEC are likewise hereby authorized to grant reporting relief
12 to its supervised entities by allowing staggered booking of allowance for credit losses
13 for all types of credit accommodations extended to individuals and business entities
14 affected by COVID-19.

15 Until a similar law is enacted, Republic Act No. 9182, as amended, otherwise
16 known as "The Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) Act of 2002", is hereby revived for a
17 period of ten (10) years from the effectivity of this Act, subject to such extension as
18 may be determined by the BSP if it deems necessary to solve the non-performing
19 assets problem of the banking industry that may result from defaults occasioned by
20 the COVID-19 pandemic.

21 The SEC as the primary implementing agency for the SPV Act, upon request
22 of, and with prior consultation with the BSP, shall issue amendatory or
23 supplementary rules and regulations implementing the SPV Act, including
24 modification, relaxation and suspension of restrictions and requirements covering
25 periods, capitalization and other matters, excluding the tax incentives and fee
26 privileges under the SPV Act, to achieve its objectives and as well as of this law and
27 which shall be effective for a period not exceeding ten (10) years from the effectivity
28 of this Act or the effectivity of the new law, whichever comes first.

29 CHAPTER VII: Other Socio-Economic Policy Measures

1 SEC. 28. *Socio-economic Policy Measures.* Socio-economic policies that
2 encourage the businesses, communities, and individuals to positively respond to the
3 economic effects of COVID-19 shall be pursued. These shall include the following:

4 (a) *Balik Probinsya, Bagong Pag-asa Program*

5 All relevant agencies and departments are mandated to promote and implement
6 programs and policies for the immediate and effective implementation of EO 114
7 series of 2020, otherwise known as the *Balik Probinsya, Bagong Pag-asa*
8 Program, in view of the objectives thereof, including (a) empowerment of local
9 industries, (b) food security and agricultural productivity, (c) social welfare,
10 health and employment, and (d) development of infrastructure.

11 (b) Trade:

12 i. All sector regulators with a price and fee regulation mandate shall
13 review existing pricing and payment policies, including tariff rates, and issue
14 temporary suspensions or revisions as needed, including export percentage
15 requirements for purposes of aiding regulated businesses cope with economic
16 losses arising from the COVID-19 pandemic.

17 ii. All relevant departments and agencies shall make it a policy to give
18 preference to all local suppliers and contractors for all Public-Private
19 Partnership projects, infrastructure projects, and all purchases for relevant
20 provisions and supplies from their respective MOOE.

21 iii. All relevant departments and agencies shall review and implement
22 policies and programs for logistics and supply chain management involving the
23 planning, transporting and handling of goods, services and information from the
24 point of origin to the point of consumption, most especially for locally produced
25 agro-fishery products.

26 (c) Technology

27 i. The Department of Science and Technology (DOST) and the Department of
28 Information and Communications Technology (DICT) shall encourage the
29 culture of innovation, through research and development, of business
30 entities, especially in relation to the development of information

1 technology-based systems for the health sector. The DTI, in coordination
2 with DOST and DICT, shall review incentives and grants for business
3 entities, educational institutions as well as individuals that develop
4 COVID-19 or any pandemic-related information technology products or
5 services.

- 6 ii. The DOST and the DICT shall support and promote scientific research, the
7 development of innovative technologies, and data analytics to improve
8 production efficiency and to inform government decision-making;
- 9 iii. The DOST and the DICT shall facilitate and encourage investments for the
10 development of ICT infrastructure to serve as backbone of digital learning,
11 telecommuting and low-contact business transactions.
- 12 iv. The DICT shall issue rules and regulations that would facilitate the
13 development of information and communication technology infrastructure
14 and will, among others, provide open access approach in the regulation of
15 data transmission services sector, and mandate the interconnection among
16 data transmission participants to ensure efficient connectivity and low cost
17 to consumers. The DICT, in coordination with the National
18 Telecommunications Commission (NTC), shall review the capacity of
19 telecommunications and internet service providers and encourage
20 improvement of digital and network infrastructure to ensure better access
21 to, and affordability of, telecommunications and internet services.

