

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

19TH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 5578



Introduced by Representative Michael L. Romero

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The 1960s saw the influx of migrants from the countryside to the urban centers thinking that life is better in the cities. The host cities, however, were not prepared to provide immediate employment opportunities, decent housing and basic services to the migrants so they remain unemployed or underpaid and unable to support themselves. Worst, they end up poorer thereby magnifying the growing urban poor statistics. The fear of ejection and violence haunted the poor as they struggled for their place in society. When their situation worsened during the 1980s, urban poor groups banded together in search of possible solutions to their problems as well as opportunities for consultation on matters that affect them.

This mandate was reinforced on January 30, 1989 by Administrative Order No.111 directing concerned government departments, agencies and offices to coordinate with the **Presidential Commission for the Urban Poor (PCUP)** and actively participate in activities concerning the urban poor.

Significant gains were attained but the advent of urbanization lured more people to the metropolis and compounded the problem. On September 27, 2004, Former President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo, issued Executive Order No.364, transforming the Department of Agrarian Reform (DAR) into the Department of Land Reform (DLR) which included the National Commission on Indigenous Peoples (NCIP) and the PCUP to take charge of ancestral domain reform and urban land reform, respectively. Executive Order No. 456 dated August 23, 2005 renamed the DLR as DAR

This House Bill seeks to provide **Modernization Funding** to the **Presidential Commission for the Urban Poor (PCUP)**, to effectively coordinate, formulate and evaluate policies and programs concerning the urban poor.

Thus, the early passage of this bill is earnestly requested.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Michael L. Romero', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

MICHAEL L. ROMERO

Republic of the Philippines
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AN ACT

PROVIDING FOR MODERNIZATION FUNDINGFOR THE
PRESIDENTIAL COMMISSION FOR THE URBAN POOR (PCUP),
INCREASING AND REORGANIZING ITS ADMINISTRATION, TO
EFFECTIVELY COORDINATE, FORMULATE AND EVALUATE
POLICIES AND PROGRAMS CONCERNING THE URBAN POOR AND
FOR OTHER PURPOSES

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

SECTION 1. DECLARATION OF POLICY – It shall hereby be a declared
policy of the State to provide a society where the poor are empowered,
economically productive and actively participating in the poverty reduction
program and sustainable development of the country.

To fulfill its vision, **PCUP** vows to undertake the following:

1. improved coordination and monitoring for the speedy
implementation of government programs and policies for the urban
poor;
2. enhanced accreditation of legitimate urban poor organizations for
purposes of representation and policy formulation.

The state shall formulate policies for the efficient and effective administration and management of all manpower, skills and competencies to ensure compliance.

SECTION 2. MODERNIZATION FUNDING. – The amount of Five Hundred Million Pesos (**Php 500,000,000.00**) for the operation and administration of the **Presidential Commission for the Urban Poor (PCUP)** shall be chargeable against funds for the purpose and other sources recommended by the **Department of Budget and Management (DBM)**. Thereafter, appropriations for the **Presidential Commission for the Urban Poor (PCUP)** shall be included in the budget proposals under the Office of the President (**OP**).

The Department of Budget and Management (**DBM**) shall rationalize the existing organizational structure and staffing pattern of the **Presidential Commission for the Urban Poor (PCUP)** in accordance with the provisions of this Act and relevant compensation and position classification laws, rules and regulations.

Thereafter, the amount needed for the continued implementation of the modernization program, shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act (**GAA**).

SECTION 3. PRESIDENTIAL COMMISSION FOR THE URBAN POOR (PCUP) MODERNIZATION FUND – There is hereby created the (**PCUP**) *Modernization Fund* to be used exclusively for the (**PCUP**) *Modernization Program*.

The (**PCUP**) *Modernization Fund* shall be administered by the Secretary of the **DSWD** in accordance with existing government budgeting, accounting and auditing rules and regulations.

