

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Constitution Hills, Quezon City

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
Second Regular Session

HOUSE BILL No. 7916



Introduced by RAM Party-list REPRESENTATIVE ALOYSIA T. LIM

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The pandemic brought the economy into a halt causing widespread unemployment amongst the most vulnerable sectors of our society. It also caused disruptions in the operations of government. For this reason, budget releases and allotment issuances have been delayed to the detriment of our people. The implementation of infrastructure projects has also been delayed for several months and some are even postponed for the following year. Such postponements and delays mean deprivation of the poor of the much-needed services.

In the light of this situation, I am filing this House Bill to amend Republic Act 11465 otherwise known as the General Appropriations Act of 2020 and extend the appropriations for Fiscal Year 2020 from December 31, 2020 to December 31, 2021.

The Fiscal Year 2020 will end in a few months. Our national agencies await a law that will allow them to utilize the funds appropriated for important programs and projects beyond the date stated in RA 11465. Otherwise, unobligated funds will revert to the General Fund. It only means that basic services and important programs have not reached their intended beneficiaries.

In view thereof, the urgent passage of this Bill is earnestly sought.


ALOYSIA T. LIM

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AN ACT EXTENDING THE AVAILABILITY OF THE 2020 APPROPRIATIONS TO DECEMBER 31, 2021, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTION 60 OF THE GENERAL PROVISIONS OF REPUBLIC ACT 11465, THE GENERAL APPROPRIATIONS ACT OF FISCAL YEAR 2020.

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

SECTION 1. Section 60 of the 2020 General Appropriations Act or Republic Act 11465 is hereby amended to read as follows:

“Sec. 60. 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, 2021.**”

“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.”

SECTION 2. *Repealing Clause.* — All laws, orders, rules and regulations, or portions thereof, inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SECTION 3. *Effectivity.* — This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days from the date of its publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,