

REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City, Metro Manila



EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

House Bill No. 6952

INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVES LUIS RAYMUND "LRAY" F. VILLAFUERTE, JR., FERDINAND MARTIN G. ROMUALDEZ, HON. MICHAEL T. DEFENSOR, HON. "KUYA" JOSE ANTONIO R. SY-ALVARADO

The country's road to effective recovery from COVID-19 and return to normalcy without fear require the realization of the following objectives: (1.) the development of an efficient and strong mechanism to prevent and control the outbreak, and (2.) the implementation of mechanisms that protect the collective interest of all Filipinos through various forms of assistance and reliefs.

The staggering effects of COVID-19 on human life and the economy that we are seeing are unlike anything that our generation has ever experienced. Globally, the unemployment figures projected by the International Labor Organization (ILO) is 25 million for Fiscal Year (FY) 2020 with loss of labor income amounting to as much as \$3.4 Trillion. Meanwhile, the Philippine Institute of Development Studies (PIDS) estimates that the Philippines could suffer a 12.9% contraction of its economy.

However, the reactivation of disrupted economic activities and reemployment of displaced workforces cannot simply be done without the confidence and full trust of the public in the measures in place. It is for this very reason that this bill is designed to supplement Republic Act No. 11469, otherwise known as the "Bayanihan to Heal as One Act", by aggressively pursuing its efforts to contain the transmission of COVID 19 and simultaneously making available various reliefs to all Filipinos as the economy starts to open up.

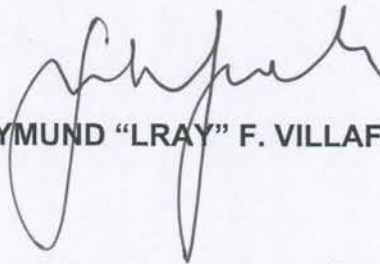
Among others, this bill proposes to undertake COVID-19 response and recovery interventions that follow the best practices and guidelines of the World Health Organization. This includes the testing of a percentage of the population that will be expedited by a streamlined accreditation of polymerase chain reaction (PCR) testing kits by public and designated private institutions.

Further, this measure proposes the appropriation of One Hundred Fifty Seven Billion Pesos (PhP 157,000,000,000.00) as standby fund for support operations and response measures to address COVID 19. This includes Twelve Billion Pesos (PhP

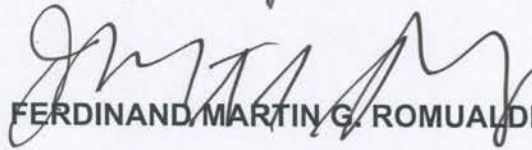
12,000,000,000.00) for the procurement of PCR testing and extraction kits for the enhancement of the capacities of the DOH. Other allocations are dedicated in support of socioeconomic reliefs such as Emergency Subsidy to Workers, Cash For Work Programs, Prevention and Control of Other Diseases, Capital Infusion to Government Banks, Support Programs for Impacted Sectors, Support to Agricultural Sector.

This proposal rides on the optimism and resiliency of the Filipino Spirit ensuring that every Filipino life is important.

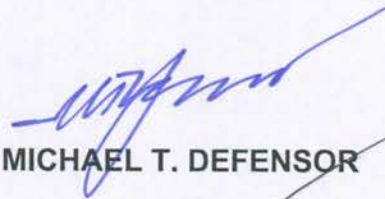
In view of the foregoing, the immediate passage of this bill is earnestly sought.



LUIS RAYMUND "LRAY" F. VILLAFUERTE, JR



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AN ACT

PROVIDING FOR COVID-19 RESPONSE AND RECOVERY INTERVENTIONS AND PROVIDING MECHANISM TO ACCELERATE THE RECOVERY AND BOLSTER THE RESILIENCY OF THE PHILIPPINE ECONOMY, PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

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

1 SEC. 1. *Short Title.* – This Act shall be known and cited as "Bayanihan to
2 Recover As One Act".

3 SEC. 2. *Declaration of Policy.* It is hereby declared the policy of the State to
4 promote a just and dynamic social order that will ensure the prosperity and
5 independence of the nation and free the people from poverty, particularly in the
6 aftermath of natural and man-made disasters, through policies that provide

1 adequate social services, promote full employment, a rising standard of living, and
2 an improved quality of life for all. Towards this end, and in cognizance of the
3 adverse impact of the 2019 Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) pandemic to the
4 Philippine economy and society, the State shall likewise establish mechanisms to
5 achieve the following objectives:

- 6 (a) Reduce the adverse impact of COVID-19 on the socioeconomic well-
7 being of all Filipinos through the provision of assistance, subsidies and
8 other forms of socioeconomic relief;
- 9 (b) Consolidate, update, and validate existing records, through the DSWD
10 in coordination with the IATF and the Philippine Statistics Authority
11 including Local Government Units, to come up with a comprehensive,
12 up to date, and unified database to effectively implement the provision
13 of socioeconomic relief intended for all Filipinos by properly identifying
14 the recipients thereof;
- 15 (c) Sustain efforts to test, trace, isolate and treat COVID-19 cases to
16 mitigate the transmission of the disease and prevent further loss of
17 lives;
- 18 (d) Enhance the capacity of the Philippine health care system to eliminate,
19 prevent and control disease outbreaks and pandemics and mitigate the
20 effects of other health or life-threatening concerns by ensuring
21 budgetary support for healthcare;
- 22 (e) Mitigate the economic cost and losses stemming from the COVID-19
23 pandemic;
- 24 (f) Restore public trust and confidence on social and economic institutions;
- 25 (g) Accelerate the recovery and bolster the resilience of the Philippine
26 economy through measures grounded on economic inclusivity and
27 collective growth;
- 28 (h) Accommodate alternative modes of transportation, including a network
29 of bicycle lanes in all roads in every city and municipality, for the people
30 who may opt to use the bicycle as an alternative mode of transportation
31 to address health, environment, and traffic concerns;

- 1 (i) Promote and protect the collective interests of all Filipinos in these
2 challenging times;
- 3 (j) Optimize the use of science, technology and innovation in government's
4 response measures; and
- 5 (k) enhance public trust in science and incorporate the use of scientific
6 research and technological expertise in policy-making process.

7 SEC. 3. *COVID-19 Response and Recovery Interventions.* - The following
8 shall be undertaken and implemented as COVID-19 response and recovery
9 interventions:

- 10 (a) Following World Health Organization (WHO) guidelines and best
11 practices, adoption and implementation of measures to prevent or
12 suppress further transmission and spread of COVID-19 through
13 effective education, detection, protection, and treatment: PROVIDED,
14 That the percentage of the population that will undergo COVID-19
15 testing shall be in accordance with WHO standards and global
16 benchmark, in areas identified by the Department of Health (DOH) and
17 the Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG) as epicenters
18 of COVID-19 infections and in other areas where higher possibility of
19 transmission of COVID-19 may occur or have occurred. The DOH shall
20 adopt a COVID-19 disease surveillance protocol that shall define
21 minimum health standards for workplaces and business activities which
22 shall include COVID-19 testing and the establishment of a contact
23 tracing system including personal contact tracing whereby a person
24 maintains a record of the places that he/she had been to and the people
25 he/she had contact with: PROVIDED, That any individual who tested
26 positive for COVID-19 through laboratory confirmation at the national
27 reference laboratory, sub-national reference laboratory, or a DOH
28 certified laboratory testing facility shall be automatically treated and if
29 necessary, isolated in a DOH quarantine and isolation facility:
30 PROVIDED, FURTHER, That the Inter-Agency Task Force for the

