A RESOLUTION
URGING NON-COMPLIANT LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNITS TO ESTABLISH THEIR RESPECTIVE PERSONS WITH DISABILITY AFFAIRS OFFICE (PDAO) IN ACCORDANCE WITH REPUBLIC ACT NO. 10070

WHEREAS, on 6 April 2010, President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo signed into law Republic Act No. 10070, amending the Magna Carta for Disabled Persons, and mandating the establishment of the Persons with Disability Affairs Office (PDAO) in every province, city, and municipality;

WHEREAS, Section 40 b-1 of Republic Act No. 10070 states that “Persons with Disability Affairs Office (PDAO) shall be created in every province, city, and municipality. The local chief executive shall appoint a PWD affairs officer who shall manage and oversee the operations of the office, pursuant to its mandate under this Act.”;

WHEREAS, more than 11 years after RA 10070 was enacted, Filipino persons with disabilities remain vulnerable to marginalization with the absence of established PDAOs in many local government units (LGUs) in the country;

WHEREAS, the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic has also made it more difficult for Filipino persons with disabilities to avail of certain social services whereby local PDAOs could have alleviated these problems on accessibility;

WHEREAS, the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) through the National Council for Disability Affairs (NCDA) monitoring summary as of June 23, 2021 reported that a total of 387 LGUs have established a PDAO, while 254 LGUs have designated Focal Persons functioning as PDAO particularly for 4th to 7th class municipalities;
WHEREAS, as of 30 September 2020, the Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG) in its Regional and Provincial Summary Report provides that there are a total of 81 provinces, 146 cities, and 1,488 municipalities in the Philippines;

WHEREAS, out of more than a thousand LGUs in the Philippines, only 387 have duly and diligently established a Persons with Disability Affairs Office that would have guaranteed proper representation and access to basic social services for Filipino persons with disabilities;

WHEREAS, a PDAO in every province, city, and municipality is a manifestation of the country’s commitment to include persons with disabilities in nation-building and secure that programs, plans, and policies for the promotion of the welfare of persons with disabilities are properly funded by both the national and local government, especially amidst these difficult times;

WHEREAS, it is the duty of both national and local governments to ensure that laws are properly implemented especially those that seek to promote social justice and support marginalized communities like Filipino persons with disabilities;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, to urge non-compliant local government units to establish their respective Persons with Disability Affairs Office (PDAO) in accordance with Republic Act No. 10070.

Adopted,

REP. ALFRED VARGAS
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