A RESOLUTION
DIRECTING THE APPROPRIATE COMMITTEE/S, TO
CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, CALLING
UPON THE ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION (ERC) AND
MANILA ELECTRIC COMPANY (MERALCO), ON THE SUDDEN
INCREASE IN ELECTRICITY RATES AND INTERRUPTIONS
DURING THE ENHANCE COMMUNITY QUARANTINE AND
GENERAL COMMUNITY QUARANTINE.

WHEREAS, the government’s implementation of the Enhanced
Community Quarantine (ECQ) and General Community Quarantine (GCQ)
has forced our citizens to stay within their homes.

WHEREAS, electric consumers have complained that Meralco has
suddenly increased the electricity rates as high as 3 times the normal rates
during the months of April and May 2020.

WHEREAS, the prices per kilowatt-hour in March were increased to
approximately six pesos (Php6.00) for about two hundred kilowatt hours
(200kWh).

WHEREAS, in April a sudden drastic increase to twenty-one pesos
(Php21.00) for about two hundred-kilowatt hours (200kWh), on top of the last
six peso (Php6.00) increase.

WHEREAS, despite the increase of charges, efficiency apparently went
down as have been several complaints of sudden power interruptions during
the ECQ and GCQ.
WHEREAS, the need to protect our consumers is also a measure to protect our workforce performing at home during this Covid19 pandemic. Most especially affected are the consumers who have suddenly had to bear the burden on electricity consumption to perform tasks which they would otherwise have done at their usual workplace.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, by the House of Representatives that the appropriate committee/s be directed to conduct an inquiry, in aid of legislation, to call upon the Energy Regulatory Commission and the Manila Electric Company, on the sudden increase in electric rates and interruptions during Enhanced Community Quarantine and General Community Quarantine.

Adopted,

[HON. VIRGILIO S. LACSON]