1 Management of Emerging Infectious Diseases (IATF-EID) shall identify
2 and prioritize the areas and business activities critically impacted and
3 severely affected by COVID-19 and with high probability of COVID-19
4 transmission, and coordinate with the relevant Local Government Units
5 (LGUs) and government agencies for the implementation of the COVID-
6 19 surveillance protocol. PROVIDED, FINALLY, That The DILG, in
7 coordination with the LGUs and other government agencies, shall
8 distribute the testing kits to DOH-accredited government hospitals that
9 can perform testing;

10 (b) Implementation of an expedited and streamlined accreditation of
11 polymerase chain reaction (PCR) testing kits and facilitation of prompt
12 testing by public and designated private institutions of suspected and
13 probable COVID-19 cases and those with no symptoms but with
14 relevant travel history, or may have been exposed due to the nature of
15 their work or due to their living conditions or had contact with a
16 confirmed, suspected or probable case, and the compulsory and
17 immediate isolation and treatment of confirmed, suspected and
18 probable COVID-19 patients: PROVIDED, That the cost of testing and
19 treatment for COVID-19 patients shall be covered under the National
20 Health Insurance Program of the Philippine Health Insurance
21 Corporation (PhilHealth): PROVIDED, FURTHER, That in addition to
22 testing, isolation and treatment of these patients, the contacts of these
23 patients shall also be immediately and properly traced through the use
24 of efficient technology for data collection and analysis, and by engaging
25 contact tracers from the existing network of barangay health workers,
26 parent-leaders from the Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program (4Ps),
27 and members of duly accredited Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) by
28 the respective national government agency;

29 (c) Adoption of a protocol on the conduct of PCR testing for COVID-19. For
30 this purpose, the IATF-EID, in full cooperation with the DOH, the DILG,
31 the Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE), the Department of

1 Trade and Industry (DTI), and the Bureau of Immigration (BI), shall
2 ensure the following:

3 (1) Adequate number of COVID-19 testing centers that provide
4 available, affordable and accessible testing to the public, subject to
5 reimbursement by PhilHealth under existing guidelines: PROVIDED,
6 That people in geographically isolated or highly populated and
7 depressed areas shall be provided the same level of access to
8 COVID-19 testing;

9 (2) Hiring of skilled medical technologists, molecular biologists, and
10 other skilled laboratory technicians to conduct COVID-19 testing to
11 achieve an ideal personnel-to-laboratory ratio taking into
12 consideration DOH targets; and

13 (3) Procurement and distribution of supplies for COVID-19 PCR testing
14 based on, among others, the current levels and projections of the
15 following:

16 (i) number of patients and healthcare workers with severe or
17 critical symptoms and history of travel or exposure; and

18 (ii) number of patients and healthcare workers with mild
19 symptoms, relevant history of travel or exposure, and
20 considered vulnerable: PROVIDED, that LGUs may
21 implement their own procurement, distribution and monitoring
22 program consistent with the overall provisions of this Act and
23 the guidelines of the DOH.

24 (d) Delivery of uninterrupted immunization program against vaccine
25 preventable diseases especially on children amidst the COVID-19
26 pandemic;

27 (e) Adoption by the DOH of a uniform and consistent reporting standard in
28 a language understandable by the general public;

29 (f) Provision of an emergency subsidy to all affected Filipinos in need of
30 emergency subsidy, such as all low income families, households with
31 recently returned Overseas Filipino Workers (OFWs): no-work-no-pay

1 individuals such as freelancers and self-employed individuals, and such
2 other families or individuals properly identified by the Government as in
3 need of emergency subsidy, resulting from the Enhanced Community
4 Quarantine (ECQ) being implemented or previously implemented by the
5 Government: PROVIDED, That the subsidy shall amount to a minimum
6 of Five Thousand Pesos (P5,000) to a maximum of Eight Thousand
7 Pesos (P8,000) a month: PROVIDED, That the subsidy shall be
8 computed based on the prevailing regional minimum wage rates:
9 PROVIDED, FURTHER, That the subsidy received from the current
10 conditional cash transfer program and rice subsidy received by properly
11 identified and qualified low income families shall be taken into
12 consideration in the computation of the emergency subsidy as provided
13 for in this Act. PROVIDED, FURTHERMORE, That the vetting and
14 validation of beneficiaries of the Social Amelioration Program (SAP),
15 and the related liquidation report thereto shall be simplified to expedite
16 the distribution of the subsidy: PROVIDED, FINALLY, that a definite list
17 of beneficiaries of the SAP shall be submitted to Congress;

18 (g) Provision of one (1) month emergency subsidy to low income
19 households who are qualified but were not granted such subsidy as
20 mandated under Section 4c of the Republic Act No. 11469;

21 (h) Provision of unemployment or involuntary separation assistance
22 amounting to Ten Thousand Pesos (P10,000) for displaced workers or
23 employees, including probationary, project, seasonal, contractual and
24 casual employees in private health institutions, tourism, culture and arts,
25 creative industries, including but not limited to film and audiovisual
26 workers, construction, public transportation, trade industries, and other
27 sectors of the formal economy as may be identified by the DOLE, in
28 coordination with the Bureau of Internal Revenue (BIR), and Social
29 Security System (SSS); freelancers, the self-employed and repatriated
30 OFWs, including OFWs whose deployment were suspended due to a
31 government-imposed deployment ban: PROVIDED, That any

1 assistance given to OFWs shall be separate and distinct from the
2 benefits or assistance, if any, they receive as members of the Overseas
3 Workers Welfare Administration (OWWA): PROVIDED, FURTHER,
4 That any subsidy previously received under Republic Act No. 11469
5 does not preclude the displaced worker or employee, the freelancers,
6 self-employed, and repatriated OFWs from receiving the unemployment
7 or involuntary separation assistance provided herein;

8 (i) Access to livelihood assistance, skills and training programs, loan
9 assistance, and employment opportunities for repatriated and returning
10 OFWs to ensure proper reintegration and the full utilization of their skills
11 for national development;

12 (j) Provision of a "COVID-19 special risk allowance" for all public health
13 workers on a monthly basis for every month that they are serving in the
14 duration of the COVID-19 pandemic, in addition to the hazard pay
15 granted under the Magna Carta of Public Health Workers or Republic
16 Act No. 7305;

17 (k) Implementation of mandatory COVID-19 testing of public and private
18 health workers every fifteen (15) days to ensure their protection;

19 (l) Assumption of all medical expenses of public and private health workers
20 in case of exposure to COVID-19 or any work-related injury or disease
21 during the duration of the pandemic;

22 (m) Provision of compensation of One Hundred Thousand Pesos
23 (P100,000) to public and private health workers who have contracted or
24 who may contract severe COVID-19 infection while in the line of duty:
25 PROVIDED, FURTHER, That a compensation of One Million Pesos
26 (P1,000,000) shall be given to public and private health workers, who
27 have died or may die while fighting the COVID-19 pandemic:
28 PROVIDED, FINALLY, That this shall have retroactive application from
29 January 1, 2020;

1 (n) Provision of opportunity to Agrarian Reform Beneficiaries to enhanced
2 access to credit facilities after the disruption of the food supply chain by
3 the COVID-19 pandemic.

