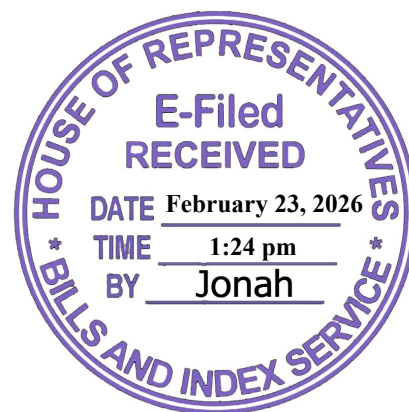


Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City, Metro Manila

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 7921



**Introduced by AKBAYAN Representatives PERCIVAL V. CENDAÑA,
JOSE MANUEL TADEO "CHEL" I. DIOKNO, and DADAH KIRAM ISMULA and
Dinagat Islands Representative KAKA BAG-AO**

AN ACT
**PRESCRIBING A JUST AND HUMANE CODE OF CONDUCT FOR THE
RESETTLEMENT OF UNDERPRIVILEGED AND HOMELESS CITIZENS,
PROVIDING PENALTIES FOR VIOLATION THEREOF,
AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Part of the objectives of enacting Republic Act No. 7279 or the Urban Development and Housing Act of 1992 (UDHA) was the provision of secure, safe, adequate, decent, and affordable housing for the urban poor, especially for informal settler families (ISFs). Although the UDHA intended to limit the displacement of the urban poor and provide safeguards in cases of resettlement, experiences of ISFs over the years show a distortion in the implementation of the existing framework to circumvent the requirements under the law.

In 2008, the United Nations Committee on Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights (UN CESCR) expressed its deep concern for the large-scale forced evictions of urban families:

"The Committee regrets that most of its previous recommendations relating to the prevention of illegal forced evictions (E/C.12/1995/7, paras. 31 and 32) have not been acted upon by the State party, and remains deeply concerned about the large-scale forced eviction of urban families carried out for the purpose of urban renewal and beautification, which has reportedly affected over 1.2 million people in the period between 1995 and 2008. It is also concerned about the lack of effective consultation of, and legal redress for, persons affected by forced evictions, and the inadequate measures to provide sufficient compensation or adequate relocation sites to families who have been forcibly removed from their properties."¹

Eight years later, the UN CESCR urged the Philippines to amend the UDHA and adopt a legal framework "to be followed in the case of evictions in line with international standards[.]"²

Over three decades have passed since the enactment of the UDHA, yet there is still no legal framework for housing and resettlement that adequately addresses the needs of ISFs and the urban poor that is consistent with our constitutional mandates and core international instruments.

The proposed bill seeks to address the gaps in the UDHA by: a) strictly prohibiting unjust evictions of ISFs and demolitions of the structures they live in; b) imposing additional requirements before, during, and after any eviction or demolition of ISFs, such as social preparation, adequate resettlement, spaces for children to play and interact in relocation sites, and adequate and genuine consultation; and c)

¹ United Nations Committee on Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights (UN CESCR), *Consideration of reports submitted by States parties under articles 16 and 17 of the Covenant [on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights]: concluding observations of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights: Philippines*, 9 (2008), UN OHCHR WEBSITE, available at https://www2.ohchr.org/english/bodies/cescr/docs/E.C.12.PHL.CO.4_EN.pdf

² United Nations Committee on Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights (UN CESCR), *Concluding observations on the combined fifth and sixth periodic reports of the Philippines*, 11 (2016), UN OHCHR WEBSITE, available at <https://docstore.ohchr.org/SelfServices/FilesHandler.ashx?enc=4sIQ6QSmIBEDzFEovLCuW0bdAPxDtLozuMbt2Bx8ShtndcA99xuuc4alkFrZKJ%2FkRlDo8U88jGVAsUzzX8uc%2F0G55fzKNKJO6ajz0A6%2BJh7%2BGPdcECafk2zDa116HD%2FK>

designating the Presidential Commission for the Urban Poor (PCUP) as the central coordinating body and clearing house for evictions and demolitions.

The ISFs and the urban poor have experienced many of the worst injustices in our country. At the center of these injustices are children who are forcibly displaced from their homes and suffer abusive and inhumane practices in the conduct of eviction and demolition. No less than Section 10 of Article III of the Constitution mandates that “[u]rban or rural poor dwellers shall not be evicted nor their dwelling demolished, except in accordance with law and in a just and humane manner.”

