

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City
EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
Second Regular Session



HOUSE BILL NO. 9297

Introduced by: **CONG. “KUYA” JOSE ANTONIO R. SY-ALVARADO**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The government decided to place the so called “NCR Plus” under Enhanced Community Quarantine due to the unceasing rise of COVID-19 cases in the country. Once again, lots of businesses needed to follow health protocols and were forced to shut down.

The Constitution provides that the State shall promote a just and dynamic social order that will ensure the prosperity and independence of the nation and free the people from poverty through policies that provide adequate social services, promote full employment, a rising standard of living, and an improved quality of life for all.

This measure aims to reach out business owners who sacrificed their only source of living to help the government with their bid to stop the endless cases of COVID-19 by providing them with direct cash assistance to pay for their rental while their businesses were closed.

Thus, the immediate passage of this bill is earnestly sought.

CONG. “KUYA” JOSE ANTONIO R. SY-ALVARADO
Representative
First District of Bulacan

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Introduced by: **CONG. “KUYA” JOSE ANTONIO R. SY-ALVARADO**

**AN ACT PROVIDING A COVID-19 EMERGENCY RENTAL ASSISTANCE FOR
AFFECTED MICRO BUSINESS OWNERS, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR,
AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

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

SECTION 1. Short Title. This Act may be known as the “*Lingkod COVID-19 Emergency Rental Assistance Act*”

SECTION 2. Declaration of Policy. It is hereby declared the policy of the State to promote a just and dynamic social order that will ensure the prosperity and independence of the nation and free the people from poverty, particularly in the aftermath of natural and man-made disasters, through policies that provide adequate social services, and promote full employment, a rising standard of living, and an improved quality of life for all.

Towards this end, the State shall establish mechanisms to achieve objectives that are not addressed by the existing laws in cognizance of the adverse impact of the 2019 Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) pandemic and other natural calamities to the Philippine economy and society.

SECTION 3. Rental Assistance. The government shall provide a one-time rental assistance of Php 10,000.00 for micro businesses that were affected by the latest lockdown such as:

- a. Parlor
- b. Barbershop
- c. Fitness Gym
- d. Computer Shop or Internet Cafe
- e. Print Shop
- f. Restaurant or Canteen (Carinderia)
- g. Boutique
- h. Coffee Shop or Milk Tea House
- i. Food Cart
- j. Sari-Sari Store

The DTI Secretary, together with the head of private sector associations representing MSMEs and community leaders, shall jointly discuss other eligible beneficiaries not mentioned in this section.

SECTION 4. Appropriations. The amount necessary to carry out the provisions of this Act shall be charged against the current and subsequent appropriations of the Department of Trade and Industry and other departments, agencies or instrumentalities tasked to implement this Act under the General Appropriations Act.

SECTION 5. Implementing Rules and Regulations. Within ten (10) days from the effectivity of this Act, the DTI, in coordination with relevant government departments and agencies and other stakeholders, shall promulgate the necessary rules and regulations to carry out the provisions of this Act.

SECTION 6. Effectivity. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,

