One of the Secretory

24 SEP 16 P7:46

NINETEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES Third Regular Session

RECEIVED BY:

S E N A T E P.S. No. 1199

Introduced by SENATOR FRANCIS "TOL" N. TOLENTINO

RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING THE LIWANAG AT TUBIG ASSISTANCE WELFARE (LITAW) PROGRAM TO LOW INCOME HOUSEHOLDS IN TIMES OF CALAMITIES AND OTHER NATURAL DISASTERS

Whereas, access to energy and water is a fundamental human necessity, integral to enhancing the quality of life and enabling economic participation among citizens;

Whereas, the State recognizes the vital role energy plays in daily life, from powering homes to facilitating communication and transportation;

Whereas, the Philippines is frequently affected by natural disasters and calamities, which lead to loss of livelihood and property, further straining the financial resources of already vulnerable populations by disrupting their means of income and damaging infrastructure;

Whereas, many low-income households in the Philippines face challenges in affording basic utilities, including electricity and water, which is essential for daily living;

Whereas, this underscores the need for a strategic initiative that provides targeted assistance to ensure these households can meet their essential energy and water needs;

Whereas, the after effects of these natural disasters and calamities can severely impact low-income households who are trying to recover from the same, exacerbating poverty and hindering development;

Whereas, low income households are most often affected by electric and water service disconnections and disruptions during and after the occurrence of these calamities and disasters;

Whereas, there is a pressing need for the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) to establish a temporary energy and water assistance program, to be known as Liwanag at Tubig Assistance Welfare (LITAW) Program, designed to provide timely and targeted assistance to low-income households, i.e., below poverty threshold, during these occurrences;

Whereas, it is part of the government's responsibility to ensure that all citizens, particularly the most disadvantaged, have access to essential services and providing this electricity and water subsidy to low-income individuals, including disaster victims, could significantly alleviate financial burdens and contribute to recovery efforts; **Now, Therefore,**

Be It Resolved, as it is hereby resolved by the Senate of the Republic of the Philippines, to direct as it hereby directs the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) to provide an emergency electric and water assistance (LITAW) in the amount of P2,000.00 to Filipino families living below the Philippine poverty threshold as determined by the latest government statistics at the time of application or to qualified 4Ps (Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program) beneficiaries in times of natural disasters and calamities.

Adopted,

FRANCIS "TOL" N. TOLENTINO

Senator