RESOLUTION URGING THE PHILIPPINE STATISTICS AUTHORITY (PSA), THROUGH THE NATIONAL ECONOMIC AND DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (NEDA), TO FAST-TRACK THE INTEGRATED IMPLEMENTATION OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 11055, THE "PHILIPPINE IDENTIFICATION SYSTEM ACT," AND REPUBLIC ACT NO. 11315, THE "COMMUNITY-BASED MONITORING SYSTEM ACT," IN ORDER TO ESTABLISH A UNIFIED, DIGITAL DATABASE THAT WILL SERVE AS A VITAL MECHANISM TO ALLOW GOVERNMENT TO SWIFTLY IDENTIFY TARGET BENEFICIARIES, AND PROVIDE SEAMLESS AND EFFICIENT DELIVERY OF GOVERNMENT PROGRAMS AND SERVICES, ESPECIALLY IN TIMES OF DISASTERS AND NATIONAL CRISSES OR EMERGENCIES.
WHEREAS, on March 8, 2020, President Rodrigo Roa Duterte issued Presidential Proclamation No. 922 declaring a State of Public Health Emergency throughout the Philippines due to the alarming increase in Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) cases;

WHEREAS, on March 16, 2020, Enhanced Community Quarantine (ECQ) measures with relevant restrictions imposed throughout the entire Luzon and other provinces confined most Filipinos inside their residences, and significantly prevented community movement;

WHEREAS, these restrictions on movement forced many businesses to cease operations, resulting in massive job losses and business failures, especially at the micro, small and medium enterprise level, thus drastically affecting the local and national economies and severely disrupting the country’s historically robust economy and consistent growth trend;

WHEREAS, national and international experts, including those from the World Health Organization and the International Monetary Fund, have earlier advised in March 2020 that the economy will continue to experience the negative impact of COVID-19 to health and the economy in the next eighteen (18) to twenty-four (24) months, depending on the availability of an effective vaccine;

WHEREAS, Republic Act No. 11469, the “Bayanihan to Heal As One Act”, provided for an Emergency Subsidy Program (ESP) for eighteen (18) million households most affected by the COVID-19 pandemic in amounts that ranged from Five thousand pesos (P5,000.00) to a maximum of Eight thousand pesos (P8,000.00) a month for every household for a period of two (2) months;

WHEREAS, the distribution of the first tranche of the cash subsidy was reportedly laden with confusion, inefficiencies, delays, and corruption due to difficulties in the identification, verification, and determination of qualification of families that were genuinely in need of cash assistance;
WHEREAS, Republic Act No. 11055 which was enacted into law on August 6, 2018, established a single national identification system referred to as the Philippine Identification System or “PhilSys” for all citizens and resident aliens of the country to promote the seamless delivery of services, improve the efficiency, transparency, and targeted delivery of public and social services, enhance administrative governance, reduce corruption and curtail bureaucratic red tape, avert fraudulent transactions and misrepresentations, strengthen financial inclusion and promote ease of doing business, and to serve as the foundation and mother database for Filipinos and resident aliens;

WHEREAS, Republic Act No. 11315 which was enacted into law on April 17, 2019, provided for a community-based monitoring system which would generate updated and disaggregated data necessary in the targeting of beneficiaries, the conduct of more comprehensive poverty analysis that needs prioritization, designing appropriate policies and interventions, and for monitoring impact over time;

WHEREAS, the integrated implementation of Republic Act No. 11055 and Republic Act No. 11315 will establish a unified, digital database that shall considerably:

1. Improve, facilitate, and strengthen the institution of accurate and transparent lists of beneficiaries for social amelioration;

2. Facilitate efficient, digital, and cashless distribution of financial subsidy;

3. Enable the national government to create amelioration programs targeted on specific vulnerable groups; and

4. Expedite and enhance the process of verifying the identity of individuals and validating pertinent documents.

WHEREAS, such a unified, digital database sourced from a national baseline data collection shall result in preparedness and a better and organized approach in the government’s response
to future disasters and national crises or emergencies: Now therefore, be it

Resolved, as it is hereby resolved by the House of Representatives, To urge the Philippine Statistics Authority, through the National Economic and Development Authority, to fast-track the integrated implementation of Republic Act No. 11055 and Republic Act No. 11315, in order to establish a unified, digital database that will serve as a vital mechanism to allow government to swiftly identify target beneficiaries, and provide seamless and efficient delivery of government programs and services, especially in times of disasters and national crises or emergencies.

Adopted,

[Signature]

LORD ALLAN JAY Q. VELASCO
Speaker

This Resolution was adopted by the House of Representatives on January 25, 2021.

[Signature]

MARK LLANDRO Y. MENDOZA
Secretary General