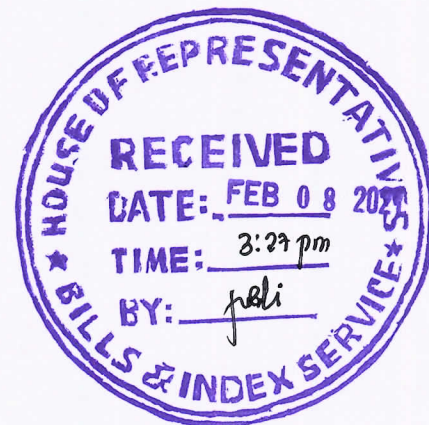




Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City



EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
Second Regular Session

House Resolution No. 1558

Introduced by Representatives Sharon Garin, Joey Sarte Salceda, Rosanna “Ria” Vergara, Christopher De Venecia, Julienne “Jam” Baronda, Horacio Suansing, Jr., Estrellita Suansing, Stella Luz Quimbo, Antonio “Tony” Albano, Mohamad Khalid Dimaporo, Victor Yap, Amihilda Sangcopan, Edgar Mary Sarmiento, Rufus Rodriguez, Alfredo Garbin Jr., Kristine Singson-Meehan, Francisco “Kiko” Benitez, Jose Gay Padiernos, Robert Ace Barbers, Raneo “Ranie” Abu, Ferdinand Hernandez, Angelica Natasha Co, Deogracias Victor “DV” Savellano, Edward Maceda, Ronnie Ong, Claudine Bautista, Michael Gorriceta, John Rey Tiangco, Lorenz Defensor, Jesus “Bong” Suntay, Braeden John Biron, Conrad Estrella III, Sol Aragones, Cristal Bagatsing, Erico Aristotle Aumentado, Cheryl Deloso-Montalla, and Romeo Momo

A RESOLUTION
URGING THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC ACCOUNTS TO CONDUCT AN INVESTIGATION, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE RELEASE AND UTILIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS AUTHORIZED UNDER REPUBLIC ACT NO. 11494, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE BAYANIHAN TO RECOVER AS ONE

WHEREAS, on September 11, 2020, Republic Act No. 11494, otherwise known as the Bayanihan to Recover as One Act (Bayanihan 2) was enacted, with utmost urgency, to mitigate the adverse impact of the COVID-19 pandemic and necessary mobility restrictions on the socioeconomic well-being of all Filipinos through the provision of assistance, subsidies, and other forms of socioeconomic relief;

WHEREAS, Bayanihan 2 authorized some one hundred sixty-five billion, five hundred million pesos (P165,000,000,000.00) in emergency relief and spending, including twenty-five billion, five hundred million pesos (P25,500,000,000.00) in standby funds;

WHEREAS, according to the latest executive report on Bayanihan 2 (issued on January 6, 2021), only 73.74% of the authorized appropriations have been released by the Department of Budget and Management (DBM), while the remaining unreleased items primarily composed of equity infusion to government financial

institutions (GFIs) and excluding standby funds, are still pending the approval of the Office of the President;

WHEREAS, while the releases have been recorded by the DBM, the corresponding utilization rates of these releases have not reported by the implementing agencies in a manner that will provide Congress the opportunity to appreciate how much of these releases have actually already benefited the public;

WHEREAS, the delays in releases forego the opportunity to rescue the economy and correlate with actual economic losses, as evidenced by the dramatic decline in lending amid the delays in infusing capital to government financial institutions;

WHEREAS, the economic team convinced Congress to fund equity infusion to GFIs over other forms of relief on the promise that this assistance could be leveraged at least five times, and that credit growth, which has not materialized, is more cost-efficient as an economic stimulus;

WHEREAS, Congress authorized equity infusion over other forms of direct aid on the assumption that the government will act with dispatch on making such infusion available urgently to businesses in need;

WHEREAS, our constituents have also complained to us about the slow implementation of other forms of direct relief under Bayanihan 2, which does not reflect in the report because it discloses the release of funds by DBM and not the utilization rates, and have pleased with us to urge the government to accelerate relief;

WHEREAS, in response to the delays in implementation, and to allow the government the opportunity to fulfill its commitments when Bayanihan 2 was still under discussion, Congress enacted Republic Act No. 11519, which extends the availability of funds appropriated in Bayanihan 2 law until June 30, 2021;

WHEREAS, the release and implementation of assistance authorized under Bayanihan 2 remains crucial and urgent as the effects of COVID-19 on employment, hunger, poverty, and business persist;

WHEREAS, economic recovery will require expeditious and concerted efforts from the government, especially with the 2020 GDP decline of 9.5%, the country's worst post-war economic performance;

