

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
Third Regular Session



COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 1349

Submitted by the Committee on Social Services on **November 26, 2021**

Re : House Resolution No. **2381**

Recommending its adoption in substitution of House Resolution No. 1402.

Sponsors : Representatives Alfred Vargas and Arlene D. Brosas

Mr. Speaker:

The Committee on Social Services to which was referred House Resolution No. 1402, introduced by Representatives Arlene D. Brosas, Carlos Isagani T. Zarate, Eufemia “Ka Femia” C. Cullamat, Ferdinand R. Gaité, France L. Castro and Sarah Jane I. Elago, entitled:

“RESOLUTION

URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL WELFARE AND DEVELOPMENT (DSWD) TO FAST-TRACK THE RELEASE OF AVAILABLE FUNDS TO HELP FAMILIES IN TYPHOON-STRICKEN AREAS, PARTICULARLY THE FUNDS INTENDED FOR THE ASSISTANCE TO INDIVIDUALS IN CRISIS SITUATIONS (AICS) PROGRAM IN THE FORM OF TEN THOUSAND PESOS EMERGENCY CASH AID TO TYPHOON VICTIMS”

has considered the same and recommends that the attached House Resolution No. **2381**, entitled:

“RESOLUTION

URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL WELFARE AND DEVELOPMENT TO IMMEDIATELY RELEASE THE TEN THOUSAND PESOS (P10,000.00) EMERGENCY CASH AID UNDER THE ASSISTANCE TO INDIVIDUALS IN CRISIS SITUATION PROGRAM TO THE VICTIMS OF TYPHOONS ROLLY AND ULYSSES”

be adopted in substitution of House Resolution No. 1402 with Representatives Arlene D. Brosas, Carlos Isagani T. Zarate, Eufemia “Ka Femia” C. Cullamat, Ferdinand R. Gaité, France L. Castro, Sarah Jane I. Elago, Argel Joseph T. Cabatbat, Sabiniano S. Canama, Elias C. Bulut, Jr., Josefina B. Tallado, Diego “Nonoy” C. Ty, Joy Myra S. Tambunting, Angelo Marcos Barba, Juliet Marie de Leon Ferrer, Michael B. Gorriceta, Jocelyn P. Tulfo, Hector S. Sanchez, Macnell M. Lusotan, Ruth Mariano-Hernandez, Ma. Victoria V. Umali, Irene Gay F. Saulog, Joseph Stephen “Caraps” S. Paduano, John Marvin “Yul Servo” C. Nieto, Ramon “Mon-Mon” V. Guico III, Tyrone D. Agabas, and Alfred Vargas, as authors thereof.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in green ink, appearing to read 'Alfred Vargas', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right. The signature is positioned above the printed name.

ALFRED VARGAS

Chairperson

Committee on Social Services

THE HONORABLE SPEAKER
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

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HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 2381
(In Substitution of House Resolution No. 1402)

Introduced by Representatives Arlene D. Brosas, Carlos Isagani T. Zarate, Eufemia “Ka Femia” C. Cullamat, Ferdinand R. Gaité, France L. Castro, Sarah Jane I. Elago, Argel Joseph T. Cabatbat, Sabiniano S. Canama, Elias C. Bulut, Jr., Josefina B. Tallado, Diego “Nonoy” C. Ty, Joy Myra S. Tambunting, Angelo Marcos Barba, Juliet Marie de Leon Ferrer, Michael B. Gorriceta, Jocelyn P. Tulfo, Hector S. Sanchez, Macnell M. Lusotan, Ruth Mariano-Hernandez, Ma. Victoria V. Umali, Irene Gay F. Saulog, Joseph Stephen “Caraps” S. Paduano, John Marvin “Yul Servo” C. Nieto, Ramon “Mon-Mon” V. Guico III, Tyrone D. Agabas, and Alfred Vargas

“RESOLUTION

URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL WELFARE AND DEVELOPMENT TO IMMEDIATELY RELEASE THE TEN THOUSAND PESOS (P10,000.00) EMERGENCY CASH AID UNDER THE ASSISTANCE TO INDIVIDUALS IN CRISIS SITUATION PROGRAM TO THE VICTIMS OF TYPHOONS ROLLY AND ULYSSES”

WHEREAS, during the Senate budget deliberations in November 2020, it was discovered that the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) still has undisbursed funds in the amount of P82.6 billion;