4 (o) The pertinent provisions of Republic Act No. 10931 otherwise known as
5 the "Universal Access to Quality Tertiary Education Act," Republic Act
6 No. 8545 otherwise known as the "Expanded Government Assistance to
7 Students and Teachers in Private Education Act" or the "E-GASTPE
8 Act," and Republic Act No. 10533 otherwise known as the "Enhanced
9 Basic Education Act of 2013" or the "K to 12 Law," to the contrary
10 notwithstanding, provision of tuition subsidy to students who are
11 currently not receiving any assistance from government educational
12 subsidy or voucher programs but are now facing financial difficulties
13 brought about by work stoppage and closure of establishments due to
14 the CQ as follows:

15 (1) Qualified students in Private Tertiary Education who are neither part
16 of the Listahanan of the Department of Social Welfare and
17 Development (DSWD) nor covered under the Tertiary Education
18 Subsidy (TES) as provided in Republic Act No. 10931 shall receive a
19 tuition subsidy in the amount of Eight Thousand Pesos (P8,000) per
20 student: PROVIDED, that the geographic prioritization of areas
21 where there are no State Universities and Colleges (SUCs) and
22 Local Universities and Colleges (LUCs) under Republic Act No.
23 10931 shall be suspended to make qualified students under this
24 subsection eligible; and

25 (2) Qualified students in private elementary and junior high school, and
26 senior high school who are currently not receiving assistance under
27 the Education Service Contracting (ESC) as provided in Republic
28 Act No. 8545, or Senior High School Voucher Program (SHS VP) as
29 provided in Republic Act No. 10533, as may be applicable, shall
30 receive a tuition subsidy in the amount of Three Thousand Pesos
31 (P3,000) per student.

1 Education subsidies granted under this subsection shall be
2 released directly to the Private Tertiary Education Institutions or Private
3 Basic Education Schools, respectively, for the purpose of applying the
4 subsidy for unpaid tuition in School Year (SY) 2019-2020 or for
5 payment of tuition fee for school year SY 2020-2021: PROVIDED, that
6 the subsidy shall be released prior to the opening of SY 2020-2021 or
7 within a reasonable period after school opening but in no case later
8 than September 2020, in a manner similar to the Tertiary Education
9 Subsidy (TES), Educational Service Contracting (ESC), and Senior
10 High School Voucher Program (SHS VP).

11 (p) Provision of a one-time cash assistance amounting to Ten Thousand
12 Pesos (P10,000) to affected teaching and non-teaching personnel,
13 including part-time faculty, in Private Basic Education Schools and
14 Tertiary Education Institutions and part-time faculty in SUCs due to the
15 deferred opening or reduced offering of classes during the CQ;

16 (q) Ensure that all LGUs are acting within the letter and spirit of all the
17 rules, regulations and directives issued by the National Government
18 pursuant to this Act; and implementing standards of Community
19 Quarantine (CQ) consistent with what the National Government has laid
20 down for the subject area, while allowing LGUs to continue exercising
21 their autonomy in matters undefined by the National Government or are
22 within the parameters it has set; and are fully cooperating towards a
23 unified, cohesive and orderly implementation of the national policy to
24 address COVID-19: PROVIDED, That all LGUs shall be authorized to
25 utilize more than five percent (5%) of the amount allocated for their
26 calamity fund subject to additional funding and support from the
27 National Government;

28 (r) Enforcement of measures to protect the people from hoarding,
29 profiteering, injurious speculations, manipulation of prices, product
30 deceptions, and cartels, monopolies or other combinations in restraint of
31 trade, or other pernicious practices affecting the supply, distribution and

1 movement of food, clothing, hygiene and sanitation products, medicine
2 and medical supplies, fuel, fertilizers, chemicals, building materials,
3 implements, machinery equipment and spare parts required in
4 agriculture, industry and other essential services, and other articles of
5 prime necessity, whether imported or locally produced or manufactured;

6 (s) Ensure that donation, acceptance and distribution of health products
7 intended to address the COVID-19 pandemic are not unnecessarily
8 delayed and that health products for donation duly certified by the
9 regulatory agency or their accredited third party from countries with
10 established regulation shall automatically be cleared: PROVIDED, That
11 this shall not apply to health products which do not require a certification
12 or clearance from the Food and Drug Administration (FDA);

13 (t) Procurement of the following as the need arises, in the most judicious,
14 economical and expeditious manner, as exemptions from the provisions
15 on bidding process required under Republic Act No. 9184 or the
16 "Government Procurement Reform Act" and other relevant laws:
17 PROVIDED, That the following information and documents related to
18 the procurement shall be published in the Government Procurement
19 Policy Board (GPPB) online portal, the website of the procuring entity
20 concerned, if available, and at any conspicuous place reserved for this
21 purpose in the premises of the procuring entity within seven (7) working
22 days from the date of acceptance of the award:

- 23 (i) Project name;
24 (ii) Approved budget for contract;
25 (iii) Contract period;
26 (iv) Name of winning supplier, distributor, manufacturer,
27 contractor or consultant;
28 (v) Amount of contract as awarded;
29 (vi) Notice of award;
30 (vii) Date of award and acceptance;
31 (viii) contract or purchase order; and

1 (ix) A certification stating that the procuring entity exerted all
2 efforts to secure the most advantageous price to the
3 government based on existing price data of the agency, the
4 Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) or other relevant
5 agencies or preliminary market scanning done by the
6 agency showing prevailing market prices and practice.

7 (1) Goods, which may include personal protective equipment such
8 as gloves, gowns, masks, goggles, face shields; surgical
9 equipment and supplies; laboratory equipment and its reagents;
10 medical equipment and devices; support and maintenance for
11 laboratory and medical equipment, surgical equipment and
12 supplies; medical supplies, tools, and consumables such as
13 alcohol, sanitizers, tissue, thermometers, hand soap, detergent,
14 sodium hydrochloride, cleaning materials, povidone iodine,
15 common medicines (e.g., paracetamol tablet and suspension,
16 mefenamic acid, vitamins tablet and suspension, hyoscine tablet
17 and suspension, oral rehydration solution, and cetirizine tablet
18 and suspension); testing kits, and such other supplies or
19 equipment as may be determined by the DOH and other relevant
20 government agencies: PROVIDED, That the DOH shall prioritize
21 the allocation and distribution of the aforesaid goods, supplies
22 and other resources to the following:

23 (i) Public health facilities in the regions, provinces, or cities,
24 that are designated as COVID-19 referral hospitals, such
25 as, but not limited to, Philippine General Hospital (PGH),
26 Lung Center of the Philippines (LCP), and Dr. Jose N.
27 Rodriguez Memorial Hospital;

28 (ii) Private hospitals which have existing capacities to provide
29 support care and treatment to COVID-19 patients; and

30 (iii) Public and private laboratories that have existing capacities
31 to test suspected COVID-19 patients.

- 1 (2) Goods and services for social amelioration measures in favor of
2 affected communities;
- 3 (3) Lease of real property or venue for use to house health workers
4 or serve as quarantine centers, medical relief and aid distribution
5 locations, or temporary medical facilities;
- 6 (4) Establishment, construction, and operation of temporary medical
7 facilities;
- 8 (5) Utilities, telecommunications, and other critical services in
9 relation to operation of quarantine centers, medical relief and aid
10 distribution centers and temporary medical facilities; and
- 11 (6) Ancillary services related to the foregoing.

