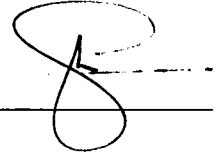


SENATE  
P.S. Resolution No. **1293**

RECEIVED



Introduced by **SENATOR IMEE R. MARCOS**

**A RESOLUTION  
DIRECTING THE APPROPRIATE SENATE COMMITTEE TO CONDUCT AN  
INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE PROPOSED ENHANCED  
GUIDELINES FOR THE AYUDA PARA SA KAPOS ANG KITA PROGRAM**

**WHEREAS**, Section 9 Article II of the Constitution states that "The State shall promote a just and dynamic social order that will ensure the prosperity and independence of the nation and free the people from poverty through policies that provide adequate social services, promote full employment, a rising standard of living, and an improved quality of life for all";

**WHEREAS**, the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD), mandated by law to provide social protection and promote the rights and welfare of the poor, vulnerable and the disadvantaged individuals, family and community to contribute to poverty alleviation and empowerment through social welfare and development polices, programs, projects and services, shall guarantee the implementation of the socio-economic programs towards addressing the gaps in terms of achieving stable quality of life through the provision of financial assistance and cash-for-work opportunities for its beneficiaries;

**WHEREAS**, an amount of Php 26.7 billion was introduced by Congress in the 2024 General Appropriation Act (GAA) for AKAP which seeks to provide financial assistance to minimum wage earners under the category of low-income that were severely affected by rising inflation;

**WHEREAS**, the proposed Php 26 billion allocation for DSWD's AKAP was among the main points of contention in the 2025 national budget;

**WHEREAS**, in December 2024, President Ferdinand "Bongbong" Marcos Jr. approved the Php 6.326 trillion national budget for 2025. The controversial AKAP was placed under conditional implementation. In his veto message dated 30 December 2024, the President said "*However, to ensure that the government assistance is not merely a provisional solution to a persistent issue, I am compelled to subject the implementation thereof to the convergence of efforts of the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD), Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE) and National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA), geared towards more strategic interventions leading to the long-term improvement of the lives of the*

*qualified beneficiaries, while guarding against misuse and duplicative and fragmented benefits. In this regard, the implementation of the AKAP shall be in strict compliance with pertinent laws, rules, regulations, and jurisprudence, and in accordance with the guidelines to be issued jointly by the DSWD, DOLE, and NEDA";*

**WHEREAS,** according to Budget Secretary Amenah Pangandaman, the Php 26 billion AKAP budget remains but will only be released once the guidelines have been finalized and met by the concerned agencies. Pangandaman added "more safeguards" will be introduced in the guidelines, including the beneficiaries' use of the national ID for claiming the grant;

**WHEREAS,** in various news articles, it was reported that the DSWD, NEDA and DOLE met last 03 January 2025 and agreed on drafting new guidelines to ensure the proper implementation of AKAP. The Department of Budget and Management expects the guidelines for the AKAP to be finalized by the end of the month, with added safeguards to ensure the efficient use of public funds. Secretary Pangandaman added that a key provision in the proposed guidelines is the ban on the use of tarpaulins, stickers, and T-shirts with politicians' faces or names, to prevent any political exploitation of the program, stating: *"Dapat makarating po siya sa tamang beneficiaries. Hindi siya parang raffle. Siguro, dapat makarating siya sa tamang beneficiaries."*

Further, DSWD outlined the proposed safeguards for the implementation of the AKAP which include, among others, a revised intake form will be used to better screen potential recipients, a cap on the number of household members eligible for AKAP aid to minimize the possibility of duplicate assistance, inclusion of items that will explicitly state that the program is insulated from political manipulation as well as imposition of penalties for fraudulent activities such as the falsification of documents and beneficiary lists, and instances of misappropriated assistance. DSWD Secretary Rex Gatchalian said that these safeguards will address the concerns that the program could be exploited for political gain ahead of the 2025 midterm elections;

**WHEREAS,** there is a need for the national government to make sure that the AKAP guidelines contain adequate and appropriate safeguards to guarantee judicious use of public funds and ensure that AKAP will not be used for anyone's political gains;

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED BY THE PHILIPPINE SENATE,** that the appropriate Senate Committee be directed to conduct an inquiry, in aid of legislation, on the proposed Enhanced Guidelines for the Ayuda Para Sa Kapos Ang Kita Program.

*Adopted,*

  
**IMEE R. MARCOS**