

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Batasan Hills, Quezon City

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
Second Regular Session

House Bill No. 7884



Introduced by: HON. LORD ALLAN JAY Q. VELASCO, HON. FERDINAND MARTIN G. ROMUALDEZ, HON. YEDDA MARIE K. ROMUALDEZ, HON. WESLIE GATCHALIAN, HON. WILTER "SHARKY" WEE PALMA II, HON. ALFREDO A. GARBIN JR., HON. JUAN MIGUEL MACAPAGAL ARROYO, HON. MICHAEL JOHN R. DUAVIT, HON. JESUS CRISPIN C. REMULLA, HON. WILFRIDO MARK M. ENVERGA, HON. XAVIER JESUS D. ROMUALDO, HON. SHARON S. GARIN, HON. JULIENNE "JAM" L. BARONDA, HON. KRISTINE SINGSON-MEEHAN, HON. BERNADETTE "BH" HERRERA-DY, HON. JOSE "BONITO" C. SINGSON JR., HON. DOY C. LEACHON, HON. MICHAEL L. ROMERO, HON. ERIC M. MARTINEZ, HON. ARNOLFO "ARNIE" A. TEVES JR., HON. FRANCISCO "KIKO" B. BENITEZ, HON. MUNIR M. ARBISON, HON. MICHAEL EDGAR Y. AGLIPAY, HON. JOSEPH STEPHEN "CARAPS" S. PADUANO, AND HON. JOHN REYNALD M. TIANGCO

EXPLANATORY NOTE

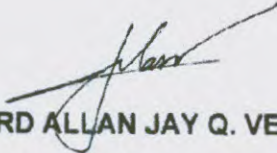
The economic landscape of the country has drastically changed by reason of the COVID-19 pandemic. Its impact to the different sectors is beyond measure and the government's role is to lessen the burden to its people. One of the strategic measures is to reduce transaction costs in all government agencies and provide an efficient delivery of its services while maintaining integrity and accountability in government service and the promotion of transparency in the transactions of the government with the public, encompassing a program for the adoption of simplified requirements and procedures.

For this reason, this bill seeks to authorize the President of the Philippines to expedite the processing and issuance of national and local permits, licenses and certifications in times of national emergency.

Moreover, this bill shall cover all agencies of the Executive branch, including departments, bureaus, offices, commissions, boards, councils; government instrumentalities, government owned and controlled corporations

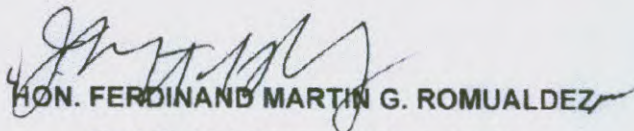
COVID-19 is spreading fast, so our action must likewise be swift.

In view of the foregoing, the passage of this bill is earnestly sought.



HON. LORD ALLAN JAY Q. VELASCO,

District Representative Marinduque, Lone District



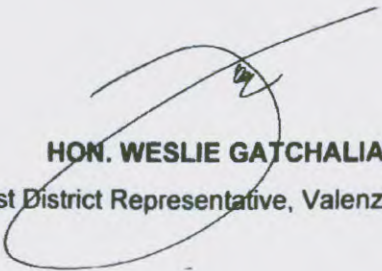
HON. FERDINAND MARTIN G. ROMUALDEZ

First District Representative, Leyte



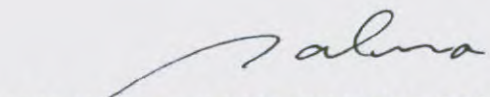
HON. YEDDA MARIE K. ROMUALDEZ

Party List Representative - Tingog Sinirangan




HON. WESLIE GATCHALIAN

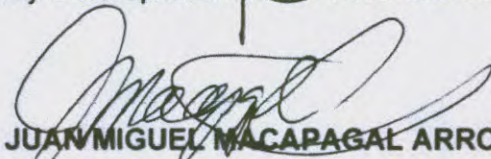
First District Representative, Valenzuela City



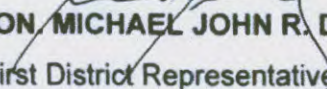
HON. WILTER "SHARKY" WEE PALMA II
First District Representative, Zamboanga Sibugay