12
13 PROVIDED, That to ensure adequate and responsive supply of
14 critical products, the government, as procuring entity shall give preference
15 and procure products, materials and supplies produced, made or
16 manufactured in the Philippines. For this purpose, the DTI shall issue a
17 certification that the products, articles, materials, or supplies are produced,
18 made or manufactured in the Philippines.

- 19
- 20 (u) Partner with the Philippine Red Cross, as the primary humanitarian agency
21 that is auxiliary to the government in giving aid to the people, subject to
22 reimbursement, in the distribution of goods and services incidental in the
23 fight against COVID-19;
- 24 (v) Engage temporary Human Resources for Health (HRH) such as medical
25 and allied medical staff to complement or supplement the current health
26 workforce or to man the temporary medical facilities to be established in
27 accordance with Section 3 (t)(4) of this Act: PROVIDED, That HRH to be
28 hired on temporary basis shall receive the appropriate compensation and
29 allowances: PROVIDED, FURTHER, That all HRH serving in the front line
30 during the state of calamity due to COVID-19, shall receive an actual
31 hazard duty pay from the government: PROVIDED, FINALLY, That DOH,
32 the DOLE and its attached agencies shall closely coordinate to ensure that

1 returning OFW-health care workers, or those whose deployments were
2 suspended due to COVID-19, shall be properly referred to the ongoing
3 hiring of temporary HRH by DOH;

4 (w) Ensure the availability of credit to the productive sectors of the economy
5 especially in the countryside through measures such as, but not limited to,
6 lowering the effective lending rates of interest and reserve requirements of
7 lending institutions: PROVIDED, That credit accommodation to the Micro,
8 Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs), as well as those who are self-
9 employed, shall be imposed a low interest, payable within three (3) years
10 and shall not require any collateral if the loan does not exceed Three
11 Million Pesos (P3,000,000);

12 (x) Development of a loan program of appropriate Government Financial
13 Institutions (GFIs) for institutions of learning that have been affected by the
14 decrease in enrollment due to the CQ or to enable these institutions to
15 adequately prepare to implement blended learning: PROVIDED, That the
16 terms of the loan shall be more reasonable than the prevailing market
17 terms: PROVIDED, FURTHER, That the availment of such loan shall be
18 conditioned on the non-implementation of an increase in tuition and other
19 fees for the next school or academic year;

20 (y) Direct the Small Business Corporation (SBC) to expand its existing loan
21 programs for MSMEs through a combination of increasing available
22 loanable funds, reducing documentary requirements, increasing maximum
23 loan amounts per borrower, reducing interest rates, extending loan terms,
24 utilization of financial technologies to expand reach and increase access
25 and set fast turn-around loan processing time; and allow the use of the loan
26 proceeds for payroll costs, materials and suppliers, mortgage payments,
27 rent, utilities, including fuel and storage, creation of new supportive
28 businesses, re-purposing of existing business capital, any other business
29 debt obligations that were incurred before the covered period or acquisition
30 of new technologies and systems to adjust business processes for
31 resiliency;

- 1 (z) Direct the Land Bank of the Philippines (LBP) and the Development Bank
2 of the Philippines (DBP) to introduce a low interest loan program available
3 to non-essential businesses to assist and encourage them to continue
4 investing in their businesses: PROVIDED, That priority shall be given to
5 agri-fishery businesses and non-essential businesses that are small and
6 medium enterprises, including start-ups;
- 7 (aa) Direct the Philippine Guarantee Corporation (PhilGuarantee) to issue an
8 expanded government guarantee program for non-essential businesses, to
9 ease current rules and regulations and give preference to critically
10 impacted businesses, MSMEs, and activities that support DOH initiatives
11 towards ensuring an adequate and responsive supply of health care
12 services, and to guarantee the loan portfolio of partner financial institutions
13 of eligible MSME loans.
- 14 (bb) Liberalization of the grant of incentives for the manufacture or importation
15 of critical or needed equipment or supplies or essential goods for the
16 carrying-out of the policy declared herein, including healthcare equipment
17 and supplies: PROVIDED, That importation and/or local sale of these
18 equipment and supplies shall be exempt from import duties, taxes and
19 other fees; For this purpose, critical products, equipment or supplies or
20 essential goods shall include the following: (1) goods referred to in Section
21 3 (t)(1) hereof; (2) equipment for waste management, including but not
22 limited to waste segregation, storage, collection, sorting, treatment and
23 disposal services; provided, that these said equipment and technologies
24 and services are approved by the Department of Environment and Natural
25 Resources (DENR), DOH or other concerned regulatory agencies; (3)
26 inputs, raw materials and equipment necessary for the manufacture or
27 production of food and essential goods referred to in Section 3 (t)(1)
28 hereof;
- 29 (cc) Ensure the availability of essential goods, in particular, food and medicine,
30 by adopting measures as may reasonably be necessary to facilitate and/or
31 minimize disruption to the supply chain and/or improve the national end-to-

1 end supply chain, including measures to reduce logistics costs and regulate
2 and waive, as necessary, extra shipping charges imposed by international
3 shipping lines, especially for basic commodities and services to the
4 maximum extent possible;

5 (dd) Requiring businesses to prioritize and accept contracts, subject to fair and
6 reasonable terms, for materials and services necessary to promote the
7 herein declared national policy;

8 (ee) Provision of extension support, financial subsidies or other forms of
9 assistance to qualified agri-fishery enterprises, farmers, fisherfolk, and
10 other agricultural workers by the Department of Agriculture (DA);

11 (ff) Direct the Department of Transportation (DOTr) and such other agencies or
12 instrumentalities that may be authorized under this Act and its
13 implementing rules and regulations (IRR), to extend the following
14 assistance to critically impacted businesses in the transportation industry:

15 (1) Grant emergency credit lines for purposes of funding operations
16 through government financial institutions (GFIs);

17 (2) Grant concessional interest rate on loan or long-term credit facility
18 through GFIs to allow the restructuring of existing debts and assist in
19 rehabilitation;

20 (3) Provide credit guarantee schemes to guarantee bank loans and
21 credit lines;

22 (4) Provide grants for applicable regulatory fees;

23 (5) Allow substitution of refund option to travel vouchers;

24 (6) Provide grants for fuel subsidy and/or digital fare vouchers, as may
25 be necessary; and

26 (7) Provide grants for training, equipment, facilities, test kits and
27 necessary personnel, on coping with increased health risks arising
28 from infectious diseases.

29 Within fifteen (15) days from the effectivity of this act, the DOTr
30 or any of its instrumentalities shall prescribe the eligibility requirements

1 and other terms and conditions for any of the above-mentioned
2 assistance, subject to the guidelines issued under this section.

3 For purposes of item (a) (b) and (c) herein, the DOTr or any of its
4 instrumentalities shall utilize the loan and/or loan guarantee programs
5 and other loan related measures provided under this Act, subject to the
6 rules, regulations and guidelines issued under the corresponding
7 intervention, including proper credit assessment of the borrower by the
8 LBP and DBP which will administer the credit facilities or loan
9 guarantees under this Act: PROVIDED, That a reasonable and proper
10 business plan shall be submitted by the borrower: PROVIDED,
11 FURTHER, That, loan interventions implemented under this section
12 shall be exclusively for critically impacted business in the transportation
13 industry only.

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

23 Availment of any economic relief such as wage subsidy, loan,
24 and loan guarantees and other relief under the other provisions of this
25 act, does not disqualify such critically impacted businesses belonging to
26 the transportation industry from availing the economic relief provided
27 under this section.