WHEREAS, with slow government relief, the country foregoes the opportunity to provide more secure employment to the 420,000 workers that the Department of Labor and Employment says lost their employment in 2020, and the 4.5 million other working Filipinos who are in danger of losing their jobs;

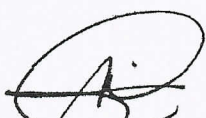
WHEREAS, the economy cannot afford slow implementation of government relief programs that have already been approved and authorized, especially as the World Bank and other international institutions warn that the country will recover more slowly than its peers in the East Asia and Pacific region;

WHEREAS, fiscal relief accorded by the Corporate Recovery and Tax Incentives for Enterprises (CREATE), a supply-side intervention which the undersigned have principally authored, requires spending levers to be optimized, and its beneficial impacts can be better triggered by corresponding demand-side interventions by the government, including Bayanihan 2;

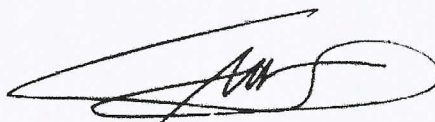
WHEREAS, the speedy implementation of Bayanihan 2 is also a fiscally prudent approach to economic recovery, for its potential contributions to economic recovery could help allay the need for another round of deficit-increasing stimulus measures;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, as it is hereby resolved by the **House of Representatives**, that the Committee on Public Accounts is urged to conduct an investigation, in aid of legislation, on the unreleased and unutilized appropriations under Republic Act No. 11494, otherwise known as the Bayanihan to Recover as One, by the Department of Budget and Management (DBM).

Adopted,



SHARON GARIN



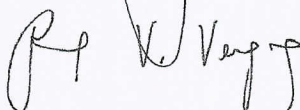
JOEY SARTE SALCEDA



ROBERT ACE BARBERS



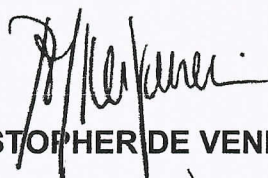
RANEO "RANIE" ABU



ROSANNA "RIA" VERGARA



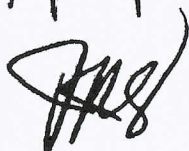
FERDINAND HERNANDEZ



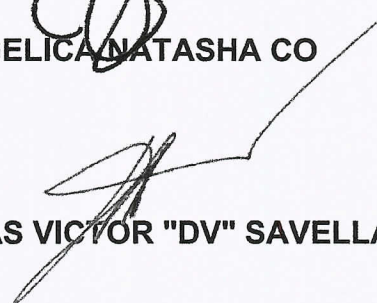
CHRISTOPHER DE VENECIA



ANGELICA NATASHA CO



JULIENNE "JAM" BARONDA

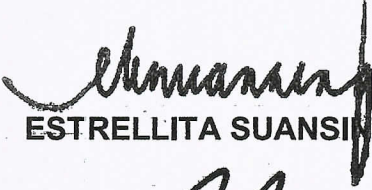


DEOGRACIAS VICTOR "DV" SAVELLANO



HORACIO SUANSING

Edward Maceda
EDWARD MACEDA



ESTRELLITA SUANSING



RONNIE ONG



STELLA LUZ QUIMBO




CLAUDINE BAUTISTA



ANTONIO "TONYPET" ALBANO



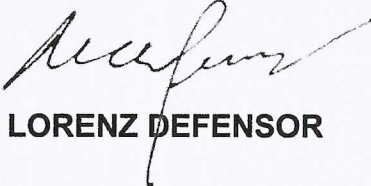
MICHAEL GORRICETA



MOHAMAD KHALID DIMAPORO

John Rey Tiangco
JOHN REY TIANGCO

VICTOR YAP



LORENZ DEFENSOR



AMIHILDA SANGCOPAN



JESUS "BONG" SUNTAY



EDGAR MARY SARMIENTO



BRAEDEN JOHN BIRON



RUFUS RODRIGUEZ



CONRAD ESTRELLA III



ALFREDO GARBIN JR.



SOL ARAGONES



KRISTINE SINGSON-MEEHAN



CRISTAL BAGATSING

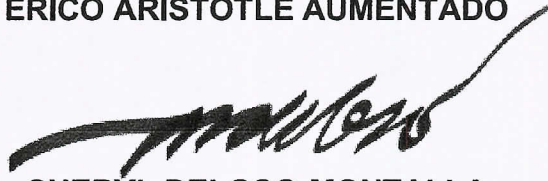


FRANCISCO "KIKO" BENITEZ

ERICO ARISTOTLE AUMENTADO



JOSE GAY PADIERNOS



CHERYL DELOSOS-MONTALLA



ROMEO MOMO