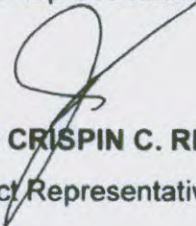
HON. ALFREDO A. GARBIN JR.
Party List Representative - AKO BICOL




HON. JUAN MIGUEL MACAPAGAL ARROYO
Second District Representative, Pampanga




HON. MICHAEL JOHN R. DUAVIT
First District Representative, Rizal



HON. JESUS CRISPIN C. REMULLA
Seventh District Representative, Cavite



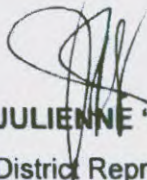
HON. WILFRIDO MARK M. ENVERGA
First District Representative, Quezon



HON. XAVIER JESUS D. ROMUALDO
Lone District Representative, Camiguin



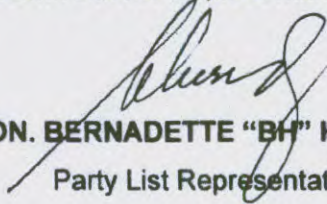
HON. SHARON S. GARIN
Party List Representative, AAMBIS-OWA



HON. JULIENNE "JAM" L. BARONDA
Lone District Representative, Iloilo City



HON. KRISTINE SINGSON-MEEHAN
Second District Representative, Ilocos Sur



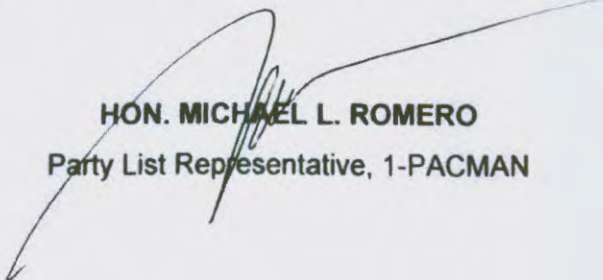
HON. BERNADETTE "BH" HERRERA-DY
Party List Representative, BH



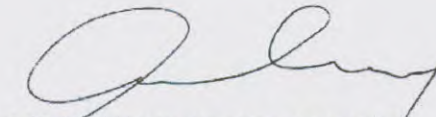
HON. JOSE "BONITO" C. SINGSON JR.
Party List Representative, PROBINSYANO AKO



HON. DOY C. LEACHON
First District Representative, Oriental Mindoro



HON. MICHAEL L. ROMERO
Party List Representative, 1-PACMAN



HON. ERIC M. MARTINEZ

Second District Representative, Valenzuela City



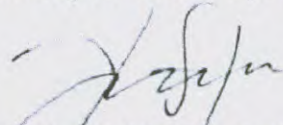
HON. ARNOLFO "ARNIE" A. TEVES JR.

Third District Representative, Negros Oriental



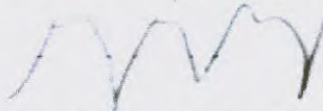
HON. FRANCISCO "KIKO" B. BENITEZ

Third District Representative, Negros Occidental



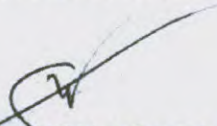
HON. MUNIR M. ARBISON

Second District Representative, Sulu



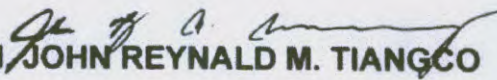
HON. MICHAEL EDGAR Y. AGLIPAY

Party List Representative, DIWA



HON. JOSEPH STEPHEN "CARAPS" S. PADUANO

Party List Representative, ABANG LINGKOD



HON. JOHN REYNALD M. TIANGCO

Lone District Representative, Navotas City

Republic of the Philippines
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House Bill No. 7884