In light of the foregoing, the immediate passage of this measure is earnestly sought.



PERCIVAL V. CENDAÑA
Akbayan Representative



JOSE MANUEL TADEO
“CHEL” I. DIOKNO
Akbayan Representative



DADAN KIRAM ISMULA
Akbayan Representative



KAKA BAG-AO
Dinagat Islands Representative

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

1 **SECTION 1. *Short Title.*** – This Act shall be known as the "Just and Humane
2 Resettlement Act."

3
4 **Sec. 2. *Declaration of Policy.*** – Pursuant to Section 9, Article XIII of the
5 Constitution, the State shall ensure that underprivileged and homeless citizens have
6 access to adequate, safe, secure, habitable, sustainable, resilient and affordable
7 housing.

8
9 Pursuant to Section 10, Article XIII and Section 10, Article II of the Constitution,
10 the State shall neither evict nor demolish informal settler families, except in
11 accordance with law and in a just and humane manner, and shall promote social
12 justice in all phases of national development.

13
14 The State shall, by law and for the common good, undertake, in cooperation with
15 the private sector, a continuing program of housing and urban development which

1 shall make available at affordable cost, decent housing and basic services to
2 underprivileged and homeless citizens in urban centers and resettlement areas.

3
4 In addition, the State shall encourage on-site development in the implementation
5 of housing programs and shall promote the creation of new settlements and
6 development of sustainable urban renewal programs while guaranteeing the
7 preservation of agricultural lands necessary for food security.

8
9 The State shall encourage more effective people's participation in the urban
10 development process through a mechanism of adequate and genuine consultation in
11 all stages of the relocation and resettlement process with the affected communities,
12 which should include a space for children, women and other marginalized groups.

13
14 **Sec. 3. Definition of Terms.** – As used in this Act, the following terms are
15 defined as follows:

16 (a) *Adequate and Genuine Consultation* refers to the constitutionally mandated
17 process whereby the public, on their own or through people's organizations,
18 is provided an opportunity to be heard and to participate in the decision
19 making process on matters involving the protection and promotion of its
20 legitimate collective interest, which shall include the following:

- 21 i. Effective dissemination and full access, to the public, of relevant
22 information, plans and documents, including but not limited to land
23 records, housing budgets, the proposed plan or project, alternative
24 housing options, technical studies, and comprehensive resettlement
25 plans;
- 26 ii. Reasonable time, which shall not be less than thirty (30) days, for the
27 public to review, comment and object to the plans and studies;
- 28 iii. Provision by the government or non-government organizations of legal,
29 technical, and other appropriate advice to affected persons, households,
30 and/or organizations on their rights and option;
- 31 iv. Separate sessions of open and public consultations with affected
32 households in general and affected subsectors in particular, including but
33 not limited to women, children, youth, senior citizens, persons with
34 disabilities (PWDs), workers, farmers, fisherfolk, and lesbians, gays,
35 bisexuals, and transgender persons (LGBT);
- 36 v. Public hearings that provide affected informal settler families (ISFs) and
37 their advocates with opportunities to challenge the eviction decision or
38 present alternative proposals and to articulate their demands and
39 development priorities; and
- 40 vi. The conclusion of any mediation, arbitration, or adjudication proceedings
41 by an independent body vested with constitutional authority such as a

1 court of law, when appropriate and availed of, in case no agreement is
2 reached on the proposals of the concerned parties.
3

4 (b) *Danger Area* refers to areas which, when occupied for residential purposes,
5 actually pose a danger to the life and safety and property of either the
6 concerned residents or of the general community. The danger is due to an
7 unavoidable source of probable harm to human life or well-being.
8

9 (c) *Demolition* refers to the dismantling by the local government unit (LGU), or
10 any legally authorized agency of government, of all structures within the
11 premises subject for clearing.
12

13 (d) *Eviction* refers to the removal of persons and their belongings from a subject
14 building, structure, or area, or both, in accordance with law.
15

16 (e) *High Risk Area* refers to an area which poses a high level of threat to the
17 public welfare and safety that cannot be addressed through scientific, physical
18 and engineering methods and, thereby, is unsuitable for settlement and
19 permanent structures.
20

21 (f) *Informal Settler Families (ISFs)* refers to individuals or households living in
22 any of the following places:

23 (i) Lots, buildings, dwelling units, or other structures without the consent
24 of the property owner;

