

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Batasan Hills, Quezon City

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
Second Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 1763



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)

**RESOLUTION COMMENDING ANA PATRICIA NON AND OTHER COMMUNITY PANTRY
ORGANIZERS FOR REKINDLING THE SPIRIT OF BAYANIHAN AND SOLIDARITY IN HELPING POOR
FILIPINOS AMID THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC AND WORSENING ECONOMIC CRISIS**

WHEREAS, the government's failed pandemic and crisis response has led to the longest economic recession in recent history, with the Philippine economy contracting for five straight quarters;

WHEREAS, the country's inflation rate reached 4.7% in February 2021, according to Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA). This was the highest since the 4.4% inflation rate in 2019. Likewise, the country's unemployment rate rose to 4.2 million Filipinos in February 2021;

WHEREAS, to seemingly address the spike of COVID cases, on March 29, Greater Manila Area was reverted back to a one-week enhanced community quarantine. However, it was extended for another one week;

WHEREAS, the national government started distributing, in April 2021, a measly financial assistance worth P1,000 for each affected individual in the Greater Manila Area, for a maximum amount of P4,000 per families. This cash aid program, which remains to be completed as of May 2021, has been insufficient to address the needs of a family reeling from the lingering effects of economic recession, rising prices and massive joblessness;

WHEREAS, on April 14, Ana Patricia Non, an alumna of University of the Philippines, set up a small bamboo cart filled with vegetables, canned goods, rice, and alcohol along *Maginhawa* Street in Quezon City in response to the cries of poor Filipinos. A handwritten cardboard that says, "*Maginhawa* Community Pantry. *Magbigay ayon sa kakayahan. Kumuha batay sa pangangailangan*," was placed at the top of the cart;

WHEREAS, Non's *Maginhawa* community pantry inspired other Filipinos to put up pantries in their communities as it also reinvigorated the spirit of *Bayanihan* and solidarity among Filipinos in the absence of a sufficient cash aid program;

WHEREAS, more than 6,000 community pantries have sprung up in various parts of the country. Furthermore, the initiative of Ana Patricia Non and the community pantry organizers inspired other countries to set up their own pantries as well;

WHEREAS, Non's impressive initiative has brought out many heart-warming stories of poor Filipinos helping other poor Filipinos, contrasting the callousness and indifference of the Duterte administration to the pleas of the poor;

WHEREAS, despite their commendable efforts to serve and help poor Filipinos, community pantry organizers are being red-tagged, harassed, profiled and intimidated by state security forces. Police officers interrogated organizers and asked for their information including contact details and political affiliations;

WHEREAS, the Philippine National Police (PNP) and the National Task Force to End Local Communist Armed Conflict (NTF-ELCAC) claimed that community pantry organizers are affiliated with communist movement. The QCPD and NTF-ELCAC even shared posts on Facebook red-tagging community pantries;

WHEREAS, Ana Patricia Non has been receiving countless death threats and rape threats despite her acts of compassion and selflessness;


WHEREAS, the *Maginhawa* Community Pantry will celebrate its one month on May 14. Amid the red-tagging, harassment, and threats, Ana Patricia Non and the organizers of community pantries all over the Philippines did not quiver and persist to help and serve the poor Filipinos;

WHEREAS, Non and other community pantry organizers deserve utmost commendation and recognition for their trailblazing and noble efforts to ease the hunger and suffering of Filipinos amid the COVID-19 pandemic;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, that the House of Representatives extend its commendation to Ana Patricia Non and other community pantry organizers for rekindling the spirit of *Bayanihan* and solidarity in helping poor Filipinos amid the COVID-19 pandemic and worsening economic crisis.

Adopted,


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