EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
First Regular Session

## RECEIVED DATE: MAY 2 6 2020 TIME: 1:36 pm BY: Total

## HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Introduced by Representative Rufus B. Rodriguez

House Bill No. \_\_\_\_\_

## **EXPLANATORY NOTE**

Last March 24, 2020, Republic Act 11469 or the Bayanihan to Heal as One Act was signed into law. Under said law, the President of the Republic of the Philippines was given emergency powers to respond to the crisis brought about by the pandemic COVID-19.

The emergency power given was for only 3 months from the effectivity of the law.

Unfortunately, 2 months after the effectivity of the law, the end to the pandemic is not yet in sight. There are still new OVID-19 positive cases being reported every day and the country is not yet fully operating.

The coronavirus disease (COVID-19) is an infectious disease caused by a new strain of coronavirus. This new virus and disease were unknown before the outbreak began in Wuhan, China, in December 2019.

According to the DOH, as of May 21, there are already 13,434 COVID 19 positive cases and a total of 846 deaths.

It is therefore clear that the pandemic will not be over by June 24, 2020. As such, we need to extend the effectivity of the Bayanihan to Heal as One Act and give the President additional time to address the pandemic.

In view of the foregoing, immediate approval of this measure is earnestly requested.

RUFUS B. RODRIGUEZ

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## HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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House Bill No. 6811

AN ACT

AMENDING REPUBLIC ACT 11469 OR "AN ACT DECLARING THE EXISTENCE OF A NATIONAL EMERGENCY ARISING FROM THE CORONAVIRUS DISEASE 2019 (COVID-19) SITUATION AND A NATIONAL POLICY IN CONNECTION THEREWITH, AND AUTHORIZING THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES FOR A LIMITED PERIOD AND SUBJECT TO RESTRICTIONS, TO EXERCISE POWERS NECESSARY AND PROPER TO CARRY OUT THE DECLARED NATIONAL POLICY AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES" BY EXTENDING ITS EFFECTIVITY FOR ANOTHER THREE MONTHS

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

SECTION. 1. Section 9 of Republic Act 11469 or the "Bayanihan to Heal as One Act" is hereby amended to read as follows:

"SEC. 9. Effectivity. — This Act shall take effect immediately upon its publication in a newspaper of general circulation or in the Official Gazette and shall be in full force and effect only for [three (3)] SIX (6) months, unless extended by Congress: Provided, That the powers granted under this Act may be withdrawn sooner by means of a concurrent resolution of Congress or ended by Presidential Proclamation."

SEC 2. This Act shall take effect immediately after its publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,