Republic of the Philippines
House of Representatives
Quezon City

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
Second Regular Session

House Bill No. 7589

Introduced by REPRESENTATIVE ERIC L. OLIVAREZ

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The Rent Control Law aims to protect the housing lessees from unconscionable rent increases. It is of utmost importance to continuously shield the public from abusive lessors, ensure affordable housing in the Philippines, and protect tenants from arbitrary ejectment.

House Resolution 2539 was passed on November 12, 2015 enjoining the HOUSING AND DEVELOPMENT COORDINATING COUNCIL (HUDCC) to conduct a review of the implementation of Republic Act 9653 and submit to Congress its recommendation on the propriety of extending the rental regulation.

However, a resolution does not have the force and effect of amending a statute. Hence this bill is being submitted to amend Section 4 of Republic Act 9653 to extend the effectivity of the Rent Control Law until December 31, 2022.
In view of the foregoing, the undersigned earnestly prays for the approval of this bill.

Eric C. Olivarez
ERIC OLIVAREZ
Republic of the Philippines
House of Representatives
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AN ACT EXTENDING THE EFFECTIVITY OF REPUBLIC ACT 9653
OTHERWISE KNOWN AS RENT CONTROL ACT OF 2009 OR “AN ACT
ESTABLISHING REFORMS IN THE REGULATION OF RENT OF
CERTAIN RESIDENTIAL UNITS, PROVIDING THE MECHANISMS
THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

SECTION 1: This Act shall be known as the “RENT CONTROL ACT
OF 2020”.

SECTION 2: Section 4 of the Republic Act No. 9653 is hereby
amended as follows:

“Sec. 4. Limit on Increases in Rent. – For a period of one (1) year from
its effectivity, no increase shall be imposed upon the rent of any residential
unit covered by this Act: Provided, that after such period until December 31,
2022, the rent of any residential unit covered by this Act shall not be
increased by more than seven (7%) annually as long as the unit is occupied
by the same lessee: Provided, further, That when the residential unit
becomes vacant, the lessor may set the initial rent for the next lessee:
Provided, however, That in the case of boarding houses, dormitories, rooms and bed spaces offered for rent to students, no increase in rental more than once per year shall be allowed."

SECTION 3: Repealing Clause - All laws, decrees, rules and regulations inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or amended accordingly.

SECTION 4: Effectivity – This Act shall immediately take effect following its publication in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation and in the Official Gazette.

APPROVED.