25 (ii) Danger areas;

26 (iii) Areas for government infrastructure projects;

27 (iv) Protected or forest areas, except for indigenous peoples;

28 (v) Areas for priority development as declared under Proclamation No. 1967,
29 series of 1980, if applicable;

30 (vi) Government or public lands or facilities not intended for human
31 habitation; or

32 (vii) Any other place, after being displaced due to natural or man-made
33 hazards.
34

35 (g) *People's Plan* refers to the plan formulated and initiated by the beneficiary
36 associations, with the assistance of the concerned government agencies, in
37 cooperation with the Presidential Commission for the Urban Poor (PCUP), with
38 or without the support of civil society organizations (CSOs), which shall
39 contain a site development plan that conforms to standards of adequate
40 housing and to the comprehensive land use plan of the LGU under whose
41 jurisdiction the project site is proposed to be located, including architecture
42 and engineering house design, community health, sanitation and security

1 plans, as well as nonphysical development components such as self-help
2 development, capability building, and a system of allocation of socialized
3 housing units. The formulation and the resulting plan should promote and
4 protect the welfare of women, children, persons with disabilities, and senior
5 citizens.

- 6
7 (h) *Social Preparation* refers to the series of activities designed to prepare the
8 affected ISFs to cope with the changes brought about by government
9 infrastructure or development projects and to encourage them to actively
10 participate and prepare their societal, community and personal responsibilities
11 in their quest for tenurial security, human development and basic services,
12 employment and livelihood and other government programs for the ISFs.

13
14 **Sec. 4. Coverage.** – This Act shall apply in all cases of demolition or eviction,
15 whether undertaken by the government or private individuals or entities, and whether
16 ordered by the courts or otherwise.

17
18 **Sec. 5. Policy on Eviction and Demolition.** – As a general rule, any eviction
19 of ISFs or demolition of the structures they live in or any appurtenance thereto shall
20 be prohibited.

21
22 **Sec. 6. Exceptions.** – Eviction of ISFs or demolition of the structures they live in
23 or any appurtenance thereto shall be allowed only in the following exceptional cases:

- 24
25 (a) When ISFs occupy a danger area, such as esteros, railroad tracks, garbage
26 dumps, riverbanks, shorelines, waterways, and other public places such as
27 sidewalks, roads, parks, and playgrounds, or a high risk area which poses a
28 high level of threat to public welfare and safety that cannot be addressed
29 through or remedied by scientific, physical and engineering methods and,
30 thereby, is unsuitable for settlement and permanent structures: *Provided*, that
31 an area can only be declared as a danger area or high risk area through an
32 appropriate technical study, adequate and genuine public consultation with
33 the affected persons or entities, and certification by the appropriate
34 government agency. It shall be the duty of the province and the city or
35 municipality, after one hundred twenty (120) days from the effectivity of this
36 Act, to conduct the technical studies and public consultations necessary to
37 identify all danger and high risk areas within their respective jurisdictions.

- 38
39 (b) When government infrastructure projects with available funding are about to
40 be implemented: *Provided*, that evictions or displacements of population due
41 to any development project or business venture involving the government
42 should be avoided or minimized: *Provided*, further, that if eviction is

1 unavoidable under the circumstances, the government shall conduct a
2 comprehensive and holistic impact assessment, before the project is
3 implemented, to determine whether the project will serve the public interest
4 and to explore alternatives and strategies to minimize harm and further
5 violation of human rights of the affected communities, particularly children,
6 women and other marginalized groups: *Provided*, finally, that the agency
7 which seeks to implement the eviction or demolition shall establish the budget
8 pertaining to it upon its application to the PCUP for an eviction or demolition
9 certificate of compliance; and

- 10
- 11 (c) When there is a court order for eviction and demolition: *Provided*, however,
12 that no execution of eviction or demolition order shall proceed and be carried
13 out during the pendency of an appeal, notwithstanding the failure to file a
14 supersedeas bond to stay the execution of the order if the appellant is an
15 underprivileged and homeless citizen.