SECTION 4. PROGRESS REPORT – The Office of the President shall prepare an annual report on the status of the implementation of the (**PCUP**) *Modernization Programs* which shall be submitted, to the Office of the President

and to the Chairpersons of the Committee on Poverty Alleviation of the Senate and the House of Representatives.

SECTION 5. PERIOD OF IMPLEMENTATION – The modernization program under this Act shall be implemented for an initial period of two **(2)** years:

Provided, that payments for multi-year contract obligations incurred under this Act may extend beyond this period:

Provided, further, That the **Presidential Commission for the Urban Poor (PCUP)** shall continue to develop, modernize and constantly update its operational capabilities to keep pace with best global practices.

SECTION 6. POWERS AND FUNCTIONS. – The **Presidential Commission for the Urban Poor (PCUP)** shall continue to exercise and uphold the following powers and functions; but not limited to:

Pursuant to **Executive Order No.82**, dated December 8, 1986, **PCUP** serves as the direct link of the urban poor to the government in policy formulation and program implementation addressed to their needs.

- To coordinate the speedy implementation of government policies and programs for the poor;
- To set up a consultative mechanism which shall provide a forum for continuing dialogue between the government and the urban poor on the proper planning and evaluation of programs and projects affecting them;
- To accredit legitimate urban poor organizations for purposes of representation in the formulation of recommendations to the President;
- To review existing legislations, policies and programs of the government relating to the urban poor, in consultation with the

latter, and recommend appropriate actions thereon to the President;

- To evaluate post and on-going shelter-related projects of the government in squatter and resettlement areas in consultation with beneficiary communities, and recommend appropriate actions thereon to the President;
- To help coordinate the various activities and services being rendered by the different government organizations and non-government organizations for the urban poor;
- To plan and monitor programs and projects for the development of urban poor communities in coordination with the agencies involved;
- To request the assistance of any ministry, bureau, office or agency in the performance of its functions;
- To facilitate the funding of urban poor programs and projects both from foreign and domestic fund sources; and
- To perform such other functions as may be authorized by the President of the Philippines.

On March 29, 2012, issued **Executive Order No.69**; Strengthening the Presidential Commission for the Urban Poor. The EO transferred **PCUP** to the Office of the President to effectively coordinate, formulate and evaluate policies and programs concerning the urban poor.

It provides for the following strengthened functions of PCUP:

- a) To undertake social preparation activities related to asset reform, human development and basic social services, employment and livelihood, other programs of the government for the urban poor;
- b) To participate in policy discussions relating to the urban poor in board meetings of the HUDCC, Key Shelter Agencies (KSA), Local Housing Boards (LHB) or other similar bodies;

- c) To submit quarterly reports to the Office of the President, relative to the status of compliance with the provisions of EO 69 and the pertinent provision of the law governing eviction and demolition activities.

SECTION 7. INCREASE OF PERSONNEL. – The shall maintain the sufficient staffing pattern. Hence, it is authorized to increase its manpower to meet such required and may continue to increase personnel per percentage rate increase of committed mandates annually or as the need arises.

SECTION 8. TRANSITORY PROVISION – Existing industries, businesses and offices affected by the implementation of this Act shall be given six **(6)** months transitory period from the effectivity of the IRR or such other period as may be determined, to comply with the requirements of this Act.

SECTION 9. IMPLEMENTING RULES AND REGULATIONS. – The departments and agencies charged with carrying out the provisions of this Act shall, within sixty **(60)** days after the effectivity of this Act, formulate the necessary rules and regulations for its effective implementation.

SECTION 10. REPEALING CLAUSE. – All laws, decrees, executive orders, rules and regulations, or parts thereof inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SECTION 11. SEPARABILITY CLAUSE. – If, for any reason, any section or provision of this Act is held unconstitutional or invalid, the other sections or provisions hereof shall not be affected thereby.

SECTION 12. EFFECTIVITY CLAUSE. – This Act shall take effect after fifteen (15) days from its publication in the Official Gazette or in at least two (2) national newspapers of general circulation whichever comes earlier.

Approved,