

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City
NINETEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session



HOUSE BILL NO. 6775

Introduced by HON. GUS S. TAMBUNTING

**AN ACT INSTITUTIONALIZING THE GRANTING OF ASSISTANCE TO
INDIVIDUALS IN CRISIS SITUATION (AICS), AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS
THEREFOR**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Sec. 5, Art. II of the 1987 Constitution states that “The maintenance of peace and order, the protection of life, liberty, and property, and promotion of the general welfare are essential for the enjoyment by all the people of the blessings of democracy.”

This bill seeks to make the Assistance To Individuals In Crisis Situation (AICS) a permanent function of the DSWD in order to “ensure undisrupted and sustained provision of immediate relief to the marginalized sector in crisis situations”.

The AICS program had served 1,224,270 beneficiaries versus its original target of 877,444 clients, or an overshoot of 140 percent. The program had a P8.7-billion allocation in 2020 and disbursed 92.8 percent of its budget or P8.1-billion.

AICS prevents poor households from being pushed further into poverty. AICS has been proven effective in keeping less fortunate children in school and preventing them from dropping out, especially when their families face difficult situations.

On behalf of the people of Parañaque City’s Second District, and for the common good of the Filipino people, the approval of the said measure is earnestly sought.


REP. GUS S. TAMBUNTING
2nd District, Parañaque City

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

Section 1: Short Title: This Act shall be known as Assistance To Individuals In Crisis Situation Act”

Section 2: Declaration of Policy: It is hereby declared that the policy of the State is to value the dignity of every human being and guarantee full respect for human rights. Towards this end, disadvantaged individuals, families, and communities must be liberated from the quagmire of poverty by providing assistance, projects, programs, and services geared towards alleviating poverty and improving the quality of life for every Filipino.

Section 3: Definition of Terms

- a) **Target Beneficiaries-** refers to individuals who are in a crisis situation based on the assessment of social workers;
- b) **National Household Targeting System for Poverty Reduction (NHTS-PR)** - An information management system that identifies who and where the poor are in the country.
- c) **Crisis situation-** A condition whereby individuals are faced with a different and stressful situation resulting in the impairment of their psychosocial functioning thereby needing a series of interventions to prevent further exposure to vulnerabilities, exploitation, and abuse; and
- d) **Financial assistance-** Provision of monetary support in the form of outright cash or guarantee letter to service providers to augment the resources of the client which include, but are not limited to, medical assistance, transportation assistance, burial assistance, and educational assistance.

Section 4: Assistance To Individuals In Crisis Situation Act (AICS). Each qualified target beneficiary shall receive financial assistance equivalent to at least five thousand pesos (PHP 5,000.00) and in extremely justifiable cases, the amount of assistance shall not exceed (PHP 100,000.00).

Section 5: Type, Kind, and Amount of Financial Assistance. That type, kind, and amount of financial assistance to be provided to target beneficiaries shall be based on the assessment

and recommendation of the social workers or authorized personnel, duly approved by the authorized officials of DSWD.

Section 6: Implementing Rules and Regulations: Within six months of the effectivity of this Act, the DSWD Secretary shall promulgate the necessary rules and regulations to implement this Act.

Section 7: Appropriations: The amount necessary to carry out the provisions of this Act shall be charged against the appropriations of the DSWD of the year following its enactment into law and thereafter.

SECTION 8. Separability Clause. – If any part or provision of this Act is held invalid or unconstitutional, the other provisions not affected shall remain in full force and effect.

SECTION 9. Repealing Clause. – All laws, presidential decrees, executive orders, rules, and regulations, or parts thereof which are inconsistent with the provisions of this app or hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SECTION 10. Effectivity. – This Act shall take effect 15 days after its publication in the Official Gazette or a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,