22 (d) Health:

- 23 i. All departments and their respective attached agencies, in coordination
24 with the DOH and in consultation with the private sector, shall
25 formulate and implement protocols and guidelines to mitigate
26 transmission of COVID 19 and any other infectious diseases in the
27 industries and sectors they respectively regulate and supervise.
- 28 ii. All departments and their respective attached agencies shall formulate
29 plans, programs and policies with the objective to endeavor national self-
30 sufficiency in the supply of health-related goods and services, especially

1 COVID-19 and any other infectious disease related medical supplies and
2 equipment.

3 (e) Agriculture:

- 4 i. The Department of Agriculture (DA) shall facilitate the systematic
5 production and exchange of goods and services in agricultural supply
6 chains through institutional support services and logistics-based
7 solutions to strengthen market linkages and minimize transaction costs.
- 8 ii. The DA shall ensure the full implementation of its existing programs in
9 agricultural modernization, including the enhancement of farm
10 mechanization, adoption of new technologies to improve farm
11 productivity, and the efficient and sustainable use of farm resources.
- 12 iii. The DA shall also expand its existing program on urban agriculture. The
13 DA shall identify and develop idle government and private lands and
14 open spaces, without prejudice to the rights of owners of private lands,
15 for full or partial conversion to community gardens or vertical farms,
16 utilizing geoponic, hydroponic or aeroponic growing methods.
- 17 iv. The DA shall provide the necessary technical assistance and support
18 services, including, but not limited to, provision of seeds and seedlings,
19 and gardening tools, access to loans from government financial
20 institutions, and agricultural training, to ensure the full productivity of
21 community gardens and vertical farms.

22 (f) Regulatory:

- 23 i. The DTI, in consultation with the ARTA and LGUs, shall review existing
24 policies and recommend the removal or revision of rules and regulations
25 that do not support the goal of business continuity post COVID-19. Any
26 measures adopted under this Section shall be evaluated every six (6)
27 months after the effectivity of this Act.
- 28 ii. All relevant departments and agencies, including LGUs, shall
29 implement programs and policies for the digitalization and automation
30 of all transactions, including payments to and from the government. All

relevant departments and agencies, including LGUs shall promote financial inclusion of individuals and entities, especially beneficiaries of government amelioration programs and beneficiaries of the interventions in this Act. These shall include access to appropriate, affordable and timely financial products and services, such as, but not limited to, banking, loan, equity and insurance products.

CHAPTER VIII: Reporting and Monitoring

SEC. 29. *Long-term Plan for Economic Resilience.* – The NEDA shall submit to Congress a long-term plan for building economic resilience, not later than six (6) months after the lifting of the CQ. The Economic Resilience Plan (ERP) shall include a strategy for measuring and monitoring economic resilience and identification of structural reforms needed to increase the ability of the economy to withstand shocks such as the COVID-19 pandemic. The ERP shall include the following:

(a) The required investments in the health care sector in the next ten (10) years to ensure its ability to respond to the health care needs-of the population, including emerging infectious diseases similar to COVID-19;

(b) The required investment in digital infrastructure to improve connectivity and access to digital technology to enable Philippine businesses and households to cope with crisis and shocks; and

(c) The required database to ensure the responsiveness of that social protection programs of the government for vulnerable and displaced households during period of external shocks such as the outbreak of COVID-19.

SEC. 30. *Economic Stimulus Board* – The Economic Stimulus Board (ESB) is hereby established to identify the components of the fiscal stimulus package, and the specific government programs of the implementing agency for the delivery of each intervention. The ESB shall have its chairperson the NEDA Secretary and shall be composed of representatives from DOF, DBM, DOLE, DILG, SSS, GSIS, LBP, DBP, DTI, SBCorp, PGC, BOI, DA, DOT, BSP, and the Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH). The Chairperson of the ESB may designate additional members as may be deemed necessary for the proper implementation of this Act. The President

1 of the Philippines may appoint representatives from the private sector as members
2 of the ESB.

3 The ESB shall create a registry of assisted businesses, a centralized database
4 which all members of the ESB can access with ease, for purposes of monitoring the
5 availment of various forms of assistance authorized by this Act, to ensure that the
6 total amount of assistance received by any single business entity, is rational and
7 proportionate to the scale of response required to retain its workforce and maintain
8 its payroll costs.

9 The ESB shall have the authority to coordinate and transact with, and avail
10 of, the services of private entities that could provide technical assistance or digital
11 infrastructure necessary for ESB to perform its functions and implement the
12 economic relief granted under this Act.

