Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
Second Regular Session

House Resolution No. 1271

Introduction by the Honorable Precious Hipolito Castelo

A RESOLUTION
URGING THE BANGKO SENTRAL NG PILIPINAS TO SUSPEND ONLINE
BANKING TRANSFER FEES AND OTHER E-PAYMENT TRANSACTION FEES
AND CHARGES UNTIL THE END OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY IN
VIEW OF THE CORONAVIRUS DISEASE 2019 (COVID-19) PANDEMIC

WHEREAS, President Rodrigo Roa Duterte issued Proclamation No. 929 on March 16, 2020,
declaring a State of Calamity throughout the Philippines for a period of six (6) months due to
the Coronavirus 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic;

WHEREAS, on September 16, 2020, President Duterte issued Proclamation No. 1021, further
extending the period of State of Calamity for one (1) year or until September 12, 2021;

WHEREAS, on April 28, 2020, the Monetary Board of the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas (BSP)
has approved the suspension of charging of filing, processing, and licensing or registration
fees for applications to provide e-payment and financial services for a period of six (6) months
from March 8, 2020, subject to further extension depending on the development of the COVID-
19 situation;

WHEREAS, digital channels such as online banking facilities and electronic money platforms
that support critical payment use cases such as social benefit transfers, payments to
merchants or billers including the government, payments to suppliers, and remittances have
facilitated continued access to basic financial services during the implementation of the ECQ
and the subsequent forms of community quarantine in the country;

WHEREAS, more importantly, this shift effectively minimized the presence of clients in bank
premises and lessened health risks from face-to-face and over-the-counter transactions;

WHEREAS, during this health and economic crisis, the waiver of fees on online banking
transfer fees and other e-payment services will ease the burden of Filipinos amid the COVID-
19 pandemic;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives to urge the BSP to
suspend online banking transfer fees and other e-payment transaction fees and charges until
the end of the public health emergency in view of the COVID-19 pandemic.

APPROVED,

[Signature]

PRECIOUS HIPOLITO CASTELO