A RESOLUTION

URGING NATIONAL DISASTER RISK REDUCTION AND MANAGEMENT COUNCIL (NDRRMC) TO IMMEDIATELY ALLOCATE A SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET TO THE ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE EMERGENCY AND RESILIENCE FUND FOR THE RESTORATION AND REHABILITATION OF DAMAGED DISTRIBUTION SYSTEMS OF DISTRIBUTION UTILITIES

WHEREAS, Republic Act No. 10121 or the Philippine Disaster Risk Reduction Management Act of 2010 provides for the creation of the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Fund (NDRRM Fund) wherein thirty percent (30%) of such is allocated as Quick Response Fund or stand-by fund for relief and recovery programs in order that situation and living conditions of people in communities or areas stricken by
disasters, calamities, epidemics, or complex emergencies, may be normalized as quickly as possible;

WHEREAS, On June 29, 2018, Republic Act No. 11039 or the Electric Cooperative Emergency and Resiliency Fund (ECERF) Act was signed into law by President Rodrigo Duterte. The said law provides for the creation of the ECERF to be allocated exclusively for the restoration or rehabilitation of the Electric Cooperatives (ECs) damaged infrastructure after a fortuitous event or force majeure;

WHEREAS, The ECERF Act provided that an amount of Seven Hundred Fifty Million Pesos (P750,000,000) for the initial implementation of the said Act shall be taken from the National Disaster Risk Reduction Management Fund;

WHEREAS, Section 10 of ECERF Act provides that in case of a deficiency of the fund, the NEA shall seek for the allocation of a supplemental budget from the NDRRM Fund, subject to approval by the President of the Republic of the Philippines;

WHEREAS, The said initial amount of Seven Hundred Fifty Million Pesos (P750,000,000) was never transferred from the NDRRM Fund to the ECERF;

WHEREAS, The 2019 General Appropriations Act did not include any allocation for the ECERF;

WHEREAS, On December 2, 2019, Typhoon Tisoy made landfall in the Philippines leaving damage and destruction along its path. In the same month or on December 25, 2019, Typhoon Ursula also devastated several regions in the Philippines. According to NEA, the cost of damage on the facilities of ECs struck by Typhoon Tisoy and Typhoon Ursula amounted to P1.551 billion. Damage from Tisoy amounted to P911.099 million
WHEREAS, The current ECERF is insufficient to cover the amount needed for the restoration and rehabilitation of damaged infrastructure of ECs since a substantial amount of the ECERF has already been used for the restoration and rehabilitation of infrastructure damaged by Typhoon Tisoy and Typhoon Ursula;

WHEREAS, One of the main factors hindering the quick response of the electric cooperatives to restore and rehabilitate the damaged distribution lines is due to the lack of funding of the ECERF — substantially as a result of the outstanding balance from the NDRRMC for the amount mandated by law to be transferred from the NDRRM Fund to the ECERF;

WHEREAS, it is the paramount duty of the State to facilitate the restoration of basic service, particularly access to electricity, in areas ravaged by the recent calamities for the welfare of the people affected and for the economic recovery of areas affected.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED THAT, the House of Representatives calls upon the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council to immediately allocate a supplemental budget from the NDRRM Fund pursuant to Section 10 of R.A. No. 11039 due to the clear deficiency of the current funds, for the restoration and rehabilitation of damaged distribution systems of distribution utilities to ensure that areas affected by the recent typhoons are quickly rehabilitated.

Adopted,

[Signature]
REP. PRESLEY C. DE JESUS
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REP. SERGIO C. DAGOOC
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