13 SEC. 31. *Functions of ESB.* - The ESB shall perform the following functions
14 and powers:

15 a. Evaluate the costs and benefits of programs and projects provided for in
16 this Act, and recommend their modification, if necessary;

17 b. Study and recommend programs and projects that the government may
18 undertake to complement the implementation of programs and projects provided
19 for in this Act;

20 c. Oversee and spearhead the preparation of reports mandated under this
21 Act;

22 d. Recommend to Congress remedial legislation to expeditiously and
23 efficiently implement the programs and projects allowed or provided for in this
24 Act ; and

25 e. Perform such other functions inherent in its role as the coordinating
26 council for all programs and projects provided for in this Act and as may be
27 delegated by the President of the Philippines.

28 SEC. 32. *Monitoring of Implementation and Congressional Oversight.* – A
29 Joint Congressional Oversight Committee on Economic Stimulus Program is hereby

1 created. The Oversight Committee shall be composed of the Co-Chairpersons of the
2 Sub-Committee on Economic Stimulus Response Package Cluster of the Defeat
3 COVID-19 Committee on the part of the House of Representatives and the respective
4 Chairpersons of the Committees on Economic Affairs, Ways and Means, and Finance
5 of the Senate. An additional member from the majority and the minority shall be
6 respectively designated by the Senate President and the Speaker of the House of
7 Representatives.

8 The Joint Congressional Oversight Committee on Economic Stimulus Program
9 shall be tasked to monitor the implementation of the economic stimulus response
10 package and recommend remedial legislation, if necessary.

11 The ESB shall continue to estimate and monitor the impact of COVID-19 on
12 the economy. In order to ensure the proper use of funds, the ESB shall submit a
13 monthly report to Congress of all acts performed pursuant to this Act.

14 The NEDA and the implementing departments shall submit, either in printed
15 form or by way of electronic document, to the Oversight Committee, House Committee
16 on Appropriations, the Senate Committee on Finance and the Commission on Audit,
17 the quarterly accountability reports on the utilization of funds. The NEDA shall be
18 responsible for ensuring that the said quarterly reports are likewise posted on the
19 official website of the NEDA and the implementing agencies.

20 Releases from the appropriations made herein shall be subject to the
21 submission of a special budget pursuant to Section 35, Chapter 5, Book VI of
22 Executive Order No. 292, series of 1987.

23 CHAPTER IX: FUNDING

24 SEC. 33. *Special Power to Reallocate and Realign Appropriations.* —
25 Notwithstanding any law or provision thereof to the contrary, to finance the
26 requirements of this Act, the President of the Philippines is hereby authorized to
27 reallocate and realign any appropriation as follows:

28 1. From programs, projects, and activities which cannot be utilized
29 effectively as a result of the COVID 19 outbreak under Republic Act No. 11260 or the

1 General Appropriations Act of 2019 and Republic Act No. 11465 or the General
2 Appropriations Act of 2020;

3 2. From programs, projects, and activities as identified by the DBM which
4 cannot be utilized effectively as a result of the COVID 19 outbreak, including items
5 such as discretionary travel, representation and training expenses, and declare
6 allotments for such items as forced savings. The DBM shall make a detailed report to
7 the President and Congress on forced savings arising from COVID-19, not later than
8 two (2) weeks after the enactment of this Act;

9 3. From infrastructure projects in the Executive Department, including
10 those implemented by the government-owned or -controlled corporations (GOCCs),
11 as identified by the ESB for which funds had been appropriated but remain
12 unobligated under RA No. 11260 and RA No. 11465 and other special laws, and utilize
13 any savings generated therefrom to fund or augment the allocation for any item
14 mandated under this Act. These infrastructure projects can be implemented under
15 Republic Act No. 6957, as amended, otherwise known as the “BOT Law” under the
16 Public-Private Partnership (PPP) projects of the government.

17 Subject to applicable constitutional restrictions, the President of the
18 Philippines, upon recommendation of the ESB, is authorized to ease, modify or
19 suspend restrictions, requirements and other matters under the BOT Law and such
20 other laws governing PPP projects for a period of not more than ten (10) years from
21 the date of their effectivity; and

22 4. From cash, funds, and investments held by any GOCC or any national
23 government agency.

24 Any law that reserves or earmarks any fund or collection by any national
25 government agency or GOCC is hereby expressly superseded by the foregoing
26 authorization, and the President of the Philippines shall have authority and
27 discretion to reallocate and realign such fund or collection for whatever purpose the
28 President may deem necessary, beneficial, or desirable in order to address the public
29 health emergency as declared in Proclamation No. 929 series 2020.