28 The DOTr shall prioritize business entities that shall require
29 assistance for any activity that supports the Balik Probinsya, Bagong
30 Pag-asa Program under Executive Order (E.O.) No. 114 series of 2020.

1 (gg) Direct the Department of Tourism (DOT) to assist critically impacted
2 businesses that are tourism enterprises, including tourism oriented
3 barangay micro business enterprises, or other members of the informal
4 sector in the tourism economy in any of the following programs:

- 5 (1) Low interest loans or issuance of loan guarantees through GFIs
6 with terms of up to five (5) years for maintenance and operating
7 expenses;
- 8 (2) Credit facilities through GFIs for upgrading, rehabilitation, or
9 modernization of current establishments or facilities to be compliant
10 with new health and safety standards;
- 11 (3) Marketing and product development, promotions and programs,
12 including travel advertising and festival-support strategies;
- 13 (4) Grants for education, training, and advising of tourism stakeholder
14 for the new normal alternative livelihood programs;
- 15 (5) Utilization of information technology for the improvement of tourism
16 services, development of a tourist tracking system for emergency
17 response, and establishment of spatial database to improve
18 planning capacity;
- 19 (6) In partnership with the LGU and DOH and/or private entities,
20 establish COVID-19 testing centers in tourist destinations as
21 identified by the DOT, to stimulate tourism and generate
22 employment; and
- 23 (7) Any other relevant programs, including infrastructure, product-
24 sourcing, and subsidized domestic package tours necessary to
25 mitigate the economic effects of COVID-19 on the tourism industry.

26 For purposes of items (1) and (2) herein, government financial
27 institutions such as the LBP and DBP shall administer the loans for
28 DOT but subject to guidelines from the DOT that shall be prepared for
29 these purposes: PROVIDED, That the loan interventions implemented
30 under this Section shall be exclusively for accredited tourism

1 enterprises, including such small-scale tourism-oriented enterprises
2 accredited by LGUs.

3 Availment of grants, loans or loan guarantees through other
4 provisions of this Act is not a disqualification for any tourism enterprise
5 to avail of any economic relief measures in this Section.

6 The DOT shall prioritize establishments that (1) support the Balik
7 Probinsya, Bagong Pag-asa Program under E.O. No. 114, series of
8 2020, and (2) comply with the guidelines of the DOH towards ensuring
9 an adequate and responsive supply of health care services.

10 (hh) Undertaking measures in partnership with appropriate internet and
11 communication service providers in the acceleration of the deployment
12 of critical Information and Communications Technology (ICT)
13 infrastructure, equipment, software, and wireless technologies
14 throughout the country to address the need for digital connectivity,
15 internet speed and stability, and Cybersecurity in E-Commerce, E-
16 Government, online learning, and telecommuting in order to sufficiently
17 meet the significant additional shift of the general public to online
18 services and platforms and to home and mobile communication units for
19 doing work from home, for completing commercial and other
20 transactions, for convening meetings and conducting conferences and
21 seminars/webinars, and for obtaining educational instruction during the
22 COVID-19 pandemic through the Department of Information and
23 Communications Technology (DICT);

24 (ii) Directing the DTI in coordination with other implementing agencies, to
25 accelerate and undertake massive promotion of online commerce and
26 offer technical and financial assistance through GFIs to those engaged
27 in E-Commerce, such as those involved in internet retail, digital financial
28 services, digital media, and ride-hailing. These include programs that
29 will expedite the digitalization of MSMEs through training subsidies for
30 onboarding or starter kits, wage support for new online enterprises,

1 upskilling/reskilling and other activities as may be defined by the DTI,
2 DICT, Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA),
3 and Commission on Higher Education (CHED);

4 (jj) Regulation and limitation of the operation of all sectors of transportation
5 through land, sea or air, whether private or public and provide the
6 necessary infrastructure and support, including emergency pathways,
7 LGU bicycle sharing scheme with proper safety equipment and pop-up
8 bike lanes, for commuters, particularly health workers and other
9 frontliners;

10 (kk) Regulation of traffic on all roads, streets, and bridges, and access
11 thereto; prohibit putting up of encroachments or obstacles; authorize the
12 removal of encroachments and illegal constructions in public places;
13 and perform all other related acts;

14 (ll) Authorization of alternative working arrangements for employees and
15 workers in the Executive Branch, and whenever it becomes necessary,
16 in other independent branches of government and constitutional bodies,
17 and the private sector;

18 (mm) Conservation and regulation of the distribution and use of power, fuel,
19 energy and water, and ensure adequate supply of the same;

20 (nn) Implementation of the proper management and segregation of waste,
21 especially of hazardous materials coming from health facilities, in the
22 communities and households in order to contain the COVID-19 virus
23 and other diseases;

24 (oo) Notwithstanding any law to the contrary, to direct the discontinuance of
25 appropriated programs, projects or activities (P/A/P) of any agency of
26 the Executive Department, including GOCCs, in the FYs 2019 and 2020
27 General Appropriations Act (GAA), which cannot be utilized effectively
28 as a result of the COVID-19 outbreak, whether released or unreleased,
29 the allotments for which remain unobligated, and utilize the savings

1 generated therefrom to augment the allocation for any item needed to
2 address the COVID-19 pandemic consistent with the herein declared
3 national policy. The P/A/Ps that may be discontinued shall include
4 discretionary foreign travel, representation, mass events and those
5 identified by government agencies prior to the effectivity of this Act;
6 Provided that such discontinued P/A/Ps do not support the objectives of
7 economic stimulus and recovery for having low labor intensity or low
8 multiplier effects; Provided, Further, that infrastructure, having the
9 highest multiplier effect can only be discontinued when all other funds,
10 including unobligated allotments and unreleased appropriations, have
11 been exhausted; Provided, Finally, that the following items in the budget
12 shall be prioritized for augmentation:

- 13 (1) Under the DOH – operational budgets of government hospitals,
14 primarily those identified for treatment of COVID-19; prevention and
15 control of other infectious diseases; emergency preparedness and
16 response; and Quick Response Fund (QRF);
- 17 (2) Under the University of the Philippines – the operational budget of
18 the PGH;
- 19 (3) The National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Fund or
20 calamity fund;
- 21 (4) Programs of the DOLE, such as, but not limited to, Tulong
22 Panghanapbuhay sa Ating Disadvantaged/Displaced Workers
23 (TUPAD), COVID-19 Adjustment Measures Program (CAMP) and
24 the DOLE Abot-Kamay Ang Pagtulong (AKAP) for OFWs:
25 PROVIDED, That in giving assistance under these programs, priority
26 shall be given to those workers who have not been granted
27 assistance under any of the programs of the government for
28 workers;
- 29 (5) Under the DTI – Livelihood Seeding Program and Negosyo Serbisyo
30 sa Barangay;
- 31 (6) Under the DA – Rice Farmers Financial Assistance Program;

- 1 (7) Under the Department of Education (DepEd) – School-Based
2 Feeding Program;
- 3 (8) Under various DSWD programs, such as but not limited to
4 Assistance to Individuals in Crisis Situations (AICS), distribution of
5 food and non-food items, livelihood assistance grants, and
6 supplemental feeding program for daycare children;
- 7 (9) Under Allocations to Local Government Units;
- 8 (10) QRF lodged in the various relevant departments, such as, but
9 not limited to the DOH and DSWD.

