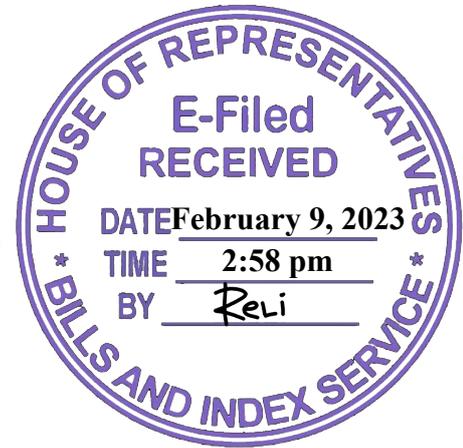




Republic of the Philippines
House of Representatives
Quezon City, Metro Manila

Nineteenth Congress
First Regular Session



HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 762

Introduced by Representative Stella Luz A. Quimbo

RESOLUTION

DIRECTING THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE UTILIZATION OF FUNDS FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PHILIPPINE IDENTIFICATION SYSTEM PROJECT

1 **WHEREAS**, Republic Act (RA) No. 11055, also known as the “Philippine
2 Identification System Act”, was signed into law on August 6, 2018, thereby establishing a
3 single national identification system referred to as the Philippine Identification System
4 (PhilSys), part of which is the Philippine Identification (PhilID) card, a nontransferable card
5 that shall preferably be issued to all citizens or resident aliens registered under the PhilSys;

6 **WHEREAS**, Section 2 of RA No. 11055 mandates the PhilSys to serve as a means of
7 simplifying public and private transactions and a social and economic platform through which
8 all transactions can be availed;

9 **WHEREAS**, Section 15 of RA No. 11055 assigns the Philippine Statistics Authority
10 (PSA) as the primary implementing agency with the responsibility for overall planning,
11 management, and administration of the PhilSys, while the Department of Information and
12 Communications Technology provides technical assistance to the PSA;

13 **WHEREAS**, the implementation plan originally targeted the production of 10 million
14 cards in 2020, 40 million cards in 2021, 42 million cards in 2022, and 24 million cards in 2023,
15 with a total of 116 million cards for 2020 to 2023;

16 **WHEREAS**, on October 7, 2019, the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas (BSP) and the PSA
17 signed a memorandum of agreement which requires the former to supply 116 million PhilIDs
18 to be completed by the end of 2023 for a total budget of P3.4 billion;

19 **WHEREAS**, in a press release dated August 18, 2021, Deputy National Statistician of
20 the PhilSys Registry Office Rosalinda P. Bautista said that “After completing Step 2
21 Registration, delivery of the PhilID card to one’s chosen address is estimated at six months”;

22 **WHEREAS**, during the 2022 General Appropriations Bill (GAB) plenary debates in
23 the House of Representatives, the PSA declared that they targeted to release 92 million PhilID
24 cards by the end of 2022;

1 **WHEREAS**, as of January 26, 2023, around 29.8 million PhilID cards, or 32.4 percent
2 of the original cumulative target of 92 million cards for 2022, were dispatched to the Philippine
3 Postal Corporation for delivery, and 29.5 million digital PhilID or ePhilIDs were pre-generated,
4 according to the updates provided by the PSA to the House of Representatives on January 27,
5 2023;

6 **WHEREAS**, as of January 20, 2023, only 22.6 million PhilID cards, equal to 24.5
7 percent of the original cumulative target by end-2022, were delivered to registrants, while
8 around 18.2 million ePhilIDs were printed and issued to registrants and 330.9 thousand
9 ePhilIDs have been downloaded by registrants as of January 26;

10 **WHEREAS**, in the 2021 Annual Audit Report on the BSP by the Commission on Audit
11 (COA), it was noted that “the quantity of produced and delivered Philippine Identification
12 (PhilID) cards did not meet the requirement provided in the Terms of Reference (TOR); thus,
13 causing delay to the Philippine Identification System (PhilSys) project of the government xxx”;

14 **WHEREAS**, according to the same audit report, card production operations started in
15 2021, and card personalization operations only started in 2021, even though the terms of
16 reference of the contract for card personalization operations required five million pieces of
17 personalized polycarbonate cards in 2020;

18 **WHEREAS**, in the mentioned audit report, the BSP attributed the delay in 2020–2021
19 to the effect of COVID-19 pandemic situation on card production operations, delayed start of
20 the card personalization operations, inconsistent and limited supply of data packets for card
21 personalization, slow flow of data, software and connectivity issues, accumulation of work-in-
22 process, lack of personnel, and limited supply of machine spare parts and consumables;

23 **WHEREAS**, during the House plenary debates for the 2022 GAB, the PSA explained
24 that the reason for the slow output of national IDs was the limited printing capacity of the BSP
25 at 90,000 cards a day;

26 **WHEREAS**, on November 12, 2021, Deputy National Statistician of the PhilSys
27 Registry Office Rosalinda P. Bautista appealed for public understanding as PSA faced delays
28 in the delivery of two million PhilID cards, as reported in Manila Bulletin and ABS-CBN
29 News;

30 **WHEREAS**, on October 21, 2022, the PSA started implementing ePhilID, which
31 allowed “a digital version of the PhilID printed on a piece of paper” with “same functionality
32 and validity as the physical PhilID card” while physical PhilID cards are pending;

33 **WHEREAS**, in a virtual press briefing last October 21, 2022, Usec. Dennis Mapa
34 revealed that “The reason for the delay [in printing] is the high volume in the registration xxx”
35 which they “did not expect”;

36 **WHEREAS**, in a statement on December 6, 2022, the Office of the Press Secretary
37 said there were printing issues due to the late start of the flow of data and the volume of data;

38 **WHEREAS**, funds necessary for the PhilSys and the implementation of RA No. 11055
39 are appropriated by Congress in the annual General Appropriations Act (GAA), with
40 appropriations amounting to P22.1 billion over the period of 2018 to 2023;

1 **WHEREAS**, budget utilization data from the PSA shows that disbursements from 2018
2 to 2022 amounted to P13.9 billion, which is 69.2 percent of appropriations for the same period
3 and 82.1 percent of obligations;

4 **WHEREAS**, Special Provision No. 1 under the PSA budget in the 2023 GAA provides
5 that the PSA shall set a timetable to fully establish and implement the system, which shall not
6 be later than December 31, 2024;

7 **WHEREAS**, Congress must exercise its oversight functions on the implementation of
8 the General Appropriations Act, particularly the use of the budget allocated to the PhilSys
9 project, in order to enact a national budget with funding for programs, activities, and projects
10 that would serve the Filipino people; and

11 **WHEREAS**, pursuant to Rule IX, Section 26 of the Rules of the House of
12 Representatives, committees shall have oversight responsibilities to determine whether or not
13 laws and programs addressing subjects within their jurisdictions are being implemented and
14 carried out in accordance with the intent of Congress and whether or not they should be
15 continued, curtailed, or eliminated.

16 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF**
17 **REPRESENTATIVES**, to direct the House Committee on Appropriations to conduct an
18 inquiry, in aid of legislation, on the utilization of funds for the establishment and
19 implementation of the PhilSys project.


STELLA LUZ A. QUIMBO, PhD