Introduced by: HON. LORD ALLAN JAY Q. VELASCO, HON. FERDINAND MARTIN G. ROMUALDEZ, HON. YEDDA MARIE K. ROMUALDEZ, HON. WESLIE GATCHALIAN, HON. WILTER "SHARKY" WEE PALMA II, HON. ALFREDO A. GARBIN JR., HON. JUAN MIGUEL MACAPAGAL ARROYO, HON. MICHAEL JOHN R. DUAVIT, HON. JESUS CRISPIN C. REMULLA, HON. WILFRIDO MARK M. ENVERGA, HON. XAVIER JESUS D. ROMUALDO, HON. SHARON S. GARIN, HON. JULIENNE "JAM" L. BARONDA, HON. KRISTINE SINGSON-MEEHAN, HON. BERNADETTE "BH" HERRERA-DY, HON. JOSE "BONITO" C. SINGSON JR., HON. DOY C. LEACHON, HON. MICHAEL L. ROMERO, HON. ERIC M. MARTINEZ, HON. ARNOLFO "ARNIE" A. TEVES JR., HON. FRANCISCO "KIKO" B. BENITEZ, HON. MUNIR M. ARBISON, HON. MICHAEL EDGAR Y. AGLIPAY, HON. JOSEPH STEPHEN "CARAPS" S. PADUANO, AND HON. JOHN REYNALD M. TIANGCO

**AN ACT AUTHORIZING THE PRESIDENT TO EXPEDITE THE PROCESSING
AND ISSUANCE OF NATIONAL AND LOCAL PERMITS, LICENSES AND
CERTIFICATIONS IN TIMES OF NATIONAL EMERGENCY**

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

SECTION 1. *Coverage.* – This Act shall cover all agencies of the Executive branch, including departments, bureaus, offices, commissions, boards, councils; government instrumentalities, government -owned and -controlled corporations such as, but not limited to, the following: Department of Finance (DOF), Bureau of Internal

Revenue (BIR), Bureau of Customs (BOC); Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), National Water Resources Board (NWRB), Environmental Management Bureau (EMB), Land Management Bureau; Department of Justice (DOJ), Land Registration Authority (LRA), Bureau of Immigration (BI); Department of Transportation (DOTr), Land Transportation Franchising and Regulatory Board (LTFRB), Land Transportation Office (LTO), Civil Aviation Authority of the Philippines (CAAP), Philippine Ports Authority (PPA), Maritime Industry Authority (MARINA); Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD), National Commission on Indigenous Peoples (NCIP); Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG), Bureau of Fire Protection (BFP); Department of Health (DOH), Philippine Health Insurance Corporation (PhilHealth), Food and Drug Administration (FDA); Department of Information and Communications Technology (DICT), National Telecommunications Commission (NTC); Department of Agriculture (DA), Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (BFAR); Department of Energy (DOE); Energy Regulatory Commission (ERC); Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE); Department of Human Settlements and Urban Development (DHSUD), Home Development Mutual Fund (HDMF/PAGIBIG), Human Settlements Adjudication Commission (HSAC); Social Security System (SSS); Government Service Insurance System (GSIS); and local government units.

SEC. 2. Authority of the President to Suspend the Requirements for National and Local Permits, Licenses and Certifications, and to Streamline and Expedite the Process for the Issuance Thereof. – Notwithstanding any law, decree, order or ordinance to the contrary, the President, in times of national emergency shall have the authority to:

- (a) Accelerate and streamline regulatory processes and procedures for new and pending applications and renewals of permits, licenses, clearances, certifications or authorizations, including fixing or shortening the periods provided for under existing laws, regulations, issuances, and ordinances;
- (b) Suspend or waive the requirements in securing such permits, licenses, clearances, certifications or authorizations; and
- (c) In consultation with or upon the recommendation of the affected government agencies, may prescribe to be permanent the streamlined regulatory processes and procedures, and the suspension or waiver of the requirements in securing permits, licenses, clearances, and certifications or authorizations:

Provided, That the authority herein granted under subparagraphs (a), (b), and (c) of this section shall not be used to undermine the existing procedures and processes, under applicable laws, rules and regulations, meant to protect the environment, especially those that aim to safeguard protected areas and its buffer zones, and environmentally critical areas.

SEC. 3. *Power to Suspend or Remove.* – Consistent with Article VII Sections 1 and 17 of the Constitution, the Revised Administrative Code, other existing laws, and jurisprudence, the President shall have the authority to suspend or remove, any government official or employee performing acts contrary to the preceding section.

SEC. 4. *Separability Clause.* – If any provision of this Act is declared unconstitutional or invalid, the provisions not affected thereby shall continue to be in full force and effect.

SEC. 5. *Repealing Clause.* – All laws, decrees, orders, ordinances, rules and regulations inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SEC. 6. *Effectivity.* – This Act shall take effect upon its publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,