10 Notwithstanding the provisions of this Act, the discontinued
11 program, activity or project may be revived at any time after the COVID-
12 19 pandemic has ceased, and notwithstanding Section 67 of Republic
13 Act No. 11465 or the “General Appropriations Act of 2020”, may be
14 revived and proposed for funding within the next two (2) fiscal years;

15 (pp) Any unutilized or unreleased balance in a special fund, as of March
16 2020 declaring a public health crisis of national concern, shall be
17 considered to have their purpose abandoned for the duration of the
18 health crisis. All such unspent, unutilized or unreleased money or funds
19 sourced from collections or receipts, including future collections and
20 receipts, shall be utilized and are hereby appropriated for such
21 measures to address the COVID-19 situation and accomplish the
22 declared national policy herein;

23 (qq) Notwithstanding any law to the contrary, to reprogram, reallocate,
24 and realign from savings on other items of appropriations in the FY
25 2020 GAA in the Executive Department, as may be necessary and
26 beneficial to fund measures that address and respond to the COVID-19
27 pandemic, including social amelioration for affected communities and
28 the recovery of areas, sectors and industries severely affected. All
29 amounts so reprogrammed, reallocated or realigned shall be deemed
30 automatically appropriated for such measures to address the COVID-19
31 situation within the period specified under Section 10 hereof;

1 (rr) Notwithstanding any law to the contrary, the President is hereby
2 authorized to allocate cash, funds, investments, including unutilized or
3 unreleased subsidies and transfers, held by any GOCC or any national
4 government agency in order to address the COVID-19 pandemic;

5 (ss) Moving of statutory deadlines and timelines for the filing and
6 submission of any document, the payment of taxes, fees, and other
7 charges required by law, and the grant of any benefit, in order to ease
8 the burden on individuals under CQ;

9 (tt) Directing all banks, quasi-banks, financing companies, lending
10 companies, real estate developers, insurance companies providing life
11 insurance policies, pre-need companies, entities providing in-house
12 financing for goods and properties purchased, and other financial
13 institutions, public and private, including the GSIS, the SSS and Pag-
14 ibig Fund, to implement a minimum of a thirty (30)-day grace period for
15 the payment of all loans, including but not limited to salary, personal,
16 housing, commercial, and motor vehicle loans, amortizations and
17 premium payments, as well as credit card payments, falling due within
18 the period of the ECQ or Modified Enhanced Community Quarantine
19 (MECQ) in cities, provinces, or regions declared by the proper
20 authorities without incurring interest on interests, penalties, fees, or
21 other charges and thereby extending the maturity of the said loans to a
22 period equal to the period of CQ: PROVIDED, That unpaid credit card
23 bills shall be settled on staggered basis without interest on interests,
24 penalties and other charges until December 31, 2020.

25 PROVIDED, FURTHER, That businesses not allowed to operate
26 during the CQ shall likewise enjoy the benefits of the 30-day grace
27 period.

28 PROVIDED, FURTHERMORE, That in addition to the
29 provided grace period, banks, other Non-Bank Financial Institutions
30 (NBFIs) under the supervision of the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas (BSP),
31 and lending and financing companies under the supervision of the
32 Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC), are encouraged to extend

1 the terms of or agree to the restructuring of existing (i) consumer loans
2 of employees of non-essential businesses, (ii) commercial loans of non-
3 essential businesses, or to fund activities or investments therein, and
4 (iii) local government loans, under any or all of the following conditions:

5 (1) The payment dates of the consumer loans, commercial, and local
6 government loans referred herein, or any part thereof, are due
7 anytime between March 16, 2020 and December 31, 2020;

8 (2) The loan term may be extended for a period up to one (1) year,
9 which may be further extended for a maximum of another one (1)
10 year; and

11 (3) Only the principal payments may be suspended in case of
12 moratorium;

13 PROVIDED, FINALLY, That the banks and other NBFIs that agree
14 to further loan term extensions or restructuring pursuant to this section
15 shall be entitled to regulatory relief, as may be determined by the BSP,
16 which may include, but is not limited to, (i) Staggered booking of
17 allowances for credit losses, (ii) Exemption from loan-loss provisioning,
18 (iii) Exemption from the limits on real estate loans, when applicable, (iv)
19 Exemption from related party transaction restrictions, and (v) Non-
20 inclusion in the bank's or NBFI's reporting on non-performing loans.

21 It is understood that this provision shall not apply to interbank loan
22 and bank borrowings.

23 (uu) Direct all institutions providing electric, water, telecommunications,
24 and other similar utilities to implement a minimum of thirty (30)-day
25 grace period for the payment of utilities falling due within the period of
26 ECQ or MECQ without incurring interests, penalties, and other charges:
27 PROVIDED, That after the grace period, unpaid residential and MSME
28 utility bills may be settled on a staggered basis payable in not less than
29 three (3) monthly installments, subject to the procedural requirements of
30 the concerned regulatory agencies in the imposition of such installment
31 plan without interests, penalties, and other charges: PROVIDED,
32 FURTHER, That covered institutions under this sub-section may offer

1 less onerous payment terms, with the consent of their clients subject to
2 the approval of their respective regulators: PROVIDED, FINALLY, that
3 in the case of the electric power sector, the minimum thirty (30) day-
4 grace period and staggered payment without interests, penalties and
5 other charges shall apply to all payments due within the period of the
6 CQ in the entire electric power value chain to include generation
7 companies, the transmission utility, and distribution utilities;

8 (vv) Provide for a minimum of thirty (30)-day grace period on residential
9 rents and commercial rents of lessees not permitted to work, and
10 MSMEs ordered to temporarily cease operations, falling due within the
11 period of the CQ, without incurring interests, penalties, fees, and other
12 charges: PROVIDED, That all amounts due within the period of CQ
13 shall be amortized in equal monthly installments until December 31,
14 2020 without any interests, penalties and other charges: PROVIDED,
15 FURTHER, That no increase in rent shall be imposed during the same
16 period: PROVIDED, FURTHERMORE, That the minimum thirty (30)-day
17 grace period shall be reckoned from the date of the lifting of the ECQ or
18 MECQ;

19 (ww) Implementation of an expanded and enhanced Pantawid Pamilyang
20 Pilipino Program (4Ps), responsive to the needs posed by the crisis,
21 and provision of an assistance program, whether in cash or non-cash,
22 whichever is more practicable, where the Secretary of DSWD, or the
23 Secretary of DOLE, when relevant, shall transfer cash, cash vouchers,
24 or goods through the LGUs or directly to households who have no
25 incomes or savings to draw from, including households working in the
26 informal economy and those who are not currently recipients of the
27 current 4Ps, of an amount adequate to restore capacity to purchase
28 basic food and other essential items after the duration of the quarantine.
29 To carry out this subsection, the Secretary of the DSWD and the
30 Secretary of the DOLE may approve the temporary emergency
31 standards of eligibility and level of benefits.

1 (xx) Lifting of the Thirty percent (30%) cap on the amount appropriated
2 for the QRF, as provided for in Republic Act No. 10121 or the
3 "Philippine Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Act of 2010",
4 during the existence of the COVID-19 pandemic;

5 (yy) Provision of assistance to the agriculture industry by creating the
6 "Plant, Plant, Plant" Program which shall be composed of the following:
7 (1) Ahon Lahat, Pagkaing Sapat (ALPAS) kontra sa COVID-19; (2) food
8 markets – food logistics and other interventions; (3) Urban agriculture
9 program of the DA; and (4) Cash for work program in agriculture;

10 (zz) Implementation of a program which would: (1) fast track the approval
11 of all pending and new applications for housing loans, permits and
12 licenses by simplifying the requirements and procedure; and (2)
13 accommodate and prioritize critically impacted home buyers who may
14 want to shift from private bank financing to PAG-IBIG home financing
15 with simplified requirements through the Department of Human
16 Settlements and Urban Development (DHSUD) program and its key
17 shelter agencies.