16

17 ***Sec. 7. Mandatory Requirements Before, During, and After the Conduct***
18 ***of Eviction or Demolition.*** – No eviction or demolition involving ISFs shall be
19 executed without full compliance with the following mandatory requirements to uphold
20 human dignity and prevent any violation of human rights:

- 21
- 22 (a) Before Eviction or Demolition –

- 23
- 24 (i) Conduct of social preparation activities related to asset reform, human
25 development an basic services, employment and livelihood, and other
26 programs of the government for both the affected underprivileged and
27 homeless citizens and the affected families of the place where the former
28 will be relocated. *Provided*, that, separate social preparation activities for
29 children of both communities on matters relating to the promotion and
30 protection of their right to development, survival, protection and
31 participation shall be conducted;
- 32
- 33 (ii) Notice upon the affected persons or entities at least thirty (30) days prior
34 to the date of eviction or demolition;
- 35
- 36 (iii) Adequate and genuine consultations on the matter of resettlement with
37 the duly designated representatives of the families to be resettled and
38 the affected communities in the areas where they are to be relocated:
39 *Provided*, that a consultation in the form of an inter-agency pre-eviction
40 or pre-demolition conference with the affected underprivileged and
41 homeless citizens shall be convened by the national government agency

1 or LGU authorized to evict or demolish and the same shall be complied
2 with under the following conditions:

3
4 1) The local Philippine National Police (PNP) personnel, whose
5 function is to provide law enforcement and civil disturbance control
6 but not to participate in the physical dismantling of any structure,
7 shall actively participate in the consultation process and their role
8 shall be clearly set forth;

9
10 2) The following agencies shall be represented during the inter-
11 agency pre-eviction or pre-demolition conference with the affected
12 underprivileged and homeless citizens:

- 13 A. Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG);
- 14 B. Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD);
- 15 C. Department of Education (DepEd);
- 16 D. Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH);
- 17 E. Department of Human Settlements and Urban Development
18 (DHSUD);
- 19 F. National Housing Authority (NHA);
- 20 G. Department of Health (DOH);
- 21 H. PCUP;
- 22 I. Commission on Human Rights (CHR);
- 23 J. Philippine Commission on Women (PCW);
- 24 K. Council for the Welfare of Children (CWC);
- 25 L. Appropriate Key Shelter Agencies;
- 26 M. Representatives from non-government organizations and/or
27 people's organizations working for the interest of the ISFs;
28 and
- 29 N. The concerned LGUs.

30
31 If the conference is convened by the LGU, the PCW and CWC shall
32 be replaced by the Local GAD Focal Point System and the Local
33 Council for the Protection of Children representatives, respectively,
34 of the concerned LGUs.

35
36 3) The inter-agency pre-eviction or pre-demolition conference with
37 the affected underprivileged and homeless citizens shall be
38 presided by the PCUP, which may call on the assistance of other
39 agencies whenever necessary;

40
41 4) A plan for eviction or demolition shall be formulated during the
42 inter-agency pre-eviction or pre-demolition conference, setting

1 forth therein clear procedures that will be implemented during the
2 eviction or demolition to prevent any human rights violation;
3

4 5) The details of the inter-agency pre-eviction or pre-demolition
5 conference with the affected underprivileged and homeless citizens
6 shall be documented or recorded, and a summary of the points of
7 the agreements arrived at as well as the disagreements shall be
8 considered and given weight by the inter-agency body in coming
9 up with a decision on matters relating to the conduct of eviction or
10 demolition: *Provided*, that copies of the documentation and
11 summary shall be provided to all the stakeholders present three (3)
12 days after the pre-eviction or pre-demolition conference;
13

14 6) The inter-agency pre-eviction or pre-demolition conference with
15 the affected underprivileged and homeless citizens shall be
16 conducted after seven (7) days from service of notice of eviction or
17 demolition upon the affected persons and entities; and
18

19 7) Any request for PNP assistance shall be accompanied by a
20 certification from the PCUP that an inter-agency pre-eviction or pre-
21 demolition conference with the affected underprivileged and
22 homeless citizens was conducted.
23

24 (iv) Submission to the Barangay Officials, before any eviction or demolition,
25 of the following:

- 26 1) Certificate of Compliance secured from the PCUP;
27 2) Names of all personnel, staff, and crew taking part in the eviction
28 or demolition activity, including private security, and the names of
29 the PNP personnel assigned to maintain law and order;
30 3) Notice of the date of demolition which shall be at least five (5)
31 calendar days from such notice; and
32 4) List of officers of the agencies forming part of the inter-agency
33 body convened to extend support and assistance.
34

