EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE } REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES } First Regular Session }

SENATE

P.S. Res. No. _____

INTRODUCED BY **SENATORS VICENTE C. SOTTO III** and **PANFILO M. LACSON**

RESOLUTION

DIRECTING THE APPROPRIATE SENATE COMMITTEE TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE STATUS OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF REPUBLIC ACT NUMBER 11055, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE "PHILIPPINE IDENTIFICATION SYSTEM ACT," WITH THE END VIEW OF ENSURING ITS PROMPT AND FULL-SCALE EXECUTION TO ACHIEVE ITS INTENDED PURPOSE

WHEREAS, Republic Act Number 11055, otherwise known as the "Philippine Identification System Act," was signed into law by President Rodrigo Roa Duterte on August 06, 2018;

WHEREAS, consequently, the aforesaid law's Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR) was timely approved and signed on October 05, 2018 – 60 days after the Philippine Identification System Act has been signed into law;

WHEREAS, even prior to its approval, a budget of Php 2 Billion was allocated for the "National ID System" under the FY 2018 budget of the Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA) as the lead implementing agency of the program, although the entire budget for the program amounts to Php 25 Billion pesos; **WHEREAS,** from 2018 to 2020 General Appropriations Act, a budget of Php 2 Billion has been allotted for the National ID System every year – totaling to only Php 6,096,329,000 budget allocation for three (3) years;

WHEREAS, almost two years from its enactment into law and the approval of its IRR, there seems to be no significant headway on its implementation;

WHEREAS, it was only on 02 September 2019 – a year after the supposed implementation that the first pilot testing for the national identification program was conducted by the PSA;¹

WHEREAS, based on the article published by the PSA on 02 September 2019, entitled "*Philippine ID System on Track for Registering Population by Mid-2020,2*" it was only on even date that the national ID program commenced its testing covering a small number of individuals from the National Capital Region;

WHEREAS, amidst the COVID-19 outbreak, several elective officials are calling for a "full-blown" and immediate implementation of the National ID System as this would not only aid in the efficient distribution of the social amelioration program currently being implemented by different government agencies but would also help our law enforcement agencies in fighting crimes and facilitate key government services and transactions, among others;

WHEREAS, no less than President Rodrigo Duterte has recently acknowledged that the National ID System would have avoided the unnecessary delay in the delivery of emergency subsidy program³;

¹ https://psa.gov.ph/press-releases/id/141650

² Ibid.

³ https://newsinfo.inquirer.net/1258144/national-id-system-could-have-made-cash-aid-distribution-faster-duterte

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, as it hereby resolved by the Senate to direct the appropriate Senate committee to conduct an inquiry, in aid of legislation, on the status of the implementation of Republic Act Number 11055, otherwise known as the "Philippine Identification System Act," with the end view of ensuring its prompt and full-scale implementation to achieve its intended purpose.

Adopted,

O III

ANFILO M. LACSON