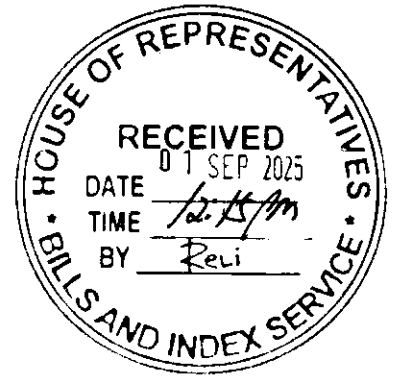


Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City, Metro Manila

Twentieth Congress
First Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 213



Introduced by **Representative RAYMOND ADRIAN SALCEDA**

A RESOLUTION
URGING THE PHILIPPINE STATISTICS AUTHORITY (PSA) TO RECOGNIZE
VIRTUAL ASSISTANTS, ONLINE FREELANCERS, AND REMOTE WORKERS AS
A DISTINCT LABOR CATEGORY WITHIN THE PHILIPPINE STATISTICAL
SYSTEM, AND TO INCLUDE THEM IN THE GENERATION AND PUBLICATION
OF OFFICIAL LABOR MARKET STATISTICS

WHEREAS, Article II, Section 9 of the 1987 Constitution mandates 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 through policies that provide adequate social services, promote full employment, and improve the quality of life for all;

WHEREAS, the Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA), under Republic Act No. 10625 or the Philippine Statistical Act of 2013, is mandated to serve as the central statistical authority of the Philippine government on primary data collection, compilation, and release of official statistics;

WHEREAS, the Philippines has become a global hub for virtual assistants (VAs), freelancers, and remote workers, with over 1.5 million Filipinos engaged in online freelancing platforms and many more working independently, contributing significantly to household incomes and foreign exchange earnings;

WHEREAS, despite their growing economic and social significance, VAs, freelancers, and remote workers remain statistically invisible as a distinct labor force category in current labor force surveys, national income accounts, and related datasets, with most lumped into "other services," "self-employed," or "BPO-related" categories;

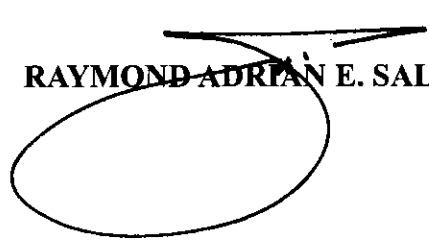
WHEREAS, the absence of official recognition and measurement of this sector impedes evidence-based policymaking, particularly in areas of taxation, social protection, digital infrastructure planning, training, and rural development;

WHEREAS, recognizing and classifying virtual assistants, freelancers, and remote workers as a distinct labor category within the Philippine Statistical System will provide the necessary statistical foundation for legislation, executive action, and local government programming to support this emerging workforce;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, as it is hereby resolved, that the House of Representatives urge the Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA) to:

- (a) Develop a labor classification framework that explicitly recognizes Virtual Assistants, online freelancers, and remote workers as a distinct category within official labor force statistics;
- (b) Integrate such classification in the Labor Force Survey, National Accounts, Family Income and Expenditure Survey, and other official datasets where appropriate;
- (c) Regularly publish official data on this sector to guide policymakers, private industry, and international partners in crafting responsive and inclusive digital economy strategies.

Adopted,


RAYMOND ADRIAN E. SALCEDA