35 (b) During Eviction and Demolition –
36

- 37 (i) Reading of the plan of eviction or demolition agreed upon during the
38 inter-agency pre-eviction or pre-demolition conference;
39 (ii) Presence of local government officials or their representatives during
40 eviction or demolition;
41 (iii) Proper identification of all persons taking part in the demolition;

- (iv) Execution of eviction or demolition only during regular office hours from Mondays to Fridays and during good weather, unless the affected families consent otherwise;
- (v) No use of heavy equipment for demolition except for structures that are permanent and made of concrete materials;
- (vi) Proper uniforms for members of the PNP who shall occupy the first line of law enforcement and observe proper disturbance control procedures: *Provided*, that the PNP, in coordination with the DSWD, shall ensure the safety and security of the affected children, pregnant and lactating mothers, senior citizens, persons with disabilities and other groups or marginalized sectors in the areas of eviction or demolition;
- (vii) Observance of a minimum standard of conduct based on rules of engagement that apply maximum tolerance in order to prevent the outbreak of violence or the escalation thereof: *Provided*, that any legal use of force must respect the principles of necessity and proportionality: *Provided*, further, that the child protection policy in the conduct of eviction or demolition shall be implemented;
- (viii) Measures to protect the evictees from threats or harassment from the government or private persons or entities, including gender-based violence: *Provided*, that legal assistance to any complaining party shall be available; and
- (ix) Transparency in all stages of the eviction or demolition process, allowing the media to cover the whole event.

(c) After Eviction or Demolition –

- (i) Adequate housing and relocation, whether temporary or permanent: *Provided*, that in cases of eviction and demolition pursuant to a court order involving underprivileged and homeless citizens, relocation shall be undertaken by the LGU concerned and the National Housing Authority with the assistance of other government agencies within forty-five (45) days from the service of notice of final judgement by the court, after which period the said order shall be executed: *Provided*, however, that should relocation not be possible within the said period, financial assistance in the amount equivalent to the prevailing and applicable minimum daily wage for non-agricultural workers, multiplied by sixty (60) days, shall be extended to the affected families by the LGU concerned: *Provided*, further, that the financial assistance shall not replace the requirement of adequate relocation; and
- (ii) Immediately after the eviction, all relief measures, medical facilities, psychosocial services, documentation of evictees to prevent displacement

1 or family separation and similar assistance shall be put in place by the
2 LGUs concerned in partnership with relevant government agencies.
3

4 Observance of the above requirements shall be mandatory in all cases involving
5 the eviction and demolition of underprivileged and homeless citizens and ISFs,
6 regardless of whether or not their dwellings or residential structures were constructed
7 before or after the effectivity of this Act.
8

9 The DILG and the DHSUD shall jointly promulgate the necessary rules and
10 regulations to carry out this section.
11

12 **Sec. 8. Prohibition on Fencing After a Disaster or Calamity.** – It shall be
13 prohibited for any person to secure or build a perimeter fence on an area or property
14 inhabited by underprivileged and homeless citizens after the same is razed to the
15 ground by a fire or ruined by a natural calamity: *Provided*, that the fencing of the of
16 the property shall be allowed if the person causing the fencing can show a duly-signed
17 court order allowing the same.
18

19 **Sec. 9. PCUP as Central Coordinating Body for Eviction, Demolition, and**
20 **Resettlement.** – The PCUP is hereby designated as the Central Coordinating Body
21 for the conduct of eviction and demolition activities involving underprivileged and
22 homeless citizens.
23

24 **Sec. 10. Functions of the Central Coordinating Body.** – The PCUP shall
25 exercise the following functions as the Central Coordinating Body:
26

- 27 (a) Monitor all evictions and demolitions, whether extrajudicial or court-ordered,
28 involving underprivileged and homeless citizens;
29
- 30 (b) Require a government agency or LGU proposing to undertake the eviction or
31 demolition activities to secure first from the PCUP Central Office, in the case
32 of national projects, or from its regional office in case of local projects, the
33 checklist and guidelines for the national and local projects, respectively, on
34 eviction or demolition prior to the actual implementation thereof and,
35 subsequently, to submit to the PCUP the completed checklist, attested to
36 under oath by the proponent, indicating that:
- 37 (i) Adequate and genuine consultation with the affected families have
38 already been undertaken;
 - 39 (ii) Adequate resettlement site and relocation facilities are available; and
 - 40 (iii) The pre-relocation requirements have been complied with;
41

