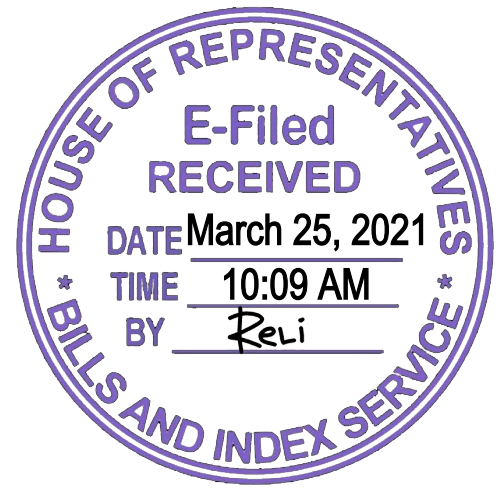


Republic of the Philippines  
**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**  
Batasan Hills, Quezon City  
  
**EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS**  
Second Regular Session



HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 36

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Introduced by

**REP. ARLENE D. BROSAS (Gabriela Women's Party);**  
**REPS. CARLOS ISAGANI T. ZARATE, FERDINAND R. GAITE, EUFEMIA C. CULLAMAT**  
**(Bayan Muna Partylist); REP. FRANCE L. CASTRO (ACT Teachers Partylist);**  
**and REP. SARAH JANE I. ELAGO (Kabataan Partylist)**

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**JOINT RESOLUTION DIRECTING ALL NATIONAL GOVERNMENT AGENCIES, ATTACHED OFFICES  
AND BUREAUS, AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNITS TO IMPOSE A MORATORIUM ON ALL  
DEMOLITION AND EVICTION ACTIVITIES AMID THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC AND AMID THE  
CONTINUING STATE OF NATIONAL CALAMITY**

**WHEREAS**, the right to adequate housing is a basic human right which is recognized as part of the right to adequate standard of living under the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR);

**WHEREAS**, Section 10 Article XIII of the 1987 Philippine Constitution that "urban or rural poor dwellers shall not be evicted nor their dwellings demolished..." and that "no resettlement of urban or rural dwellers shall be undertaken without adequate consultation with them and the communities where they are to be relocated;"

**WHEREAS**, on March 11, 2020, the World Health Organization (WHO) declared the Coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-2019) a global pandemic due to the rapid increase of COVID-19 throughout the world;

**WHEREAS**, President Rodrigo R. Duterte signed Presidential Proclamation No. 922 declaring a State of Public Health Emergency throughout the Philippines due to COVID-19; the said proclamation shall remain in force until lifted;

**WHEREAS**, Presidential Proclamation No. 929 declared a State of Calamity throughout the country due to COVID-19 for a period of six (6) months;

**WHEREAS**, the State of National Calamity has been extended up to September 2021 by virtue of Presidential Proclamation No. 1021 series of 2020;

**WHEREAS**, the Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG) issued Memorandum Circular No. 2020-068 last April 2, 2020 postponing all administrative and demolition activities, with respect to Section 28

(a) and (b) of the Urban Development and Housing Act (UDHA), except conditions related to Section 4(s) of Republic Act No. 11469 or the Bayanihan to Heal as One Act;

**WHEREAS**, demolition and eviction activities were still carried out in various communities amid the COVID-19 pandemic, including the eviction of at least 90 families in the riverside portion of Vitas, Katuparan Housing in Tondo, Manila to give way to the construction of a high-rise housing project and cockpit arena;

**WHEREAS**, the Duterte administration has expressed its strong push for the continuation of its Build, Build, Build (BBB) program amid the pandemic and despite the urgent demands of Filipino families for cash aid, free mass testing, and decent jobs;

**WHEREAS**, Filipino families currently face the worst economic crisis on record and nonstop price hikes, with more than 4 million Filipinos jobless based on the official and conservative government data, and with the daily COVID-19 positivity rate breaching the 14 percent peak last March 2020;

**WHEREAS**, the country is expected to face a massive housing backlog of 6.8 million units by 2022 amid the failure of private sector-led housing programs to address the shelter needs of poor Filipino families;


**WHEREAS**, on March 11, 2021, the DILG issued Memorandum Circular No. 2021-031 lifting the postponement of administrative demolition and eviction activities as instructed under DILG Memorandum Circular No. 2020-068, citing the alleged construction of dwellings on several danger areas by informal settler families;

**WHEREAS**, Memorandum Circular No. 2021-031 in effect authorizes the demolition and eviction of families using the "danger zones alibi" amid the lingering recession, massive homelessness, and continuing State of Public Health Emergency and State of National Calamity;


**RESOLVED**, as it is hereby resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives assembled, that all national government agencies, attached offices and bureaus, and local government units, impose a moratorium on all demolition and eviction activities, regardless of the nature and scope of such activities, until the declaration of national public health emergency amid the COVID-19 pandemic is lifted;

**RESOLVED FURTHER**, that DILG Memorandum Circular No. 2021-031 and other executive issuances that authorize demolitions and evictions amid the lingering COVID-19 pandemic be revoked.

Adopted,



**ARLENE D. BROSAS**  
Gabriela Women's Party



**CARLOS ISAGANI T. ZARATE**  
Bayan Muna Partylist



**FERDINAND R. GAITE**  
Bayan Muna Partylist



**EUFEMIA C. CULLAMAT**  
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**FRANCE L. CASTRO**  
Act Teachers Partylist



**SARAH JANE I. ELAGO**  
Kabataan Partylist