18 (aaa) Encouraging the BSP to allow private banks and financial institutions
19 to: (1) reallocate any unutilized loanable funds to housing loans; and (2)
20 to grant subsidy to the home loan borrowers at the rate equivalent to the
21 gross receipt tax imposed on banks and financial institutions on their
22 interest income.

23 (bbb) Encouraging BSP and the SEC to adopt measures, including the
24 relaxation of regulatory and statutory restrictions and requirements for a
25 period of not more than ten (10) years from their date of effectivity to
26 encourage the banking industry and other financial institutions to extend
27 loans and other forms of financial accommodation to help business
28 recover from the economic effects of COVID-19 crisis and to enable the
29 banking industry to manage appropriately its risks and potential losses.

30 The BSP and the SEC are likewise hereby authorized to grant
31 reporting relief to its supervised entities by allowing staggered booking

1 of allowance for credit losses for all types of credit accommodations
2 extended to individuals and business entities affected by COVID-19.

3 (ccc) Issuance of a directive that all government agencies and LGUs shall
4 act on all pending and new applications for permit, license, certificate,
5 clearance, authorization and resolutions within a non-extendable period
6 of five (5) working days, in order to support business continuity and
7 encourage resumption of all economic activities. PROVIDED, That the
8 applicant shall be allowed to undertake its compliance to any additional
9 requirement that may be imposed by the government agency or LGU,
10 and such will not delay the approval of the application;

11 (ddd) Production of a masterlist of all displaced and critically-impacted
12 transport workers under the road, rail, air and maritime sectors to
13 effectively implement the distribution of wage subsidies and cash-for-
14 work program, as provided for in Sections 3 and 4 of this Act, through
15 the DOTr:

16 PROVIDED, HOWEVER, That the DOTr is directed to coordinate
17 the accelerated distribution of remaining subsidy under the Social
18 Amelioration Program of Bayanihan I to driver beneficiaries so as not to
19 coincide and confuse with the subsidy provided in this Act:

20 PROVIDED, FURTHER, That the DOTr is likewise tasked to work
21 with financial institutions in looking at the possible restructuring of existing
22 loans without penalty and the provision of credit lines and low interest
23 loans to help critically-impacted transport service providers:

24 PROVIDED, FURTHERMORE, That the DOTr is also directed to
25 coordinate with transport service providers and LGUs to negotiate service
26 contracting of public utility vehicles as a form of temporary livelihood to
27 workers displaced by restrictions and reduced capacity of public
28 transportation, and other forms of arrangement to ensure that livelihood in
29 the transport sector is preserved:

30 PROVIDED, FINALLY, That there shall be no phaseout, at the
31 national and local level, of any modality of public utility vehicle as the
32 industry transitions to a new normal.

1 (eee) Provision of access to free, healthy meals to undernourished
2 children as mandated by Republic Act No. 11037 regardless of modality of
3 learning through the DepEd.

4 (fff) Providing regulatory relief to the critically-impacted creative sector by
5 tasking the DTI and the DILG to review the imposition of the amusement
6 tax. The President of the Philippines shall have the power to suspend,
7 reduce or waive the imposition of the fees and charges as recommended
8 by the DTI and DILG for a period of six (6) months.

9 (ggg) Provision of loan assistance, subsidies, discounts or grants to
10 schools, universities, colleges, technical vocational institutions, teachers,
11 faculties, and students for the purchase of distance learning tools, such as
12 computers, laptops, tablets and other ICT devices and equipment
13 necessary to conduct and access classes and learning materials under
14 alternative delivery modes of teaching and learning in the new normal
15 through the DepEd, the CHED and the TESDA, in partnership with GFIs:
16 PROVIDED, That the loan shall have terms that are more reasonable than
17 those prevailing in the market;

18 (hhh) Notwithstanding the provisions of Section 272 of Republic Act No.
19 7160 or the "Local Government Code of 1991", a portion of the Special
20 Education Fund shall be used for the purchase of materials and supplies
21 under DepEd's learning continuity plan, provision of safe schools
22 infrastructure, equipment and facilities such as handwashing stations,
23 soap, alcohol, sanitizers, and other disinfecting solutions, as well as
24 medical health supplies deemed appropriate by public health officials such
25 as thermometers, face masks, and face shields, subject to existing
26 accounting and auditing rules.

27 (iii) Extension of the term of standby loans entered into by LGUs;

28 (jjj) Directing the Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH) to
29 reinstate and proceed with the implementation of Infrastructure Programs
30 and Projects that were discontinued due to the pandemic and to expedite
31 the implementation of Infrastructure Programs and Projects to generate
32 local employment and stimulate the local economy;

1 (kkk) Allowing National and Local Government Agencies to directly
2 purchase agricultural and fishery products from farmers and fisherfolk as a
3 form of direct assistance even beyond the lapse of Republic Act No. 11469,
4 or the "Bayanihan To Heal As One Act," in accordance with Republic Act
5 No. 11321, or the "Sagip Saka Act; and

6 (III) Utilize the funding as provided in Section 4 of this Act.

7 SEC. 4. *Funding.* In addition to the funds that will be raised under Section
8 3 (oo), (pp), (qq) and (rr) of this Act, a One Hundred Sixty Two Billion Pesos
9 (P162,000,000,000) standby fund is hereby appropriated and shall be used to
10 support operations and response measures to address the COVID-19 pandemic
11 and the following:

- 12 a. Twelve Billion Pesos (P12,000,000,000) for the procurement of PCR
13 Testing and extraction kits, supplies, materials, and reagents to be used
14 for the conduct of COVID-19 testing and for the enhancement of
15 capacities of the DOH in the provision of healthcare services and the
16 implementation of programs and projects to eliminate, prevent and
17 control diseases other than COVID-19;
- 18 b. Eighteen Billion Pesos (P18,000,000,000) for the implementation of
19 cash-for-work program and the TUPAD, such as, but not limited to,
20 temporary hiring of data encoders, and other personnel as may be
21 necessary in the response to the COVID-19 pandemic and for
22 emergency subsidy to worker in critically-impacted sectors and
23 industries;
- 24 c. Five Billion Pesos (P5,000,000,000) for the implementation of the
25 Assistance to Individuals in Crisis Situation Program of the DSWD to
26 augment the current assistance provided for those affected by the
27 COVID-19 pandemic;
- 28 d. Twenty One Billion Pesos (P21,000,000,000) for the unemployment or
29 involuntary separation assistance for displaced workers or employees,
30 such as those in private health institutions, private basic and higher
31 education institutions and part-time faculty in State Universities and

1 Colleges (SUCs), tourism, culture and arts, creative industry including,
2 but not limited to, film and audiovisual workers, construction, public
3 transportation and trade industries, and other sectors of the formal
4 economy as may be identified by the DOLE, in coordination with the
5 BIR, and SSS; freelancers, the self-employed and repatriated OFWs
6 including OFWs whose deployment were suspended due to a
7 government-imposed deployment ban;

8 e. Fifty Billion Pesos (P50,000,000,000) for the infusion of capital to GFIs
9 to be allocated as follows:

