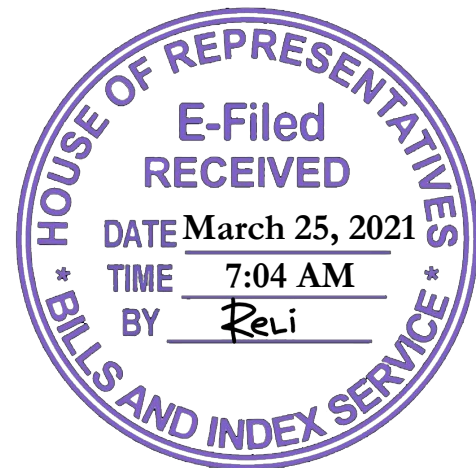


1 Republic of the Philippines  
2 HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
3 Quezon City

4  
5 EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS  
6 Second Regular Session

7  
8 HOUSE RESOLUTION No. 1676  
9



10  
11 *Introduced by*

12 BAYAN MUNA Party-List Representatives FERDINAND R. GAITE,  
13 CARLOS ISAGANI T. ZARATE, and EUFEMIA C. CULLAMAT,  
14 ACT TEACHERS Party-List Representative FRANCE L. CASTRO,  
15 GABRIELA Women's Party Representative ARLENE D. BROSAS, and  
16 KABATAAN Party-List Representative SARAH JANE I. ELAGO  
17

18  
19 **RESOLUTION**

20 **URGING THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,**  
21 **THROUGH THE COMMITTEE ON LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT,**  
22 **TO CONDUCT AN INVESTIGATION, IN AID OF LEGISLATION,**  
23 **ON THE PERFORMANCE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND**  
24 **EMPLOYMENT- NATIONAL WAGES PRODUCTIVITY COMMISSION (DOLE –**  
25 **NPWC) AND ITS TRIPARTITE REGIONAL WAGE BOARDS, ON ITS MANDATE**  
26 **OF WAGE-SETTING AND OTHER POWERS AND FUNCTIONS, IN THE LIGHT**  
27 **OF THE DEMAND OF THE WORKERS FOR A NATIONAL MINIMUM WAGE**  
28 **ESPECIALLY AMID THE PANDEMIC**  
29

30 **WHEREAS**, the statutory daily minimum wage in National Capital Region is P537, but whose  
31 real value due to inflation is now only P434. For regions outside the NCR, the nominal daily  
32 minimum wage ranges from P282 (Northern Luzon) to P420 (Central Luzon);

33 **WHEREAS**, according to research group IBON the real minimum wage, which is the real value  
34 of wages due to inflation, is worth 7.2% less today than at the start of the present administration  
35 in 2016. IBON estimates that the real value of minimum wage in NCR has fallen to P434.47 from  
36 P468.06 in June 2016, the lowest real wage in over 8 years;

37 **WHEREAS**, according to IBON, the Family Living Wage on February 2020 for a family of 5 to  
38 be able to live decently was P1,022, as per government statistics from the National Wages and  
39 Productivity Commission and the Philippine Statistics Authority's 2015 Family Income and  
40 Expenditure Survey;

41 **WHEREAS**, in a survey of the Social Weather Station, it revealed that adult unemployment hit a  
42 record high of 45.5% in July 2020. The figure is equivalent to 27.3 million unemployed Filipinos  
43 in the middle of the coronavirus pandemic. Even after the announcement of the Philippine  
44 Statistics Authority in December that the country's unemployment rate eased to 8.7% or around  
45 3.8 million jobless Filipinos, those underemployed or the people who are employed but are looking

1 for more work, stood at 14.4% in October. This figure is still higher than the 12.8%  
2 underemployment rate recorded on the same period in 2019;

3 **WHEREAS**, Republic Act No. 6727 or otherwise known as the “Wage Rationalization Act”,  
4 declared as a State policy to promote productivity-improvement and gain-sharing measures to  
5 ensure a decent standard of living for the workers and their families, and to guarantee the rights of  
6 labor to its share in the fruits of the production;

