Republic of the Philippines  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
Quezon City  

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS  
Second Regular Session  

House Resolution No. 1292  

Introduced by Representative FLORIDA “RIDA” P. ROBES  

RESOLUTION  
TO DIRECT THE COMMITTEE ON COOPERATIVES DEVELOPMENT TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, TO DETERMINE THE COURSES OF ACTIONS OF THE COOPERATIVE DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (CDA) TO HELP COOPERATIVES COPE WITH THE CHALLENGES BROUGHT ABOUT BY THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC AND THE PROPOSALS OF THE VARIOUS COOPERATIVES TO ADDRESS THE MANY ISSUES AND PROBLEMS AFFECTING THEIR MEMBERS IN THESE TRYING TIMES  

WHEREAS, it is a declared policy of the State “to foster the creation and growth of cooperatives as a practical vehicle for promoting self-reliance and harnessing people power towards the attainment of economic development and social justice.” To fulfill this policy, the government is mandated “encourage the private sector to undertake the actual formation and organization of cooperatives and shall create an atmosphere that is conducive to the growth and development of these cooperatives”;  

WHEREAS, cooperatives as mandated under Republic Act No. 9520 or the Cooperative Code of 2008 as amended, are required by law to “(p)rovide goods and services to its members to enable them to attain increased income, savings, investments, productivity, and purchasing power, and promote among themselves equitable distribution of net surplus through maximum utilization of economies of scale, cost-sharing and risk-sharing, thereby giving their members optimum social and economic benefits;  

WHEREAS, there are currently around 24,000 cooperative organizations in the Philippines in the various areas of development which translates to more than 20 million members;
WHEREAS, Republic Act No. 11364 or the Cooperative Development Authority (CDA) Charter of 2019 reorganized and strengthened the CDA in order to make cooperatives more competent and competitive in order to make them instruments of equity, social justice and economic development;

WHEREAS, under the same law, the promotion and development of cooperatives in agriculture, agrarian reform and aquaculture have become a priority by the CDA in order to ensure food security and reduction of poverty in rural areas;

WHEREAS, the Coronavirus 2019 (Covid-19) pandemic has brought unprecedented hardships and challenges in the lives of every Filipino here and abroad. The pandemic has brought the Philippine economy to a standstill with the months-long lockdown and community quarantine implemented to contain the spread of the virus;

WHEREAS, as result of the community quarantine, many businesses, many of which belong to the micro, small and medium enterprise categories, closed down resulting to millions of Filipino workers losing their jobs;

WHEREAS, the role of the cooperatives is much relevant and needed in this period given such dire economic situation in order to assist their members in overcoming the economic and social challenges brought about by the pandemic;

WHEREAS, there is a need to inquire into the plans and programs of the CDA to enable cooperatives become one of the driving forces in addressing the economic and social problems of their members in particular and the country in general;

WHEREAS, there is also a need to inquire from cooperatives from the various sectors to determine their proposals to address the many challenges affecting their members at this moment.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, to direct the Committee on Cooperatives Development to conduct an inquiry, in aid of legislation, to determine the courses of action of the Cooperative Development Authority (CDA) to help cooperatives cope with the challenges brought about by the Covid-19 pandemic and the proposals of the various cooperatives to address the many issues and problems affecting their members in these trying times.

Adopted,

REP. FLORIA "RIDA" P. ROBES