

S. No. 1564
H. No. 6953

Republic of the Philippines
Congress of the Philippines
Metro Manila

Eighteenth Congress

Second Regular Session

Begun and held in Metro Manila, on Monday, the twenty-seventh day of July, two thousand twenty.

[REPUBLIC ACT NO. **11494**]

AN ACT PROVIDING FOR COVID-19 RESPONSE AND RECOVERY INTERVENTIONS AND PROVIDING MECHANISMS TO ACCELERATE THE RECOVERY AND BOLSTER THE RESILIENCY OF THE PHILIPPINE ECONOMY, PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Philippines in Congress assembled:

SECTION 1. *Short Title.* – This Act shall be known and cited as “Bayanihan to Recover As One Act”.

SEC. 2. *State of National Emergency.* – Presidential Proclamation No. 922, s. 2020, was issued declaring a state of public health emergency throughout the Philippines due to the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19). Thus, Republic Act No. 11469 or the “Bayanihan to Heal as One Act” was enacted declaring a state of national emergency over the entire country

to control the spread of the disease. However, the rise of confirmed cases of COVID-19, and the serious threat to the health, safety, security, and lives of our countrymen persist. The severe disruption to livelihood and all other productive activity were reflected in the country's economic contraction during the first semester of 2020. In view of unabated spread of the COVID-19 virus and the ensuing economic disruption therefrom, the existence of a continuing national emergency is hereby affirmed in this Act.

SEC. 3. *Declaration of Policy.* – It is hereby declared the policy of the State to promote a just and dynamic social order that will ensure the prosperity and independence of the nation and free the people from poverty, particularly in the aftermath of natural and man-made disasters, through policies that provide adequate social services, and promote full employment, a rising standard of living, and an improved quality of life for all. Towards this end, and in cognizance of the adverse impact of the COVID-19 pandemic to the Philippine economy and society, the State shall likewise establish mechanisms to achieve the following objectives:

(a) Reduce the adverse impact of COVID-19 on the socioeconomic well-being of all Filipinos through the provision of assistance, subsidies, and other forms of socioeconomic relief;

(b) Consolidate, update, and validate existing records, through the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) in coordination with the Inter-Agency Task Force for the Management of Emerging Infectious Diseases (IATF-EID) and the Philippine Statistics Authority including local government units (LGUs), to come up with a comprehensive, up to date, and unified database to effectively implement the provision of socioeconomic relief intended for all Filipinos by properly identifying the recipients thereof;

(c) Sustain efforts to test, trace, isolate, and treat COVID-19 cases to mitigate the transmission of the disease and prevent further loss of lives;

(d) Enhance the capacity of the Philippine health care system to eliminate, prevent, and control disease outbreaks and pandemics and mitigate the effects of other health or

life-threatening concerns by ensuring budgetary support for health care;

(e) Mitigate the economic cost and losses stemming from the COVID-19 pandemic;

(f) Restore public trust and confidence on social and economic institutions;

(g) Accelerate the recovery and bolster the resilience of the Philippine economy through measures grounded on economic inclusivity, and collective growth through fiscal sustainability;

(h) Accommodate alternative modes of transportation, including a network of bicycle lanes in all roads in every city, municipality, and province for the people who may opt to use the bicycle as an alternative mode of transportation to address health, environment, and traffic concerns;

(i) Promote and protect the collective interests of all Filipinos in these challenging times;

(j) Optimize the use of science, technology, and innovation in government's response measures;

(k) Enhance public trust in science and technology and incorporate the use of scientific research and technological expertise in the policy-making process; and

(l) Enhance the financial stability of the country to support government programs in combatting the COVID-19 pandemic.

SEC. 4. *COVID-19 Response and Recovery Interventions.* – Pursuant to Article VI, Section 23(2) of the Constitution, the President is hereby authorized to exercise powers that are necessary and proper to undertake and implement the following COVID-19 response and recovery interventions:

(a) Following the World Health Organization (WHO) or the United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention guidelines and best practices, adoption and implementation of measures to prevent or suppress further transmission and