7 **WHEREAS**, in line with the declared policy under the Wage Rationalization Act, the National  
8 Wages and Productivity Commission (NWPC) was created in 1989, an attached agency to the  
9 Department of Labor and Employment. Under the same law, Regional Tripartite Wages and  
10 Productivity Boards, or Regional Boards, were also created;

11 **WHEREAS**, one of the powers and functions of the Regional Boards within their respective  
12 territorial jurisdiction is to determine and fix minimum wage rates and to issue the corresponding  
13 wage orders;

14 **WHEREAS**, according to the Omnibus Rules on Minimum Wage Determination of the NWPC,  
15 within sixty days (60) days before the anniversary date of the Wage Order, the Board may  
16 commence the process of minimum wage determination through: (1) *motu proprio* by the Board,  
17 whenever conditions in the region so warrant; (2) by virtue of a petition;

18 **WHEREAS**, the last Wage Order granting wage increase in NCR was issued on October 30, 2018,  
19 or more than two (2) years ago. Workers in CALABARZON enjoyed their last wage increase three  
20 (3) years ago thru a Wage Order issued on February 28, 2018. All other Regional Boards issued  
21 Wage Orders in 2018 and 2019, with only Region II issuing the most recent Wage Order on  
22 February 2020;

23 **WHEREAS**, records show that the Duterte administration has been giving the least number of  
24 wage hikes and lowest wage increases of the past six administrations;

25 **WHEREAS**, the country is under a national public health emergency due to COVID19 pandemic  
26 which exacerbates various supervening conditions including the rising cost of basic commodities  
27 and services, record-high inflation rate, high poverty and hunger incidence among others. It is  
28 therefore imperative that the Duterte Administration heed the call of the workers for a national  
29 minimum wage to be pegged at P750 per day;

30 **WHEREAS**, IBON strongly argues that a substantial wage hike is just and necessary even under  
31 the pandemic economic shock. The group said that it is incumbent on the government to come  
32 up with schemes to enable a national minimum wage that increases incomes of low-income  
33 households and which will also stimulate aggregate demand in the economy. Among others, this  
34 can include subsidies to micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs);

35 **WHEREAS**, the national minimum wage of P750 per day is long overdue, and it is unfair for the  
36 working class to always be made to bear the burden of adjustment to the economic crises;

37 **WHEREAS**, the 1987 Constitution provides that the State shall afford full protection to labor,  
38 and to guarantee the rights of all workers to living wages, among others;


39 **WHEREAS**, it is imperative for the House of Representatives to ensure that Filipino workers and  
40 their families enjoy their Constitutional right to decent and living wages, and their just share on  
41 the fruits of production;

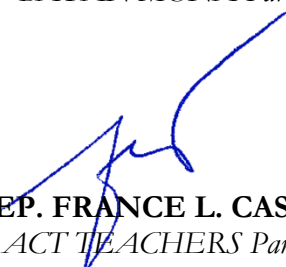
1 **NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the House of Representatives, through the  
2 Committee on Labor and Employment, to conduct an investigation, in aid of legislation, on the  
3 performance of the Department of Labor and Employment - National Wages Productivity  
4 Commission (DOLE – NWPC) and its Tripartite Regional Wage Boards on its mandate of wage-  
5 setting and other powers and functions, in the light of the demand of the workers for a national  
6 minimum wage especially amid the pandemic.


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8 *Adopted,*


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14 **REP. FERDINAND R. GAITE**  
15 *BAYAN MUNA Partylist*

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20 **REP. CARLOS ISAGANI T. ZARATE**  
21 *BAYAN MUNA Partylist*

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25 **REP. EUFEMIA C. CULLAMAT**  
26 *BAYAN MUNA Partylist*

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29 **REP. FRANCE L. CASTRO**  
30 *ACT TEACHERS Party-List*

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33 **REP. ARLENE D. BROSAS**  
34 *GABRIELA Women's Party*

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**REP. SARAH JANE I. ELAGO**  
*KABATAAN Party-List*