



**DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES
KAGAWARAN NG KAPALIGIRAN AT LIKAS NA YAMAN**



MEMORANDUM

FOR : **The Directors**
 Legal Affairs Service
 Policy and Planning Service
 Climate Change Service

The Directors
Environmental Management Bureau
Land Management Bureau
Biodiversity Management Bureau
Forest Management Bureau
Ecosystems Research and Development Bureau

The Officer-In-Charge
Mines and Geosciences Bureau

All Regional Executive Directors

FROM : **The Director**
 Legislative Liaison Office

SUBJECT : **INVITATION TO COMMITTEE HEARING ON HOUSE BILL
8546 OR "AN ACT PROMOTING THE WELFARE AND
ADOPTION OF STRAY AND IMPOUNDED ANIMALS,
PROVIDING INCENTIVES THEREFOR" AND HOUSE BILL
10120 OR "AN ACT STRENGTHENING THE ADOPTION OF
STRAY AND IMPOUNDED ANIMALS PROVIDING
INCENTIVES" FROM THE COMMITTEE ON LOCAL
GOVERNMENT OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

DATE : 17 May 2024

In reference to the letter received by our Office, the Committee on Local Government of the House of Representatives is inviting the Department to a meeting on **21 May 2024, Tuesday, 01:00PM** at **Nograles Hall, South Wing Annex (SWA), House of Representatives** to deliberate on the following legislative measures:

- **House Bill No. 8546** – “AN ACT PROMOTING THE WELFARE AND ADOPTION OF STRAY AND IMPOUNDED ANIMALS, PROVIDING INCENTIVES THEREFOR” authored by Representative Aniela Bianca D. Tolentino; and
- **House Bill No. 10120** – “AN ACT STRENGTHENING THE ADOPTION OF STRAY AND IMPOUNDED ANIMALS PROVIDING INCENTIVES” authored by Representative Crispin Diego “ Ping” D. Remulla.

In this regard, may we respectfully request **additional comments/recommendations** on the abovementioned bills, **in anticipation of the Committee meeting**, as requested by the Committee. Kindly send them on or before **20 May 2024, at 5 PM** via email at dennrlo@dennr.gov.ph.

Attached herewith are the Letter Invitation, Agenda, and the House bills for your reference.


ROMIROSE B. PADIN

cc: Undersecretary for Special Concerns and Legislative Affairs

**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES QUEZON CITY
COMMITTEE ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT**

*May 21, 2024 (Tuesday), 1:00 PM
Nograles Hall, South Wing Annex*

- I. CALL TO ORDER**
- II. INVOCATION**
- III. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE MARCH 12, 2024 MEETING**
- IV. DELIBERATION OF BILLS RATIONALIZING THE INCOME REQUIREMENTS FOR THE CREATION OF MUNICIPALITIES, CITIES, AND PROVINCES (4)**
 - 1) **House Bill No. 840** – “An Act Rationalizing the Income Requirements For the Creation of A Municipality, The Declaration of Highly Urbanized Status In The Case of Component Cities And The Creation Of A Province, Amending For the Purpose Sections 442 (a), 452(a), 453 and 461 (a), (b), And (c) of the Republic Act No. 7160, As Amended, Otherwise Known As The “Local Government Code of 1991” introduced by Representative Christian Tell A. Yap
 - 2) **House Bill No. 1824** – “An Act Rationalizing The Land Area Requirement For The Creation Of A Province, Amending For The Purpose Section 461 (B) Of Republic Act No. 7160, As Amended, Otherwise Known As The “Local Government Code of 1991” introduced by Representative Francisco Jose F. Matugas II
 - 3) **House Bill No. 6288** – “An Act Rationalizing the Income Requirements For The Creation of A Province And The Declaration Of Highly-Urbanized Status In The Case Of Component Cities, Amending For That Purpose Republic Act Numbered 7160, Otherwise Known As The Local Government Code of 1991” introduced by Representative Pablo John F. Garcia
 - 4) **House Bill No. 9659** – “An Act Amending Section 461 of Republic Act 7160 Otherwise Known As The Local Government Code of 1991, By Increasing the Locally Generated Average Annual Income Requirement for the Creation of a Province” introduced by Representative Marvin R. Rillo
- V. INITIAL DELIBERATION OF BILL AMENDING THE CHARTER OF THE CITY OF TABUK (1)**
 - 1) **House Bill No. 7203** – “An Act Amending Section 25 (a) of Republic Act 9404 Otherwise Known As The Charter Of The City of Tabuk” introduced by Representative Allen Jesse C. Mangaoang
- VI. INITIAL DELIBERATION OF BILL PROMOTING THE WELFARE AND ADOPTION OF STRAY AND IMPOUNDED ANIMALS BILL(1)**
 - 1) **House Bill No. 8546** – “An Act Promoting The Welfare and Adoption of Stray and Impounded Animals, Providing Incentives Therefor” introduced by Representative Aniela Bianca D. Tolentino
 - 2) **House Bill No. 10120-** “ An Act Strengthening the Adoption of Stray and Impounded Animals Providing Incentives” Introduced by Representative Crispin Diego “ Ping” D. Remulla
- VII. OTHER MATTERS**
- VIII. ADJOURNMENT**



Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
COMMITTEE ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Governance Cluster, Committee Affairs Department
Batasan Complex, Batasan Road, Constitution Hills, Quezon City, Metro Manila
Telephone Number(s): (Trunk Line) 931-5001 local 7128 (Fax) 931-407

HON. MARIA ANTONIA YULO LOYZAGA

Secretary

Department of Environment and Natural Resources

Dear **Hon. Loyzaga**

The Committee on Local Government will hold a meeting on **May 21, 2024 (Tuesday) at 1:00 PM at the South Wing Annex, Nograles Hall** to deliberate on the following House Bill:

- 1) **House Bill No. 8546** – “An Act Promoting The Welfare and Adoption of Stray and Impounded Animals, Providing Incentives Therefor” introduced by Representative Aniela Bianca D. Tolentino
- 2) **House Bill No. 10120**- “ An Act Strengthening the Adoption of Stray and Impounded Animals Providing Incentives” Introduced by Representative Crispin Diego “ Ping” D. Remulla

In this regard, may we humbly request that the position paper be submitted to our Committee on or before **May 20, 2024 (Monday)**. For your reference, copies of the said House bills are attached to the e-mail. Thank you.

Very respectfully yours,

REP. MANUEL T. SAGARBARRIA

Chairperson

Committee on Local Government

FOR THE CHAIRPERSON:

(SGD) **LUTH MYR P. TEOXON**

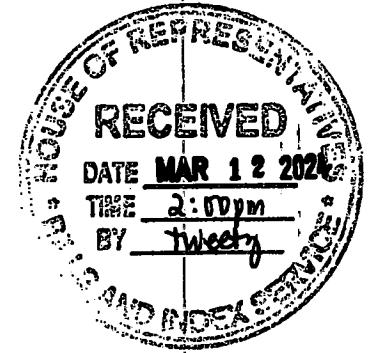
Committee Secretary



Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City, Metro Manila

NINETEENTH CONGRESS
Second Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 10120



Introduced by Representative Crispin Diego "Ping" D. Remulla

**AN ACT
STRENGTHENING THE ADOPTION OF STRAY AND IMPOUNDED ANIMALS
PROVIDING INCENTIVES**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The Philippines has made significant progress in protecting animal rights, with strong laws against animal cruelty and a general attitude of kindness towards animals. However, the People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA), a non-governmental organization, has highlighted a critical issue of animal homelessness in the country. They report that while many dogs and cats are struggling to survive on the streets, municipal pounds euthanize hundreds every month. To address the problem of stray animal overpopulation, there is a pressing need for a solution that encourages adoption.

The proposed measure aims to safeguard the welfare of all animals, including those that are stray or in shelters, by ensuring their needs are met and promoting incentives for their adoption.

In view of the foregoing, the approval of this measure is earnestly sought.

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a large, stylized 'P' followed by 'D' and 'R' in a cursive script.

CRISPIN DIEGO "PING" D. REMULLA



Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City, Metro Manila

NINETEENTH CONGRESS
Second Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. **10120**

Introduced by Representative Crispin Diego "Ping" D. Remulla

AN ACT
STRENGTHENING THE ADOPTION OF STRAY AND IMPOUNDED ANIMALS
PROVIDING INCENTIVES

Be it enacted by the Senate and the House of Representatives of the Philippines in Congress assembled:

1 **SECTION 1. Declaration of Policy.** – It is the policy of the State to protect the welfare
2 of every animal, including stray and impounded pets, and ensure that their needs are adequately
3 met. The State recognizes that the responsibility for the welfare of animals is not solely limited
4 to the authorities. Thus, this law aims to promoting responsible pet adopting, providing stray
5 and impounded animal proper protection.

6 **SEC. 2. Provision for Adoption.** –

7 (a) All impounded and stray animals shall be given the opportunity for adoption;

8 (b) The local government units (LGUs) shall develop and implement programs to
9 promote and facilitate adoption of impounded and stray animals, including but not
10 limited to the establishment of adoption centers, pet fairs, and incentives for
11 adopters; and

12 (c) Adoption of impounded and stray animals shall be considered as a tax incentive for
13 a percentage of the real property tax of the adoptee.

1 **SEC. 3. Certificate of Adoption by LGUs.** – LGUs shall issue certificate of adoption,
2 in accordance with the guidelines to be provided by the Bureau of Animal Industry for purposes
3 of the tax incentive benefit stated in Sec. 2(c) of this Act.

