EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
First Regular Session

DATE: July 3, 2019
TIME: 7:04 pm
BY: BILLS & INDEX

SENATE

s.B. NO. 220

Introduced by SENATOR IMEE R. MARCOS

AN ACT RATIONALIZING THE EARMARKING OF VALUE-ADDED TAXATION TO ADDRESS INTER-GENERATIONAL POVERTY, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTION 288 OF THE NATIONAL INTERNAL REVENUE CODE, AS AMENDED, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The Philippines Value Added Tax (VAT) is a broad, far-reaching, revenue measure that has been refined, over time, through legislation, to meet the needs of Filipinos and national development. In this regard, this measure is another step forward in rationalizing the VAT and providing for vital and immediate social welfare goals.

This measure earmarks VAT proceeds for food vouchers, and welfare related programs and projects needed to address inter-generational poverty. This bill will ensure that the poorest of the poor are uplifted through health care, educational opportunities, agricultural modernization, disaster risk reduction, and environmental care, the next step forward in eradicating poverty, and assuring resiliency of our poorest communities.

Further, this bill arrests the possible reduction of the share of local government units from VAT proceeds. Under Section 288 of Republic Act No. 8424 or the

National Internal Revenue Code, Fifty Percent (50%) of incremental VAT proceeds goes to LGUs for specifically provided purposes. This would be a lot less than the VAT proceeds from the 'just share' of local government units under Section 6, Article X of the 1987 Constitution, which the Supreme Court Ruling clarified to be based on all national taxes and not only on national internal revenue taxes, as provided in Section 284 of the Local Government Code.

In line with this, this measure requires that Sixty Percent (60%) of all revenue proceeds from VAT, equivalent to the share of the national government, be reallocated to activities that will arrest intergenerational poverty nationwide.

In view of the foregoing, the immediate passage of this measure is earnestly sought.

IMEE R. MARCOS

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

- Section. 1. Declaration of Policy. It is hereby declared the policy of the State:
- a) To ensure a progressive tax system geared towards uplifting the poor
 through sustainable development programs;
 - b) To guarantee Local Government Units are provided with a just share based on all national taxation that funds local economic development and poverty alleviation; and
 - c) To promote sustainable intergenerational poverty alleviation and propoor productivity enhancing programs.

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- 1 Sec. 2. Sec. 288 of the NIRC, as amended, is hereby further amended to read
- 2 as follows:
- 3 "Sec. 288. Disposition of Incremental Revenues. -
- $(A) \times \times \times$
- $5 (B) \times \times \times$
- 6 (C) x x x
 - (D)[Incremental] TOTAL Revenues from the Value-Added Tax. [Fifty percent (50%) of the Local Government unit's share from the] THE TOTAL revenue from the Value-Added Tax shall be allocated and used exclusively for the following purposes:

(1) [Fifteen percent (15%)] TEN PERCENT (10%) for public elementary and secondary education to finance the ACQUISITION AND IMPROVEMENT OF SITES, construction of buildings, purchases of school furniture and in-service teacher trainings;

(2) Ten percent (10%) for health insurance premiums of enrolled indigents as a counterpart contribution [of the local government] to sustain the universal coverage of the National Health Insurance Program;

 (3) [Fifteen percent (15%)] TEN PERCENT (10%) for environmental conservation to fully implement a comprehensive national reforestation program; [and]

(4) Ten percent (10%) for agricultural modernization to finance the construction of farm-to-market roads and irrigation facilities, COMMUNAL IRRIGATION SYSTEMS; POST-HARVEST FACILITIES; SEED AND ORGANIC FERTILIZER SUBSIDIES; LIVESTOCK DISPERSAL PROGRAM; AND ESTABLISHMENT OF MARICULTURE AND AQUACULTURE PARKS [-];

1	(5) TEN PERCENT (10%) FOR FOOD VOUCHERS FOR THE
2	FIRST TO SEVENTH INCOME DECILES OF THE NATIONAL
3	HOUSEHOLD TARGETING SYSTEM FOR POVERTY
4	REDUCTION (NHTS-PR); AND
5	
6	(6) TEN PERCENT (10%) FOR SOCIAL MITIGATING
7	MEASURES AND INVESTMENTS IN SOCIAL PROTECTION,
8	EMPLOYMENT, AND HOUSING THAT PRIORITIZE THE POOR
9	AND NEAR-POOR HOUSEHOLDS, AS IDENTIFIED UNDER THE
10	NHTS-PR.
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12	Sec. 3. Separability Clause If any part or provision of this Act is held
13	unconstitutional or invalid, the remaining parts or provisions not affected shall
14	remain in full force and effect.
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16	Sec. 4. Repealing Clause. – Any law, presidential decree or issuance, executive
17	order, letter of instruction, administrative order, rule or regulation contrary to
18	or inconsistent with the provisions of this Act is hereby repealed, modified, or
19	amended accordingly.
20	
21	Sec. 5. Effectivity Clause This Act shall take effect on January 1, 2020
22	following its complete publication in the Official Gazette or in at least one (1)
23	newspaper of general circulation.
	Approved.