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COMMITTEE MEETING ON HOUSE MEASURES

COMMITTEE	MEASURES		SUBJECT MATTER	ACTION TAKEN/DISCUSSION
	NO.	PRINCIPAL AUTHOR		
Housing and Urban Development	Substitute Bill to HBs 42, 156, 236, 2861, 3041, 3227, 4245 & 4869	Reps. Benitez, Belmonte, Vargas, Salo, Aguinaldo, Nieto, Abaya, and Rodriguez	Establishing a local government resettlement program that implements an on-site, in-city, near-city, or off-city resettlement strategy for informal settler families (ISFs) in accordance with a people's plan and mandating the implementing local government units (LGUs), jointly with the Department of Human Settlements and Urban Development (DHSUD), to provide other basic services and livelihood components in favor of the recipient LGU, amending for the purpose RA 7279, as amended, otherwise known as the Urban Development and Housing Act (UDHA) of 1992	The Committee, chaired by Rep. Strike Revilla (2 nd District, Cavite), approved the Committee Report on the Substitute Bill to the eight measures.
	HB 151	Deputy Speaker Marcoleta	Allowing the order of eviction or demolition by the courts only when judgment becomes final and executory, amending for the purpose RA 7279	The Committee agreed to create a technical working group (TWG) to consolidate the seven bills. Navotas City Rep. John Reynald Tiangco was designated to head the TWG.
	HBs 642, 4125, 4241, 6402 & 6542	Reps. Tambunting, Belmonte, Abaya, Vargas, and Nieto	Prescribing a Code of Conduct for eviction/resettlement of underprivileged and homeless citizens and demolition of their dwellings, providing penalties for violation thereof, and appropriating funds therefor	Deputy Speaker Rodante Marcoleta (Party-List, SAGIP), author of HB 151, explained the need to amend Section 28 (c) of RA 7279, which states that eviction or demolition may be allowed when there is a court order for such undertaking. Deputy Speaker Marcoleta said that the court order should only be executed and enforced when there is already finality in the judgment of the case, thereby according the defendant the right to seek recourse in a higher court.
	HB 2924	Rep. Castelo	Prohibiting perimeter fencing, securing, and acquiring area of property occupied by informal settlers after a fire while case is pending in court	Rep. Joy Myra Tambunting (2 nd District, Parañaque City), author of HB 642, emphasized the need to establish a code of conduct for the eviction of homeless and underprivileged citizens and demolition of their dwellings to prevent an outbreak or escalation of violence during such operations. Rep. Jose Christopher Belmonte (6 th District, Quezon City), author of HB 4125, said that his bill seeks to amend the UDHA by providing stringent requirements in demolition or eviction, including the conduct of pre-demolition conference that will involve all parties concerned. He further suggested that HB 4125 be used as the working draft of the TWG since all the subject matters discussed in the other bills are already covered by his bill. A bill similar to HB 4125 underwent

Continuation... Housing and Urban Development				<p>deliberations at the TWG level during the 17th Congress. However, due to time constraints it was not elevated to the mother Committee.</p> <p>Expressing support for the proposed law were the representatives from the DHSUD, National Housing Authority, Department of Public Works and Highways, Department of Justice, Department of Health, Department of Transportation, Metropolitan Manila Development Authority, Commission on Human Rights, Philippine National Police, Presidential Commission for the Urban Poor, Philippine Commission on Women, League of Cities of the Philippines, and Sentro ng Alternatibong Lingap Panligal.</p> <p>Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG) Undersecretary Ricojudge Janvier Echiverri interposed no objection to the bills. He, however, suggested, that the proposed Code of Conduct should not impinge on the rule-making power of the Supreme Court.</p> <p>Deputy Speaker Marcoleta argued that the bills amending RA 7279 are in consonance with the principle of social justice and do not contravene the rule-making power of the Supreme Court.</p> <p>The resource persons were requested to submit their position papers on the proposed law.</p>
	HB 1168	Deputy Speaker Romero	Rationalizing the Community Mortgage Program (CMP) to create an appropriate guaranty scheme, improve the extent of its affordability, providing funds therefor, increasing its penalties and sanctions	The Committee agreed to refer the bills to the TWG which was previously created to deliberate on the bills pertaining to the National Housing Development, Production and Financing Program.
	HB 1172	Deputy Speaker Romero	Providing a separate budget-subsidy to the localized Community Mortgage Program (LCMP), to empower local government housing programs	
	HB 7567	Rep. Suarez (A.)	Providing for a national housing development, production, and financing program, regularizing its appropriation for its implementation	