4 **SEC. 4. Provisions for Corporations.** –

5 (a) Corporations that promote adoption of impounded and stray animals by their
6 employees may apply for tax deduction on expenses incurred in compliance to this
7 Act; and

8 (b) Corporations are encouraged to establish pet-friendly policies that promote
9 responsible pet ownership, including but not limited to pet insurance, pet care
10 services, and pet-friendly workspaces.

11 **SEC. 5. Implementing Rules and Regulations.** - The Department of Agriculture, in
12 consultation with the Department of the Interior and Local Government, shall issue rules and
13 regulations to implement this Act within two (2) months from its effectivity.

14 **SEC. 6. Applicability.** – This Act shall apply to all local government units and
15 impounding facilities in the Philippines.

16 **SEC. 7. Separability Clause.** - If any clause, sentence, paragraph, or part of this Act
17 shall be declared unconstitutional or invalid, such judgment shall not affect, invalidate or
18 impair any other part of this Act.

19 **SEC. 8. Effectivity.** - This Act shall take effect after fifteen (15) days following its
20 publication in the Official Gazette or in any major newspaper of general circulation in the
21 Philippines.

Approved,

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

NINETEENTH CONGRESS

First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. **8546**



Introduced by the **Honorable ANIELA BIANCA D. TOLENTINO**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

A balanced and healthful ecology is one of the hallmark state policies that is enshrined in the Constitution, to wit: "The State shall protect and advance the right of the people to a balanced and healthful ecology in accord with the rhythm and harmony of nature" [**Section 16, Article II, 1987 Constitution**]. This aim of the country to have a balanced and healthful ecology necessarily includes the proper and humane way of taking care of animals.

The Philippines have gone a long way in upholding animal rights, our country have stringent laws against animal abuse and Filipinos are generally very kind to pets. However, this kindness to pets resulted to an overpopulation of stray dogs and cats. News articles about the matter can easily be found. The People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA), a non-governmental organization, found made a statement that: "Animal homelessness has reached a crisis point in the Philippines. While countless dogs and cats struggle to survive on the streets, hundred are euthanized every month in municipal pounds."

As such, there is a need to have a mechanism that will resolve the issue on the overpopulation of stray animals, thru the promotion of adoption. The proposed law herein seeks to protect the welfare of every animal, including stray and impounded pets, and ensure that their needs are adequately met. The bill herein also incentivizes the adoption of stray animals.

For the Filipino people, approval of the foregoing bill is earnestly being sought.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Aniela", written in a cursive style.

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

NINETEENTH CONGRESS

First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. **8546**

Introduced by the **Honorable ANIELA BIANCA D. TOLENTINO**

**AN ACT PROMOTING THE WELFARE AND ADOPTION OF STRAY AND
IMPOUNDED ANIMALS, PROVIDING INCENTIVES THEREFOR**

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Philippines in Congress assembled:

SECTION 1. *Declaration of Policy.* It is the policy of the State to protect the welfare of every animal, including stray and impounded pets, and ensure that their needs are adequately met. The State recognizes that the responsibility for the welfare of animals is not solely limited to the authorities. Thus, this law aims at promoting responsible pet adoption, providing stray and impounded animal proper protection.

SECTION 2. *Provision for Adoption.*

- a) All impounded and stray animals shall be given the opportunity for adoption.
- b) The local government units (LGU) shall develop and implement programs to promote and facilitate adoption of impounded and stray animals, including but not limited to the establishment of adoption centers, pet fairs, and incentives for adopters.
- c) Adoption of impounded and stray animals shall be considered as a tax incentive for a percentage of the real property tax of the adoptee.

SECTION 3. *Certificate of Adoption by LGUs.* LGUs shall issue certificate of adoption in accordance with the guidelines to be provided by the Bureau of Animal Industry for purposes of

the tax incentive benefit stated in Sec. 2(c) of this Act.

SECTION 4. *Provision for Corporations.*

(a) Corporations that promote adoption of impounded and stray animals by their employees may apply for tax deduction on expenses incurred in compliance to this Act.

(b) Corporations are encouraged to establish pet-friendly policies that promote responsible pet ownership, including but not limited to pet insurance, pet care services, and pet-friendly workspaces.

SECTION 5. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.* Within ninety (90) days after its signing into law, the Department of Interior and Local Government, Department of Agriculture, Department of Environment and Natural Resources, and the Department of Finance, shall issue the appropriate implementing rules and regulations for the application of this Act.

SECTION 6. *Separability Clause.* – If any provision of this Act is declared invalid or unconstitutional, the other provisions not affected by such declaration shall remain in full force and effect.

SECTION 7. *Repealing Clause.* – All laws, presidential decrees, executive orders, administrative orders, and rules and regulations inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed, modified or amended accordingly.

SECTION 8. *Effectivity.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its complete publication in the Official Gazette or in two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,