Republic of the Philippines
House of Representatives
Quezon City

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

House Resolution No. 328


Resolution urging the committee on Appropriations to Restore the 2020 Proposed Budget of the Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE) Amounting to 19.37 Billion Pesos That Was Reduced by the Department of Budget and Management to 14.421 Billion Pesos

Whereas, the Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE) proposed their agency budget for the Fiscal Year 2020 to the Department of Budget and Management (DBM) amounting to Php 19.837 Billion;

Whereas, the said DOLE budget proposal was intended to fund the continuity of the programs of the department, which has been instrumental in ensuring the employability of our workers, competitiveness of our Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs), protection of our workers' rights while safeguarding industrial peace, and strengthening of social protection for our vulnerable workers, most specifically, our country's overseas Filipino workers (OFWs);
WHEREAS, the DBM reduced their budget to Php 14.421 Billion, as reflected in the FY2020 National Expenditure Program (NEP), which is 12% lower compared to the agency’s FY2019 budget level;

WHEREAS, the Php 1.942 Billion budget cut is significant for the continuous implementation of the existing and on-going programs, activities, projects, and commitments of the DOLE;

WHEREAS, the aforesaid budget reduction will gravely affect programs of the DOLE, specifically, the Tulong Panghanapbuhay sa Ating Disadvantaged/Displaced Workers or the TUPAD Program, which has served as a stop-gap measure to our labor workforce who are temporarily unemployed, including returning OFWs awaiting renewal of their contracts, notwithstanding that the said program has been instrumental in the government’s Boracay Rehabilitation efforts where TUPAD provided emergency employment to Boracay residents which has enabled them to subsist despite the closure of the island, while at the same time empowering them to assist in the rehabilitation effort;

WHEREAS, the said budget cut shall likewise affect the Government Internship Program (GIP) and the Special Program for the Employment of Students (SPES), wherein our young constituents are given the opportunity to learn government processes and duties, and shall produce a pool of potential public servants;

WHEREAS, the said budget decrease will also sternly affect the Child Labor Prevention and Elimination Program, Public Employment Service Office (PESO), and Adjustment Measure Program, including the On-site Welfare Services for OFWs;

WHEREAS, with only 700 Labor Laws Compliance Officers/Inspectors to cover at least 900,000 establishments nationwide, the proposed FY 2020 budget of the DOLE aims to increase the numbers of such personnel, which shall be instrumental in monitoring and enforcing labor law compliance in all industries;

WHEREAS, while the DOLE is the primary agency overseeing the welfare of our OFWs, who have contributed at least 32.2 Billion dollars-worth of remittances in the last year alone, the decrease in the agency’s budget for their overseas operations may severely affect the services afforded to our “modern heroes” – from documentation, free legal assistance, conciliation of labor-related cases, conduction of skills and livelihood training, verification of contract validity and legality, and inspection of recruitment agencies for their conformance to the standards and requirements governing the employment of Filipino workers abroad;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, by the House of Representatives that the Committee on Appropriations restore the 2020 Proposed Budget of the Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE) amounting to 19.37 Billion Pesos that was reduced by the Department of Budget and Management to 14.421 Billion Pesos.

_Adopted,

Rep. ENRICO A. PINEDA
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1-PACMAN
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BAYAN MUNA

Rep. CARLOS ISAGANI T. ZARATE
BAYAN MUNA

Rep. BERNADETTE "BH" HERRERA-DY
BHY

Rep. ANGELICA NATASHA CO
BHW

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BUHAY

Rep. DOMINGO C. RIVERA
CIBAC

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CIBAC

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COOPINATCO

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CWS

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DUMPER PTDA

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KABAYAN

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5th District, Leyte

Rep. ALEX "AA" L. ADVINCULA  
3rd District, Cavite
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