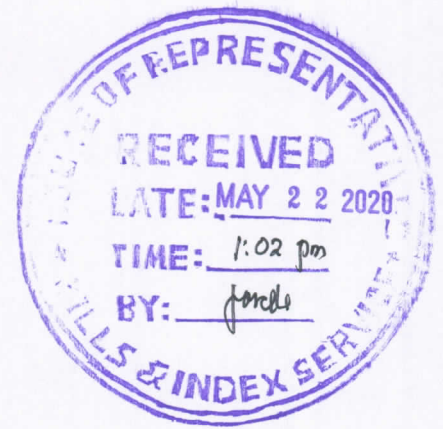


Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City, Metro Manila

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 897



Introduced by Hon. Anthony Peter “Onyx” D. Crisologo

**A RESOLUTION
DIRECTING THE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY TO CONDUCT AN
INQUIRY AND INVESTIGATION, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON
THE SPIKE OF ELECTRICITY RATES AND THE ADDITIONAL
CHARGES OF MANILA ELECTRIC COMPANY (MERALCO)
DURING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ENHANCED
COMMUNITY QUARANTINE**

WHEREAS, consumers have noticed an abrupt increase in their electricity bills during April and May 2020, and an additional charge under “convenience fee” for payments done using online applications.

WHEREAS, the implementation of Enhanced Community Quarantine (ECQ) on March 16, 2020, restricted the movement of people and prompted electric consumers to use alternative platforms such as online applications to pay their electric bills.

WHEREAS, MERALCO, increasing their electricity rates, and billing their consumers with “convenience fee” every time they use an online platform is unreasonable, given the situation that the country is currently in.

WHEREAS, MERALCO should explain the reason behind the computation of high electricity rates during ECQ and answer complaints from their consumers.

WHEREAS, MERALCO shall not be allowed to include additional charges in their rates without seeking the approval of the Energy Regulatory Commission and informing the general public.

WHEREAS, it is important to continually reinforce government policies protecting consumers, particularly during this difficult time to ease the burden that the public is already experiencing.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives to direct the Committee on Energy to conduct an inquiry

and investigation, in aid of legislation, on the spike of electricity rates and the additional charges of MERALCO during the implementation of the enhanced community quarantine.

Adopted, May 26, 2020.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Onyx', is written over the printed name.

ANTHONY PETER "ONYX" D. CRISOLOGO

Representative

First District, Quezon City