1 This authority shall be valid for six (6) months: *Provided, however,* That the
2 President shall submit a quarterly report on the reallocation to Congress.

3 SEC. 34 *Financing.* - The Secretary of Finance is authorized to direct the
4 Treasurer of the Philippines to borrow, in the name and on behalf of the Republic of
5 the Philippines, such amounts and in such form including bonds, loans and other
6 evidence of indebtedness to finance programs provided herein.

7 The borrowings shall be incurred in such amounts as will be needed at any one
8 time, taking into account the following:

- 9 a) rate at which said borrowings may be absorbed by the buying public;
10 b) the fund requirements of projects ready for execution, and
11 c) the balance between productive and non-productive projects to hold
12 inflation at the minimum.

13 For domestic borrowings, the Secretary of Finance shall prescribe the form, the
14 rate of interest, the denomination, maturity, negotiability, convertibility, call and
15 redemption features, and all other terms and conditions governing the issuance,
16 placement, sale, servicing, redemption, and payment of bonds issued under the
17 authority of this Act: *Provided,* That consultation with the BSP will be made on the
18 probable effects of the proposed operation on monetary aggregates, price level and
19 balance of payments which shall be deemed in compliance with the requirement
20 under Section 123 of Republic Act No. 7653, as amended by Republic Act No. 11211.

21 For foreign borrowings, the requirements under the Philippine Constitution
22 and applicable laws shall be complied with.

23 Bonds issued pursuant to this section as well as equity and quasi-equity
24 investments made, directly or indirectly, by banks in the agri-fishery enterprises
25 shall be eligible for purposes of meeting banks' statutory reserve requirements as
26 well as Agri-Agra Reform Credit Act (RA 10000) compliance for a period of ten (10)
27 years.

28 The principal and interest of the bonds issued under the authority of this
29 Section may be made payable in Philippine currency or any readily convertible
30 foreign currency. The Secretary of Finance shall cause to be paid out of any moneys

1 in the National Treasury not otherwise appropriated, or from any sinking funds
2 provided for the purpose by law, any interest falling due, or accruing, on any portion
3 of the public debt authorized by law. He shall also cause to be paid out of any such
4 money, or from any such sinking funds the principal amount of any obligations which
5 have matured, or which have been called for redemption or for which redemption has
6 been demanded in accordance with terms prescribed by him prior to date of
7 issue: *Provided, however,* That he may, if he so chooses and if the holder is willing,
8 exchange any such obligation with any other direct or guaranteed obligation or
9 obligations of the Philippine Government of equivalent value.

10 The Secretary of Finance is also authorized to access such other financing
11 facilities with rates comparable to or more favorable than prevailing market rates, as
12 may be necessary.

13 Likewise, government financial institutions and other government-owned or
14 controlled corporations are hereby authorized to issue bonds under such terms and
15 conditions as they may determine in their sound discretion to enable them help
16 finance the programs provided herein, and subject to approval by the Secretary of
17 Finance.

18 SEC. 35. *Use and Release of Funds.* – The amounts appropriated herein shall
19 be used exclusively for the purposes specified under the preceding Sections. Releases
20 shall be made by the DBM directly to the appropriate implementing departments and
21 agencies.

22 The appropriations authorized in this Act shall be subject to the conditions
23 under Section 60, on Cash Budgeting System of the General Provisions of RA No.
24 11465.

25 SEC. 36. *Availability of Appropriations.* – The appropriations authorized in
26 this Act shall be available for release and obligation for the purposes herein specified
27 until December 31, 2021, unless otherwise stated.

28 CHAPTER X: Final Provisions

1 SEC. 37. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.* – Unless otherwise indicated,
2 the implementing rules and regulations necessary for this Act shall be issued by the
3 President of the Philippines within fifteen (15) days upon the effectivity of this Act.

4 SEC. 38. *Separability Clause.* – If, for any reason or reasons, any part or
5 provision of this Act shall be declared as unconstitutional or invalid, the other parts
6 or provisions hereof which are not affected thereby shall continue to be in full force
7 and effect.

8 SEC. 39. *Repealing Clause.* – All provisions of existing laws, orders, rules and
9 regulations or parts thereof which are in conflict or inconsistent with the provisions
10 of this Act are hereby repealed, amended or modified accordingly.

11 SEC. 40. Effectivity. – This Act shall take effect immediately upon its
12 publication in the *Official Gazette* or in a newspaper of general circulation in the
13 Philippines.

14 Approved,