WHEREAS, the DSWD has clarified that as of 31 October 2020, the DSWD was able to obligate P754 million out of the remaining P1.5 billion of the 2019 Continuing Fund leaving an unspent amount of P781 million, and this amount was already returned to the Bureau of Treasury pursuant to Section 28, Chapter 4, Book VI of Executive Order No. 292, otherwise known as the “*Administrative Code of 1987*”;

WHEREAS, as of 31 March 2021, only P18.986 billion out of the P82.6 billion unexpended funds, comprised of P1.5 billion from the 2019 Continuing Fund, P75.1 billion from the 2020 General Appropriations Act (GAA), and P6 billion from the Bayanihan funds remains unspent, and these funds have been programmed for the expenditures identified under Republic Act No. 11469, otherwise known as the “*Bayanihan to Heal as One Act*,” Republic Act No. 11494, otherwise known as the “*Bayanihan to Recover as One Act*” and other programs of the DSWD;

WHEREAS, as of 30 April 2021, P66.9 billion out of the P75.1 billion from the 2020 GAA funds has been utilized, leaving a balance of P8.2 billion unexpended 2020 program funds, which can be obligated and utilized only until 31 December 2021,

pursuant to Republic Act No. 11520, entitled “*An Act Extending the Availability of the 2020 Appropriations to December 31, 2021, Amending for the Purpose Section 60 of the General Provisions of Republic Act No. 11465 or the General Appropriations Act of Fiscal Year 2020*”;

WHEREAS, as of 30 September 2021, only P1.2 billion of the remaining P6 billion from the Bayanihan funds and P1.7 billion from the 2020 GAA amounting to a total of P2.9 billion are available for release, obligation, and disbursement until 31 December 2021;

WHEREAS, the DSWD’s Assistance to Individuals in Crisis Situation (AICS) program is a social safety net for individuals who experienced unexpected crises such as illness or death of a family member, and natural calamities;

WHEREAS, amid a raging COVID-19 pandemic, a string of strong typhoons devastated the country, displacing over 1 million Filipinos, affecting more than one-third of the country’s population, and inflicting extensive destruction to properties, agriculture, infrastructure, and power and communication lines;

WHEREAS, based on the situation reports by the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council, a total of 230,726 houses were damaged by typhoons Rolly and Ulysses in Luzon and parts of the Visayas, destroying more than 35,000 homes;

WHEREAS, the extensive damage caused by the two typhoons to agriculture has been estimated to reach P17.8 billion, as hectares of agricultural lands in the Cordillera Administrative Region (CAR); Regions I, II, and III; Cavite, Laguna, Batangas, Rizal, and Quezon (CALABARZON); Occidental Mindoro, Oriental Mindoro, Marinduque, Romblon, and Palawan (MIMAROPA); and Regions V, VI, and VIII, including those for rice, corn and high value crops were destroyed;

WHEREAS, due to the realignments made to the budget on account of the government’s response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the standby calamity and quick response funds cannot adequately cover the urgent needs of Filipinos struggling in the wake of the series of destructive typhoons;

WHEREAS, pandemic restrictions and inadequate social amelioration programs have aggravated the suffering of Filipinos who have been reeling from the massive destruction on properties wrought by these calamities and the resulting curtailment of livelihood;

WHEREAS, the Senate has adopted Resolution No. 574 urging the DSWD to hasten the release of its available funds to assist victims in calamity-stricken areas;

WHEREAS, several measures, such as Memorandum Circular (MC) No. 11, Series of 2019, or the Revised Guidelines on the Implementation of the Assistance To Individuals In Crisis Situation and MC No. 24, Series of 2020, or the Amendment To Memorandum Circular No. 11, Series of 2019, otherwise known as the Revised Guidelines on the Implementation of the Assistance to Individuals in Crisis Situation, have already been put in place by the DSWD to accelerate the release of funds to actual beneficiaries;

WHEREAS, the DSWD urgently needs to amend its guidelines in order to effect the immediate release of the maximum P10,000.00 cash aid to each typhoon victim under the AICS program, and compensation worth P1,000.00 to P5,000.00 cash in addition to food and relief items as provided under the DSWD Memorandum Circular No. 24, Series of 2020, to help the victims recover faster from these calamities, particularly those whose houses and sources of livelihood were totally destroyed:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, To urge the Department of Social Welfare and Development to immediately release the Ten thousand pesos (P10,000.00) emergency cash aid under the Assistance to Individuals in Crisis Situation program to the victims of typhoons Rolly and Ulysses.

Adopted,