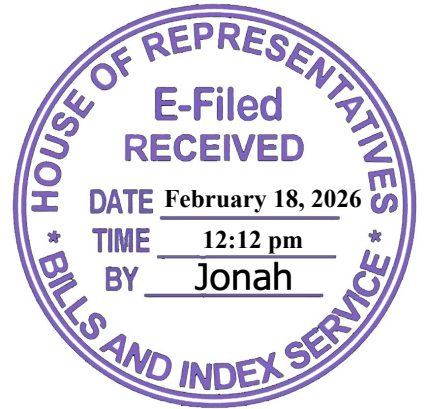


Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City
TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session
House Bill No. 7849



Introduced by Representative
BRIAN POE, PhD, MNSA.

**AN ACT SIMPLIFYING THE DOCUMENTARY REQUIREMENTS FOR
ACCESSING GOVERNMENT FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE AND FOR
OTHER PURPOSES**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Every year, millions of Filipinos turn to government for urgent financial assistance for hospital confinement, life-saving treatment, medicines, transportation, and burial expenses. These are not abstract numbers. They represent families at hospital billing counters, relatives securing death certificates for immediate burial, and workers suddenly unable to earn.

The scale of need is measurable and steadily rising.

In 2025 alone, the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) reported that its Assistance to Individuals in Crisis Situation (AICS) program served more than 8.2 million Filipinos nationwide, exceeding its annual target of 6.9 million beneficiaries. The following year, the AICS program's funding was strengthened, with the bicameral conference committee approving approximately ₱63.9 billion for its implementation—underscoring both demand and fiscal commitment.

In 2024, DSWD similarly reported that AICS exceeded its annual target, reflecting sustained and growing utilization of crisis assistance mechanisms. These figures demonstrate a clear reality: government crisis assistance is no longer episodic—it is high-volume, frontline public service delivery.

Yet while appropriations have increased, access to assistance remains uneven and often burdensome. Applicants routinely encounter:

- Varying documentary requirements across offices;
- Repeat submission of identical documents;
- Inconsistent checklists depending on location;
- Delays incompatible with medical discharge or burial timelines.

For families in crisis, time is not procedural—it is critical. When hospital billing deadlines lapse, discharge is delayed. When burial assistance is stalled, families incur additional costs. When documentation becomes excessive, the poorest households resort to borrowing at high interest. The problem is not lack of funding. It is process friction.

This bill institutionalizes a uniform, minimum, nationwide standard for availing medical, burial, and similar financial assistance. It mandates that, subject to availability of funds and submission of complete requirements during official working hours, applications shall be processed within the same day.

This is not merely a welfare reform. It is a governance reform that improves service efficiency at national scale. The DALI Act does not expand entitlements. It does not create a new subsidy. It does not increase bureaucracy. Instead, it modernizes and standardizes how existing assistance is delivered—ensuring that public funds already appropriated reach beneficiaries faster, more predictably, and with fewer barriers.

At a time when crisis assistance serves millions annually and billions in public funds are allocated for this purpose, the next logical step is to ensure that the system delivering this assistance is efficient, uniform, and responsive to urgency.

For these reasons, the immediate passage of this measure is earnestly sought.


HON. BRIAN POE, PhD, MNSA
Representative

FPJ Panday Bayanihan Party-List

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

SECTION 1. Short Title. — This Act shall be known as the "Direkta at Agad na
Lingap at Interbensiyon (DALI) Act"

SEC. 2. Declaration of Policy. — The State shall promote the general welfare of
the Filipino people by ensuring that individuals and families in difficult situations
are provided with timely and accessible financial assistance. To this end, the
government shall adopt measures to remove excessive documentary requirements
and streamline procedures for availing aid from government agencies.

SEC. 3. Scope and Coverage. — This Act shall apply to all national and local government agencies and instrumentalities that provide medical, burial, and similar forms of financial assistance, including the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD), Department of Health (DOH), Philippine Charity Sweepstakes Office (PCSO), and Philippine Health Insurance Corporation (PhilHealth).

SEC. 4. Standardized Requirements. — To avail of immediate financial assistance, beneficiaries shall be required to submit only the following documents:

- (a) Valid government-issued identification (ID);
- (b) Billing statement from the hospital, clinic, funeral parlor, or related entities; and
- (c) Original or certified true copy of a medical certificate or medical abstract with the date of issuance, complete name, signature, and license number of the attending physician, or death certificate issued by the hospital or the city/municipal health office, whichever is applicable.

Hospitals, clinics, and other authorized medical facilities issuing such medical certificates or medical abstracts shall, in coordination with the DOH, ensure that the foregoing information is clearly indicated therein.

Where the request for assistance is made through a representative, such representative shall present an authorization letter duly signed by the beneficiary, or, where the beneficiary is unable to sign due to age, illness, disability, or illiteracy, such other reasonable proof of authorization as may be prescribed by the implementing rules and regulations, along with a valid government-issued ID of both the beneficiary and the representative.

The authorized representative must be a relative of the beneficiary within the fourth degree of consanguinity or affinity, or a legal guardian: Provided, That no individual shall act as a representative for more than two (2) beneficiaries.

SEC. 5. Digital Requests for Government Aid. — The Department of Information and Communications Technology (DICT) shall be primarily tasked to develop and use the eGov PH Super App or other appropriate digital systems or platforms as may be prescribed in the implementing rules and regulations, as a mechanism for Filipinos to avail aid from government agencies. The online or mobile application shall be utilized to facilitate requests for medical, burial, and similar forms of financial assistance.

SEC. 6. Streamlined Processing. — All concerned government agencies shall process requests for assistance within the day, subject to availability of funds: Provided, That complete documentary requirements are submitted during official working hours.

Requests submitted on weekends, holidays, or outside official working hours shall be processed on the next working day.

SEC. 7. Coordination with the Anti-Red Tape Authority. — The DSWD and all implementing agencies shall coordinate with the Anti-Red Tape Authority (ARTA) to ensure full compliance with Republic Act No. 9485, as amended by Republic Act No. 11032 or the "Ease of Doing Business and Efficient Government Service Delivery Act of 2018". They shall likewise work with ARTA to address complaints involving undue delays, excessive documentary requirements, or other forms of non-compliance with the provisions of this Act.

SEC. 8. Implementing Rules and Regulations. — Within sixty (60) days from the effectivity of this Act, the DSWD, in coordination with ARTA, DOH, PCSO, PhilHealth, and the Department of the Interior and Local Government, shall promulgate the implementing rules and regulations.

SEC. 9. Separability Clause. — If any provision of this Act is declared invalid or unconstitutional, the other provisions and parts hereof not otherwise affected shall remain in full force and effect.

SEC. 10. Repealing Clause. — All laws, decrees, orders, proclamations, rules and regulations, or parts thereof which are inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed, amended, or modified accordingly.

SEC. 11. Effectivity. — This Act shall take effect after fifteen (15) days following its publication in the Official Gazette or in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,


HON. BRIAN POE, PhD, MNSA
Representative
FPJ Panday Bayanihan Party-List