



INTRODUCED BY SENATOR ALAN PETER "COMPAÑERO" S. CAYETANO

AN ACT
PROVIDING PHP 10,000 CASH ASSISTANCE TO ALL FILIPINO FAMILIES TO
HELP THEM COPE WITH THE EFFECTS OF THE CURRENT CORONAVIRUS
PANDEMIC AND THE INCREASING PRICES OF GOODS AND SERVICES, AND FOR
OTHER PURPOSES

EXPLANATORY NOTE

"Not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others."

Philippians 2:4

Roderick is a jeepney driver from Pasig City. When the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic hit, life became so difficult that he and his family had to live inside the jeepney he drove because they could no longer pay for rent. They used the 10k Ayuda they received to put up a sari-sari store. His family is now earning around Php 9,000 per month from their small business.

The Hernandez couple, Lilian and Eufronio, work as ginger farmers in San Pablo City, Laguna. Unfortunately, their income dropped due to lockdowns and safety protocols in place. As 10k Ayuda beneficiaries, they used the money as capital on their ginger farm which now earns up to Php 3,000 a week.

Mary Grace was an OFW who was a victim of illegal recruitment. She was forced to return home with no source of income. Life thereafter became more challenging because of the pandemic. With the 10K ayuda, she now earns up to Php 500 daily with the business she also just recently started.

Whether we talk about the young or the old, part time or full time workers, poor or middle class - we are all suffering. Despite the challenges our country is currently facing - from the pandemic to the global increase of prices, the Philippines has only given cash assistance once through Republic Act No. 11469 or the Bayanihan to Heal as One Act and it also has the smallest amounts in terms of stimulus package among the key ASEAN countries. In Singapore, there were already four tranches of assistance, while in the United States, they have given out three. It is about time that the Philippines also launch a similar program that would benefit families in need of assistance.

The 10k Ayuda Bill provides economic stimulus to every Filipino family - family of farmers, of fisherfolks, of vendors, of tricycle drivers, and the list goes on. In

the passage of this measure, resources will flow through all barangays in the Philippines. This means that income will spread to sari-sari stores, public markets, carinderias, and other establishments and services throughout the country. The success stories we have witnessed when we initiated the roll out of our own program of implementation of this bill is proof that our *kababayan* just need a little boost and they are on their way to recovery.

This bill should not be taken alone but should be passed together with more innovative measures that aim to assist MSMEs. This proposed legislation is also envisioned to complement the existing government initiatives such as provision of access to capital (e.g. loans), Shared Service Facilities, market access platforms, mentorship, trainings, among others to strengthen this sector. This measure is also intended to benefit all barangays throughout the country, not just those of targeted sectors. Furthermore, the cash assistance will benefit small businesses like those in local markets, sari-sari stores, and eateries. This will also allow those affected by high fuel prices, such as taxi drivers and vegetable farmers, to continue their livelihood. In fact, according to the Philippine Statistics Authority, the country's inflation rate jumped to 6.1% in June 2022, brought by the higher annual growth rate in the prices of food and non-alcoholic beverages, and transportation costs.¹

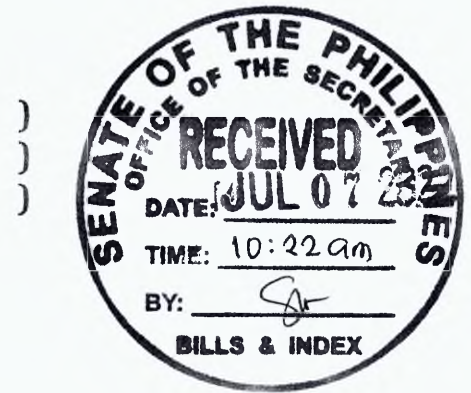
Although Filipinos are known for their grit and resilience, assistance to our countrymen is still needed to help them survive and get back on their feet. This Php 10,000 cash assistance is not unique as this has been done before, again through the Bayanihan law where financial aid was given in two tranches. Albeit there are already a number of cash assistance programs of the government, our goal in passing this law is to make financial aid to our *kababayan* simple and efficient.

In view of the foregoing, the immediate passage of this measure is sought to help the Rodericks, the Hernandezes, the Mary Graces and all other Juan and Juana dela Cruzes who are hardworking but hard hit by the high prices and the pandemic, have a chance at a better life in the country.



ALAN PETER "COMPAÑERO" S. CAYETANO

¹ <https://business.inquirer.net/352186/inflation-for-june-2022-hits-three-year-high-6-1-percent-psa>



S. B. No. 62

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

1 **SECTION 1. Short Title.** – This Act shall be known as the “*Sampung Libong Pag-*
2 *asa Law*”.

3
4 **SECTION 2. Declaration of Policy.** – It is the declared policy of the State to
5 free the people from poverty through policies that provide adequate social services,
6 a rising standard of living, and an improved quality of life for all.

