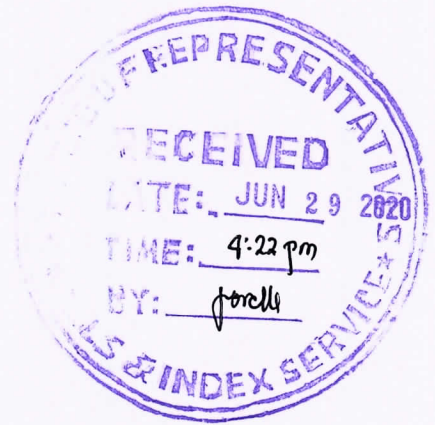


Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
Second Regular Session

House Resolution No. 1008



Introduced by **REPRESENTATIVE JOY MYRA S. TAMBUNTING**

A RESOLUTION

URGING THE MANILA ELECTRIC COMPANY (MERALCO) TO ISSUE REFUNDS TO CUSTOMERS WHO PAID BASED ON ESTIMATES HIGHER THAN ACTUAL CONSUMPTION AND TO DEFER ACCEPTANCE OF PAYMENTS FOR THE MONTHS OF MARCH ONWARDS UNTIL ACCURATE BILLING STATEMENTS ARE ISSUED

WHEREAS, consumers and businesses alike, report sudden spike in their electric rates as reflected in the bill for the month of May 2020 due to the estimated billing scheme employed by the Manila Electric Company for the months of March and April 2020;

WHEREAS, several residential consumers have expressed their concern regarding the doubling and for some, tripling of their Meralco bills despite their frugal consumption during the present and previous months;

WHEREAS, business enterprises are also complaining over exorbitant electricity bills from March to April despite their non-operations during the enhanced community quarantine;

WHEREAS, numerous consumer and business owners are already struggling from losing access to their livelihood and income due to temporary closures of most business establishments during the enhanced community quarantine;

WHEREAS, these exorbitant charges only add up to the anxiety of the consumers;

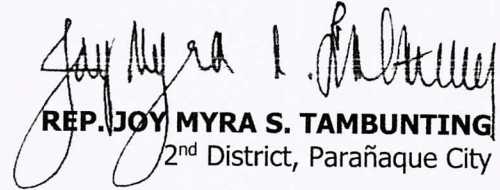
WHEREAS, this scheme adversely affects business enterprises as they would have to pay the billed estimates based on their average previous consumption despite having virtually zero consumption during the period covered by the enhanced community quarantine;

WHEREAS, collection of these estimated charges would be an added burden to businesses (especially MSMEs) considering they have zero income during the enhanced community quarantine;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, THAT THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES URGE THE MANILA ELECTRIC COMPANY (MERALCO) TO RECONSIDER CHARGING CONSUMERS BASED ON ESTIMATES FOR THE PERIOD COVERED BY

THE ENHANCED COMMUNITY QUARANTINE AND INSTEAD, DEFER BILL PAYMENTS FOR THE MONTHS COVERED BY THE ENHANCED COMMUNITY QUARANTINE UNTIL SUCH A TIME THAT THE COMPANY CAN PROCEED WITH ACTUAL METER READING SO THAT CONSUMERS WILL ONLY HAVE TO PAY FOR THEIR ACTUAL CONSUMPTION, AND ISSUE REFUNDS TO CONSUMERS WHO PAID BILLS BASED ON ESTIMATES WHICH ARE HIGHER THAN THEIR ACTUAL AT THE SOONEST POSSIBLE TIME.

Adopted,



REP. JOY MYRA S. TAMBUNTING
2nd District, Parañaque City