10 1. Five Billion Pesos (P5,000,000,000) for the credit guarantee
11 program of the Philippine Guarantee Corporation;

12 2. Thirty Billion Pesos (P30,000,000,000) to support wholesale
13 banking and equity infusion of the Land Bank of the Philippines
14 for low interest loans to be extended to persons and entities
15 engaged in industries affected by the COVID-19 pandemic,
16 including but not limited to air, land and sea transportation, retail
17 trade, accommodation and tourism services and MSMEs; and

18 3. Fifteen Billion Pesos (P15,000,000,000) to support wholesale
19 banking and equity infusion of the Development Bank of the
20 Philippines for low interest loans to be extended to persons and
21 entities engaged in industries affected by the COVID-19
22 pandemic, including, but not limited to air, land and sea
23 transportation, retail trade, accommodation and tourism services
24 and MSMEs;

25 e. Twenty One Billion (P21,000,000,000) to provide direct cash subsidy,
26 interest-free loans under the Agricultural Credit Policy Council (ACPC) and
27 government financial institutions, and other forms of assistance to qualified
28 agri-fishery enterprises and farmers and fisherfolk registered under the
29 Registry System for Basic Sectors in Agriculture (RSBSA) and to finance
30 the Plant, Plant, Plant Program composed of the following: (1) Ahon Lahat,
31 Pagkaing Sapat (ALPAS) kontra sa COVID-19; (2) food markets – food
32 logistics and other interventions; (3) Urban agriculture program of the DA;

1 and (4) Cash for work program in agriculture to ensure food security and
2 continuous productivity in the agricultural sector;

- 3 f. Twenty One Billion Pesos (P21,000,000,000) to finance the programs of
4 the DOTr to assist the critically impacted businesses in the transportation
5 industry, including the provision of interest rate subsidies, provision of
6 temporary livelihood to displaced workers in the industry through service
7 contracting of public utility vehicles, as provided in this Act, and for the
8 development of accessible sidewalks and protected bicycle lanes,
9 procurement of bicycles and related safety equipment for bicycle
10 distribution, sharing and lending programs, and procurement of bicycle
11 racks; and
- 12 g. Ten Billion Pesos (P10,000,000,000) to finance the programs of the DOT to
13 assist the critically impacted businesses in the tourism industry, including
14 the provision of interest rate subsidies.
- 15 h. Three Billion Pesos (P3,000,000,000) to assist SUCs in the development of
16 smart campuses through investments in ICT infrastructure, acquisition of
17 learning management systems and other appropriate equipment to fully
18 implement the flexible learning modality.
- 19 i. One Billion Pesos (P1,000,000,000) to assist the TESDA training
20 institutions for the development of smart campuses through investments in
21 ICT infrastructure, acquisition of learning management systems and other
22 appropriate equipment to fully implement the flexible learning modality.

23 PROVIDED, That the Department of Budget and Management
24 (DBM) shall submit reports on the releases made pursuant to this Section
25 as part of the weekly report as mandated in Section 6 of this Act.

26 SEC. 5. *Sources of Funding.* – The enumerated subsidy and stimulus
27 measures, as well as all other measures to address the COVID-19 pandemic shall
28 be funded from the following:

- 29 (a) 2020 General Appropriations Act (GAA): PROVIDED, That funds for the
30 herein authorized programs and projects shall be sourced primarily from
31 the unprogrammed funds and savings realized from modified, realigned,

1 or reprogrammed allocations for operational expense of any
2 government agency or instrumentality under the Executive Department,
3 including, but not limited to, travelling expenses, supplies and materials
4 expenses, professional services, general services, advertising
5 expenses, printing and publication expenses, and other maintenance
6 and operating expenses in the 2020 GAA.

- 7 (b) Savings pooled pursuant to Republic Act No. 11469 or the Bayanihan to
8 Heal as One Act and Section 3 paragraphs (oo), (pp), (qq), and (rr) of
9 this Act;
- 10 (c) Excess revenue collections in any one of the identified tax or non-tax
11 revenue sources from its corresponding revenue collection target, as
12 provided in the FY 2020 Budget of Expenditures and Sources of
13 Financing (BESF);
- 14 (d) New revenue collections or those arising from new tax or non-tax
15 sources which are not part of nor included in the original sources
16 included in the FY 2020 BESF;
- 17 (e) Proceeds from loans and other foreign borrowings;
- 18 (f) All amounts derived from the cash, funds, and investments held by any
19 GOCC or any national government agency;
- 20 (g) Amounts derived from the 5% franchise tax on all gaming
21 receipts/earnings or the agreed pre-determined minimum monthly
22 revenues from gaming operations, whichever is higher, earned by
23 offshore gaming licensees, including gaming operators, gaming agent,
24 service providers and gaming support providers;
- 25 (h) Income tax, VAT, and other applicable taxes on income from non-
26 gaming operations earned by offshore gaming licensees, operators,
27 agents, service providers and support providers.

28 After two years or upon a determination that the threat of COVID-19 has
29 been successfully contained or abated, whichever comes first, the revenues
30 derived under paragraphs (g) and (h) shall accrue to the General Fund of the
31 Government. The BIR shall implement closure orders against offshore gaming

1 licensees, operators, agents, service providers and support providers who fail to
2 pay the taxes due, and such entities shall cease to operate.

3 SEC. 6. *Reports to Congress and Creation of an Oversight Committee.* –

4 The President, during Monday of every week, shall submit a weekly report to
5 Congress of all acts performed pursuant to this Act during the immediately
6 preceding week including a report on the targets and actual accomplishments of
7 government programs, strategies, plans, and efforts relative to the COVID-19
8 pandemic as well as relevant and more granulated health-related data, and such
9 other information which Congress may require. The terms and conditions of any
10 loan entered into by the government to finance the programs and projects to
11 implement this law shall likewise be included in the Report. The Report shall also
12 contain a detailed BESF tables for COVID-19, similar to the BESF tables
13 submitted to Congress by the Development Budget Coordination Committee.

14 For this purpose, the Congress shall establish a Joint Congressional
15 Oversight Committee composed of four (4) members of each house to be
16 appointed by the Senate President and the House Speaker, respectively. This
17 Committee shall determine whether such acts, orders, rules and regulations are
18 within the restrictions provided herein.

19 SEC. 7. *Construction or Interpretation.* – Nothing herein shall be construed
20 as an impairment, restriction or modification of the provisions of the Constitution.
21 In case the exercise of the powers herein granted conflicts with other statutes,
22 orders, rules or regulations, the provisions of this Act shall prevail.

23 SEC. 8. *Separability.* – If any provision of this Act or the application of such
24 provision to any person or circumstance is declared invalid, the remainder of this
25 Act or the application of such provision to any other person or circumstance shall
26 not be affected by such declaration.

27 SEC. 9. *Repealing Clause.* – Republic Act No. 11469 is hereby repealed
28 upon the adjournment of the First Regular Session of the Eighteenth Congress, in
29 accordance with Article VI, Section 23 (2) of the Constitution. All laws, acts,
30 decrees, executive orders, issuances, and rules and regulations or parts thereof

1 which are contrary to and inconsistent with this act are hereby repealed, amended
2 or modified accordingly.

3 SEC. 10. *Effectivity.* – This Act shall take effect upon its publication in the
4 *Official Gazette* and one newspaper of general circulation and shall be in full force
5 and effect until September 30, 2020, unless otherwise provided for in this Act or
6 extended by Congress.

7 Approved,