7
8 The COVID-19 pandemic continues to affect the country, stunt its economy, and
9 disrupt jobs and livelihoods – especially for the most vulnerable. Extraordinary times
10 require extraordinary measures to uplift both the economy and the lives of the
11 Filipino people. In line with this, the State shall endeavor to help all Filipinos and the
12 economy get the much needed financial boost in the wake of inflation, increased
13 prices of basic commodities, and other causes of financial strains and hardships
14 brought about by the pandemic, most especially during the interim that a viable
15 vaccine program is being rolled out by the Government to protect all Filipinos against
16 COVID-19.

17
18 Towards this end, it is hereby the policy of the State to prevent more families
19 from going into hunger by providing an immediate financial boost through an
20 additional assistance program.

21
22 **SECTION 3. Sampung Libong Pag-asa Assistance Program.** – Over and
23 above and separate and distinct from any financial assistance or social amelioration
24 measure of the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD), the 10k

1 Ayuda Assistance Program is hereby created under the DSWD that will hereby
2 provide cash assistance through the most expeditious, transparent, and simple
3 process to all Filipino families and individuals affected by the pandemic.
4

5 **SECTION 4. Amount of Cash Assistance and beneficiaries.** – Each Filipino
6 family needing assistance shall receive a one-time cash assistance of Ten Thousand
7 Pesos (Php 10,000), or One Thousand Five Hundred Pesos (Php 1,500) per family
8 member, whichever sum is higher.
9

10 **SECTION 5. Priority List of Beneficiaries.** – The following shall, as a matter
11 of right, be the beneficiaries under this Act:

- 12 a) Poorest of the poor;
- 13 b) Senior Citizens;
- 14 c) Persons with Disabilities;
- 15 d) Solo parents;
- 16 e) Displaced, retrenched or separated workers, or otherwise severely
17 affected or have lost their jobs during the COVID-19 pandemic, which
18 include, but are not limited to, the following:
 - 19 1. Freelancers such as entertainers, tour guides, workers in the events
20 industry, therapists, etc.;
 - 21 2. Drivers of public transportation such as pedicab, tricycle, PUJs, PUVs,
22 taxi, bus, etc.;
 - 23 3. Owners and workers in microenterprises such as sari-sari stores,
24 market stalls, food carts, etc.;
 - 25 4. Farmers;
 - 26 5. Homeworkers including family drivers and househelpers; and
 - 27 6. Sub-minimum wage earners.
- 28 f) Medical frontliners including Barangay Health Workers;
- 29 g) Families of Overseas Filipino Workers;
- 30 h) Those who were not able to receive assistance through any of the Social
31 Amelioration Programs of the national government;
- 32 i) Filipino Citizens holding a Philippine National ID; and
- 33 j) Other members of the vulnerable sectors.
34

35 The DSWD shall determine which other families that require assistance will be
36 beneficiaries of the cash assistance program established under this Act.
37

38 **SECTION 6. Enrollment to the Philippine Identification System.** – Pursuant
39 to the policy set out in Republic Act (RA) No. 11055 or the Philippine Identification
40 System Act which aims to promote seamless delivery of service and to improve the
41 efficiency, transparency, and targeted delivery of public and social services, all
42 Filipinos who seek to benefit from the BPP Cash Assistance Program are enjoined and
43 highly encouraged to enroll in the Philippine Identification System (PIS). Enrollment
44 in the system would merit prioritization of the enrollee in the list of beneficiaries of
45 this Act as stated in Sec. 6.

1
2 **SECTION 7. Sampung Libong Pag-asa Assistance Program Hotline,**
3 **Website, and Mobile Application.** – The DSWD shall establish, maintain and operate
4 a telephone hotline, website, and a mobile application in order to effectively and
5 efficiently facilitate the roll-out of the *Sampung Libong Pag-asa* Program, answer
6 inquiries and receive complaints and grievances from the public, and help
7 disseminate information. A separate hotline shall also be dedicated for those with
8 special needs such as but not limited to: Senior Citizens, Persons with Disabilities, and
9 the like.

10
11 **SECTION 8. Sources of Funding.** – The amount necessary to carry out the
12 provisions of this Act shall be included in and sourced from the annual General
13 Appropriations Act.

14
15 **SECTION 9. Separability Clause.** – If, for any reason, any portion or provision
16 of this Act shall be held unconstitutional or invalid, the remaining provisions not
17 affected thereby shall continue to be in full force and effect.

18
19 **SECTION 10. Repealing Clause.** – All laws, executive orders, proclamations,
20 rules, regulations and other issuances or parts thereof which are inconsistent with
21 the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or amended accordingly.

22
23 **SECTION 11. Effectivity.** – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its
24 publication in the Official Gazette or in any newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,