

FOURTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE)
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
First Regular Session)

8 MAY 14 1995

RECEIVED BY: [Signature]

SENATE

P.S. Res. No. 402

INTRODUCED BY HONORABLE BENIGNO S. AQUINO III

RESOLUTION

DIRECTING THE COMMITTEE ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT TO INVESTIGATE IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF REPUBLIC ACT NO.7279 OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE "URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND HOUSING ACT (UDHA) OF 1992", PRINCIPALLY ON THE MANDATE OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNITS TO CONDUCT INVENTORY OF ALL LANDS WITHIN THEIR RESPECTIVE LOCALITIES AND IDENTIFY SITES FOR SOCIALIZED HOUSING AND RESETTLEMENT AREAS.

WHEREAS, among the many objectives of Republic Act No.7279 otherwise known as the "Urban Development and Housing Act of 1992" is to mandate the active participation of the local government units in the socialized housing programs through adequate measures for housing development in their respective areas;

WHEREAS, to attain this objective, local government units are mandated under R.A. No.7279 to, "conduct an inventory of all lands and improvements within their respective localities within one (1) year from the effectivity of R.A 7279"¹ and "thereafter, in coordination with the National Housing Authority, the Housing and Land Use Regulatory Board, the National Mapping Resource Information Authority, and the Land Management Bureau, to identify lands for socialized housing and resettlement areas for the immediate and future needs of the underprivileged and homeless in the urban areas"²;

WHEREAS, "the Housing and Urban Development Coordinating Council, in coordination with the local government units, is mandated to design a system for the registration of qualified program beneficiaries in accordance with the Framework. The local government units, within one (1) year from the effectivity of R.A. No. 7279, shall identify and register all beneficiaries within their respective localities."³

¹ Section 7, R.A. No.7279
² Section 8, R.A. No.7279
³ Section 17, R.A No. 7279

WHEREAS, local governments units were also given two (2) years from the effectivity of R.A. No.7279 on 24 March 1992, in coordination with the National Housing Authority, to implement the relocation and resettlement of persons living in danger areas such as esteros, railroad tracks, garbage dumps, riverbanks, shorelines, waterways, and in other public places as sidewalks, roads, parks, and playgrounds.⁴;

WHEREAS, in the data presented by Task Force Anti-Illegal Demolition (Task Force-AID) in the Consultative Meeting on the Demolition of Houses of Informal Settlers in Various Parts of Metro Manila, organized by the Committee on Urban Planning last 10 October 2007, there were at least 88 demolition incidents which affected a total of 630,430 families between 2001 and 2006. On 2007, a total of 6,489 families lost their houses by reason of a number demolition done by the Metro Manila Development Authority (MMDA). Out of the 6,489 families, 2,638 were not provided with a resettlement site or financial assistance. To make matters worse, the demolitions were conducted without the required prior notice to the affected families and consultation with the head of the communities affected;

WHEREAS, in the light of the seemingly endless shelter problem of the underprivileged and the homeless, now aggravated by the alleged arbitrary demolition of their houses and their summary eviction therefrom by the MMDA without providing for their relocation and resettlement, there is therefore a need to inquire into the extent of the implementation of R.A. No. 7279 particularly on the duty of local government units to conduct a land inventory and identify areas suitable for the socialized housing program and to identify the qualified beneficiaries for the program ;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, to direct the Committee on Local Government to investigate in aid of legislation, on the implementation of Republic Act No.7279, principally on the mandate of local government units to conduct inventory of all lands within there respective localities and identify sites for socialized housing and resettlement areas for the underprivileged and homeless in the urban areas and identify qualified beneficiaries for the program.

Adopted,


BENIGNO S. AQUINO III
Senator

⁴ Section 29, R.A. No.7279