AGENCY BRIEFING		
COMMITTEE	SUBJECT MATTER	DISCUSSIONS
People's Participation	<p>Briefing by the Department of Agriculture (DA), National Food Authority (NFA), and Philippine Council for Agriculture and Fisheries (PCAF) on the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Role of civil society organizations (CSOs) in co-implementing the food security program of the DA 	<p>The Committee, chaired by San Jose del Monte City Rep. Florida "Rida" Robes, listened to the briefing on the role of civil society organizations (CSOs) in co-implementing the food security thrust of the DA and on the "Plant, Plant, Plant" Program of the government.</p> <p>PCAF Acting Executive Director Liza Battad informed the body that the DA has accredited a total of 297 CSOs, 186 of which are made co-project implementers of agricultural and fishery programs of the DA.</p>

<p>Continuation... People's Participation</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • "Plant, Plant, Plant" Program 	<p>According to Battad, aside from acting as co-implementers, the CSOs also provide technical assistance or extension services to enhance the capacities of agriculture and fishery stakeholders. They also conduct, facilitate or enhance the monitoring, evaluation, feed backing, and documentation of programs, projects, and activities of the DA.</p> <p>Battad also mentioned that PCAF, an agency attached to the DA, manages a nationwide network of private sector-led consultative councils called the Agricultural and Fishery Councils (AFCs). To date, the AFCs, which are composed mostly of farmers and fisherfolk cooperatives, number to about 5,320 with at least 1.3 million members nationwide.</p> <p>DA Undersecretary for Policy and Planning Rodolfo Vicerra reported that under the Bayanihan to Recover as One Act (Bayanihan 2), an amount of P24 billion was earmarked for the DA to provide direct cash or loan interest rate subsidies, and other forms of assistance to qualified agri-fishery enterprises, farmers and fisherfolk, and agriculture cooperatives in order to finance the "Plant, Plant, Plant" program of the government.</p> <p>The Plant, Plant, Plant" Program seeks to increase national agri-fishery output through intensified use of quality seeds, appropriate inputs and modern technologies to increase levels of productivity across all commodities, thus ensuring food productivity, availability, accessibility and affordability amidst the threat of COVID-19 pandemic (<i>Source: DA website</i>).</p> <p>Vicerra mentioned that amidst the pandemic, the agriculture, forestry, and fishery sector managed to post a positive growth of 1.6%, which other major economic sectors failed to achieve.</p> <p>Meanwhile, NFA Assistant Director for Grains Marketing Operations Department Rowena Terrenal reported that the country's rice buffer stock at the moment is 385,000 metric tons good for at least 11 days of supply. She explained that the current nationwide daily consumption rate is 33,000 metric tons.</p> <p>Terrenal said that the NFA was able to provide the rice requirements of the local government units (LGUs) nationwide and other government relief agencies during this pandemic.</p> <p>Rep. Eufemia "Ka Femia" Cullamat (Party-List, BAYAN MUNA) asked the DA if the landless farmers are included in the programs under the Bayanihan 2 law.</p> <p>Vicerra said yes and explained that under the Bayanihan 2 law, an amount of P6.5 billion has been allotted to the social protection and social amelioration programs of the DA. The beneficiaries under these programs are the marginalized and landless farmers and fisherfolk.</p> <p>Rep. Glona Labadlabad (2nd District, Zamboanga del Norte) lauded the efforts of the DA and manifested her support for the DA's programs and projects under the Bayanihan 2 Act.</p> <p>Rep. Rosanna "Ria" Vergara (3rd District, Nueva Ecija) requested the DA to submit a list of its projects per region under the Bayanihan 2 law.</p>
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