

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

NINETEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

House Resolution No. 82



INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVE
ROLANDO M. VALERIANO

**A RESOLUTION
FOR THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON SUFFRAGE AND
ELECTORAL REFORMS, TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY,
IN AID OF LEGISLATION, INTO THE USE OF PUBLIC
FUNDS, INCLUDING THE DSWD AICS AND DOLE
TUPAD, FOR THE ELECTION CAMPAIGN AND VOTE
BUYING OF CERTAIN CANDIDATES FOR VARIOUS
POSITIONS IN THE CITY OF MANILA IN THE
RECENTLY CONCLUDED MAY 2022 ELECTIONS, TO
CRAFT LEGISLATION TO ADDRESS AND PREVENT
SUCH CONCERN FROM RECURRING, AND FOR
OTHER RELATED PURPOSES**

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

1 *WHEREAS*, the AICS or the Assistance for Individuals in Crisis
2 Situations (AICS) Program, serves as social safety net or a stop-gap
3 mechanism to support the recovery of individuals and families from
4 unexpected crisis such as illness or death of a family member, natural and
5 man-made disasters, and other crisis situations, grants cash assistance for
6 medical, burial, transportation, educational and other monetary assistance,
7 with the pertinent Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD)
8 Field Office, in this case the DSWD-NCR-Manila Field Office, scheduling
9 and conducting payout events or distribution of the cash assistance to
10 beneficiaries;

1 *WHEREAS*, the TUPAD or Tulong Panghanapbuhay sa Ating
2 Disadvantaged/Displaced Workers, is a community-based package of
3 assistance that provides emergency employment for displaced workers,
4 underemployed and seasonal workers, for a minimum period of 10 days, with
5 the pertinent Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE) Field Office, in
6 this case the DOLE-NCR-Manila Field Office, scheduling orientation
7 seminars to beneficiaries, before they work and granted their salaries;

8 *WHEREAS*, during the campaign period, in the recently concluded May
9 2022 Elections, then Manila mayoralty candidate Alexander Tantoco Lopez,
10 with his entire team, were reported to arrive **during, before or after**, DSWD-
11 AICS payouts or DOLE-TUPAD Orientation seminars;

12 *WHEREAS*, these payout events or orientation seminars turned out to
13 be campaign rallies for Lopez's ticket, including his vice mayoralty,
14 congressional and councilor candidates, none of whom were incumbent public
15 officials, and without any right or reason, to be present in such official events;

16 *WHEREAS*, during, before or after the cash assistance were distributed,
17 the beneficiaries were made audience, while all the said candidates were given
18 time to deliver their speeches, and campaign for election in the positions they
19 were seeking;

20 *WHEREAS*, such actions were clearly vote buying, as money was given
21 directly to induce the beneficiaries, to vote for said candidates or against their
22 opponents;

23 *WHEREAS*, the pertinent DSWD and DOLE officials conspired to
24 commit the vote buying, and with the use of public funds at that, for the said
25 partisan political activities;

1 *WHEREAS*, while the matter was brought to their attention, the
2 Commission of Elections (Comelec) failed to accordingly act on it, but
3 allowed it to persist during the said election campaign period;

4 *WHEREAS*, there is a need for the House of Representatives, through
5 the Committee on Suffrage and Electoral Reforms, to investigate this issue
6 and to craft legislation to address and prevent this kind of concern from
7 recurring;

8 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, AS IT IS HEREBY**
9 **RESOLVED**, that the House of Representatives Committee on Suffrage and
10 Electoral Reforms, to conduct an inquiry, in aid of legislation, into the use of
11 public funds, including the DSWD-AICS and DOLE-TUPAD, for the election
12 campaign and vote buying of certain candidates for various positions in the
13 City of Manila in the recently concluded May 2022 Elections, to craft
14 legislation to address and prevent such concern from recurring, and for other
15 related purposes.

ADOPTED.



ROLANDO M. VALERIANO
Representative
Manila, 2nd District