- 1 (c) Review the basis for application for the conduct of eviction of underprivileged
2 and homeless citizens or the demolition of their dwellings or appurtenances
3 thereto in a danger area or high risk area, or in an area where a government
4 infrastructure project with available funding is about to be implemented;
5
- 6 (d) Based on the completed checklist, subject to further verification and the
7 review of the basis for application for eviction or demolition in the immediately
8 preceding sub-paragraph, issue a demolition and eviction certificate of
9 compliance to the national government or LGU proposing the eviction or
10 demolition involving underprivileged and homeless citizens;
11
- 12 (e) Initiate, in coordination with relevant government agencies, the formulation
13 of rules of engagement in the implementation of eviction or demolition based
14 on maximum tolerance and on the principles of necessity and proportionality;
15
- 16 (f) Establish a separate protection mechanism for children through the
17 formulation of a child protection policy in the conduct of eviction and
18 demolition: *Provided*, that the child protection policy shall be developed in
19 partnership with the DSWD, CHR and CWC and in consultation with
20 stakeholders including children;
21
- 22 (g) Investigate *motu proprio* or upon complaint by any party any violation of the
23 provisions of Sections 6 and 7 hereof or the rules and regulations issued to
24 implement them;
25
- 26 (h) File *motu proprio* or by way of assistance to any aggrieved party, the
27 appropriate criminal, civil, or administrative case against any person or
28 persons found to have violated the provisions of Sections 6 and 7 of the Act
29 or the rules and regulations issued to implement them;
30
- 31 (i) Recommend to the President appropriate measures for the implementation
32 and enforcement of this Act and the rules and regulations issued to implement
33 it, including possible administrative sanctions against national or local
34 government officials who violate the same;
35
- 36 (j) Require assistance and necessary information from any government agency
37 in the discharge of its functions under this Act;
38
- 39 (k) Publicize matters covered by its investigation of violations of the provisions of
40 Sections 6 and 7 of this Act or the rules and regulations issued to implement
41 them, when circumstances so warrant and with due prudence: *Provided*,
42 however, that the PCUP shall, under the rules and regulations that shall

1 hereafter be promulgated, determine what cases may be made public:
2 *Provided*, further, that any public report or press release from the PCUP shall
3 be balanced, fair and true;
4

5 (l) Administer oaths, issue subpoenas duces tecum, and take the testimonies of
6 witnesses in the course of its investigation;
7

8 (m) Adopt its own operational guidelines and rules of procedures, as well as rules
9 and regulations not otherwise inconsistent with existing laws, rules and
10 regulations, to effectively carry out its mandate; and
11

12 (n) Perform such other functions as may hereafter be provided by law.
13

14 The PCUP shall designate additional personnel to carry out its mandate under this
15 Act.
16

17 **Sec. 11. *Penalty for Violation.*** – The penalty of not less than six (6) months
18 but not more than six (6) years of imprisonment, or a fine of not less than Twenty-
19 five thousand Pesos (Php 25,000.00) but not more than One hundred thousand Pesos
20 (Php 100,000.00), or both, at the discretion of the court, shall be imposed on any
21 person who violates Sections 6 or 7 of this Act.
22

23 If the offender is a corporation, partnership, association, government-owned or
24 controlled corporation, or other juridical entity, the penalty shall be imposed on the
25 officer or officers of said corporation, partnership, association, government-owned or
26 controlled corporation, or juridical entity who caused the violation.
27

28 **Sec. 12. *Appropriations.*** – The amount necessary to carry out the purpose
29 of this Act shall be included in the annual budget of implementing agencies in the
30 General Appropriations Act of the year following its enactment into law and every year
31 thereafter.
32

33 **Sec. 13. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.*** – Within one hundred
34 twenty (120) days from the effectivity of this Act, the DHSUD, DILG, and PCUP shall,
35 in consultation with non-government organizations, people's organizations, ISFs and
36 their organizations, and the relevant private sector organizations, jointly promulgate
37 the rules and regulations implementing the provisions of this Act.
38

39 **Sec. 14. *Separability Clause.*** – If any provision of this Act is declared
40 unconstitutional, the remainder of this Act or any provision not affected thereby shall
41 remain in full force and effect.
42

1 **Sec. 15. *Repealing Clause.*** – All laws, executive orders, presidential decrees,
2 proclamations, rules, regulations, issuances, and enactments or parts thereof
3 inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

4
5 **Sec. 16. *Effectivity.*** – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its
6 publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,