Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
Second Regular Session

House Resolution No. 1526

Introduced by REPRESENTATIVE JOY MYRA S. TAMBUNTING

A RESOLUTION
DIRECTING THE APPROPRIATE HOUSE COMMITTEE TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN
AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE ALARMING RISE IN THE PRICE OF BASIC
COMMODITIES WITH THE END IN VIEW OF IMPLEMENTING NECESSARY MEASURES
TO ENSURE THE ACCESSIBILITY OF BASIC COMMODITIES AND DEFEND THE RIGHT
OF EVERY FILIPINO TO ADEQUATE AND AFFORDABLE FOOD

WHEREAS, it is the duty and responsibility of the State to ensure that every Filipino has
access to adequate and affordable food;

WHEREAS, Over the past five months since September 2020, there has been uptrend in
the prices of basic commodities, with at least 3.5% increase in the prices of basic goods such as
meat, fish, fruits and vegetables for the month of December alone;

WHEREAS, based on the January 27, 2021 retail price monitoring of the Department of
Agriculture, the highest price per kilogram of tilapia and galunggong, is P140 and P280,
respectively; chicken, pork and beef for P200, P400, and P400; cabbage and ampalaya for P180
and P140, respectively; potatoes and carrots both for P150; while spices such as local red onion
and garlic can go as high as P140;

WHEREAS, inflation at the national level for December 2020, as reported by the
Philippine Statistics Authority, has accelerated to 3.5% from 3.3% in November—marking the
highest inflation since March 2019;

WHEREAS, the inflation for food index was recorded at 4.9% in December 2020, from
4.5% in November 2020, and almost thrice the registered inflation for food in December 2019
which was at 1.7%;

WHEREAS, the Department of Agriculture has earlier reported that the African Swine
Fever (ASF), coupled with the series of typhoons which hit the country in late 2020, has adversely
affected the supply and prices of poultry, livestock, vegetables and other food items;

WHEREAS, these price increases largely impacts the accessibility of nutritionally
adequate meals for lower-income households—essentially impeding them from achieving or
maintaining a good state of health which is very vital as the country experiences a public health emergency;

WHEREAS, there is clearly a need for the government to enforce necessary measures to ensure the accessibility and stability of prices of basic commodities, especially since the COVID-19 pandemic and the numerous typhoons which entered the country during the last quarter of 2020 have affected a numerous Filipinos’ livelihoods;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, that the House of Representatives direct the appropriate House Committee to conduct an inquiry, in aid of legislation, on the alarming rise in the price of basic commodities, with the end in view of implementing necessary measures to ensure the accessibility of basic commodities and defend the right of every Filipino to adequate and affordable food.

Adopted,

Joy Myra S. Tambunting