A RESOLUTION
DIRECTING THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON SOCIAL SERVICES AND THE COMMITTEE ON POVERTY ALLEVIATION TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE STATUS OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE SUPPLEMENTAL CASH ASSISTANCE PROGRAM FOR INDIVIDUALS AFFECTED BY THE ENHANCED COMMUNITY QUARANTINE (ECQ) IN THE AREA COLLECTIVELY KNOWN AS “NCR PLUS”, FOR THE PURPOSES OF IDENTIFYING AREAS FOR IMPROVEMENT AND ADOPTING THE NECESSARY LEGISLATIVE AND OTHER MEASURES

WHEREAS, due to the recent rising cases of coronavirus in the country, the Inter-Agency Task Force for the Management of Emerging Infectious Diseases (IATF-EID) issued IATF Resolution 106-A on March 27, 2021 recommending the implementation of an Enhanced Community Quarantine (ECQ) in the “NCR Plus” Bubble;

WHEREAS, on the same day, President Rodrigo Duterte, through Presidential Spokesperson Harry Roque, imposed the ECQ in the NCR Plus, which include the areas of Metro Manila, Bulacan, Cavite, Laguna and Rizal;

WHEREAS, the ECQ was implemented in the NCR Plus area from March 29 to April 4, and eventually extended until April 11, 2021;

WHEREAS, during this period of ECQ, the government has allocated a total of P22.9 Billion leftover funds from the Bayanihan to Recover as One Act to fund the supplemental cash aid program;
WHEREAS, Department of Budget and Management (DBM) Secretary Wendel Avisado, on March 29, 2021, announced that the supplemental cash aid program will benefit low-income Filipinos and workers and would cover 80% of the low-income population in the “NCR Plus” bubble;

WHEREAS, according to the DBM Local Budget Circular No. 136, the Local Government Units (LGUs) will have to determine whether the assistance to be given would be in cash or in kind, prohibiting LGUs from using the funds for other programs, projects, activities and expenses;

WHEREAS, the Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG) and the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) also issued guidelines on April 5, 2021 for the distribution of financial assistance of P1,000 per individual, with a maximum of P4,000 per family, to residents affected by the ECQ in the “NCR Plus” area;

WHEREAS, for the proper implementation of the supplemental cash aid program especially during the pandemic, it is the duty of the government to ensure that the funds are properly downloaded to the Filipino people and report on the matter by virtue of good governance;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, to direct the House Committee on Social Services and the Committee on Poverty Alleviation to conduct an inquiry, in aid of legislation, on the status of the implementation of the supplemental cash assistance program for individuals affected by the Enhanced Community Quarantine (ECQ) in the area collectively known as “NCR Plus”, for the purposes of identifying areas for improvement and adopting the necessary legislative and other measures.

Adopted,

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