CONGRESS OF THE PHILIPPINES EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS First Regular Session

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

H. Jt. Res. No. 19

BY REPRESENTATIVES LEGARDA, ZAMORA (R.), ALMARIO, UNGAB, CAYETANO (A.P.), GONZALES (N.), ROMUALDEZ (F.M.), REMULLA, ABANTE, SALCEDA, CUA AND BOLILIA, PER COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 30

JOINT RESOLUTION EXTENDING THE AVAILABILITY OF THE 2019 APPROPRIATIONS FOR MAINTENANCE AND OTHER OPERATING EXPENSES AND CAPITAL OUTLAYS TO DECEMBER 31, 2020, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTION 65 OF THE GENERAL PROVISIONS OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 11260, THE GENERAL APPROPRIATIONS ACT OF FISCAL YEAR 2019

WHEREAS, the General Appropriations Act (GAA) for fiscal years 2014 to 2017, consistently provide that the appropriations for Maintenance and Other Operating Expenses (MOOE) and Capital Outlays (CO) were available for release and obligation for a period extending to one (1) fiscal year after the fiscal year in which said items were appropriated;

WHEREAS, in fiscal year (FY) 2018, Joint Resolution No. 3 was approved extending the availability of the 2018 appropriations for MOOE and CO to December 31, 2019, amending for the purpose Section 61 of the General Provisions of Republic Act No. 10964, the General Appropriations Act of Fiscal Year 2018; WHEREAS, in Republic Act No. 11260, the GAA for 2019, the validity of MOOE and CO has been limited to one (1) year as provided by Section 65 of the General Provisions of the said GAA, which reads:

"SEC. 65. Availability of Appropriations. - All appropriations authorized in this Act shall be available for release and obligation for the purpose specified, and under the same special provisions applicable thereto, until December 31, 2019.

A report on these releases and obligations shall be submitted to the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the President of the Senate of the Philippines, the House Committee on Appropriations and the Senate Committee on Finance, either in printed form or by way of electronic document."

WHEREAS, the late passage of the FY 2019 General Appropriations Act in April 15, 2019 and the election ban on May 13, 2019 resulted in the delay of the implementation of infrastructure projects and basic social services;

WHEREAS, there are appropriations that have not been released and allotments issued that have not been obligated which shall automatically result in the reversion of the said unexpended appropriations to the unappropriated surplus of the General Fund of the much needed MOOE and CO to fund priority projects, aid and relief activities, as well as the maintenance, construction/repair and rehabilitation of schools, hospitals, roads, bridges and other essential facilities of the national government;

WHEREAS, it is clearly imperative that Section 65 of the General Provisions of Republic Act No. 11260 should be amended so that the validity of the MOOE and CO appropriations shall be extended for another fiscal year for the benefit of the people and for the welfare of the nation: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives, the Senate of the Philippines

2 voting separately, To extend the validity and period of availability of the

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Fiscal Year 2019 appropriations for Maintenance and Other Operating
Expenses and Capital Outlays to December 31, 2020, amending for the
purpose Section 65 of the General Provisions of Republic Act No. 11260,
otherwise known as the General Appropriations Act of Fiscal Year 2019.
Approved,