

ORDINANCE NO. 7979

AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING THE AMOUNT OF TWO MILLION PESOS (₱2,000,000.00) FOR EXPENDITURE PURPOSES TO BE INCURRED IN THE TRANSPORT, TRANSFER OR RELOCATION OF SQUATTERS AND STRANDED OR DISPLACED PERSONS IN THE CITY OF MANILA.

WHEREAS, as the nation's premier city, Manila continues to be the favorite destination and haven for travellers;

WHEREAS, it is also the mecca of jobseekers and those who seek a better life - who are mostly from far flung provinces;

WHEREAS, unfortunately, our City cannot accommodate all these people for reasons too obvious to mention; for one thing, there is the lack of space and the inability of business firms in Manila to provide all of them with jobs;

WHEREAS, as a result of this disheartening situation, squatters proliferate in vacant lots, including spaces under the bridges in the City;

WHEREAS, likewise, people who have not found their place in the sun, loiter around and contribute to the already increasing number of vagrants in our parks and sidewalks;

WHEREAS, a survey among these displaced persons would reveal that many of them would prefer to go back to their home provinces except that, they lack money for fare purposes;

WHEREAS, in the case of squatters, the national government has programs to relocate them to open spaces in the peripheral provinces;

WHEREAS, it is however, a fact that when relocation moves are undertaken, these squatters lack money for transportation in moving their belongings to the relocation areas;

WHEREAS, this proposal therefore, seeks to provide for a standby fund for these people as a gesture of honor, prestige and leadership on the part of the City - even gallantry to come to their rescue in times of need: NOW, THEREFORE,

Be it ordained by the City Council of Manila, THAT:

SECTION 1. The amount of Two Million Pesos (₱2,000,000.00) or so much thereof, as may be necessary, is hereby appropriated out of any unappropriated fund available in the City Treasurer, to be made available for purposes of expenditures to be incurred for the transport, transfer or relocation of squatters and stranded or displaced persons in the City of Manila.

SEC. 2. The disbursement of funds necessary for the implementation of this Ordinance shall be undertaken by the Manila Department of Social Welfare (MDSW): PROVIDED, That the following guidelines be strictly adhered to:

1. Persons covered under this Ordinance shall be properly documented, provided they are found within the jurisdiction of the City of Manila;

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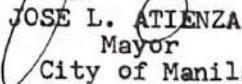
2. The acquisition of airline or seacraft tickets for transport to the province, shall be the exclusive responsibility of the MDSW. To insure compliance with the intent of this Ordinance, the stranded or displaced person/s shall be accompanied by a MDSW officer to the airport or boarding area of any southbound seacraft;
3. In case of relocation of squatters, only expenses for transport shall be covered under this Ordinance.


SEC. 3. Effectivity Clause. - This Ordinance shall take effect upon its approval.

Enacted by the City Council of Manila at its regular session today, February 10, 2000.


Approved by His Honor, the Mayor, on *march 3, 2000*

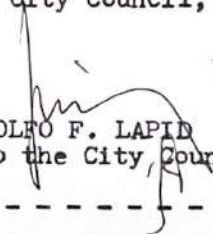
APPROVED:


JOSE L. ATIENZA, JR.
Mayor
City of Manila


GERINO A. TOLENTINO, JR.
President Pro-Tempore and
Acting Presiding Officer
City Council, Manila

ATTESTED:


EMMANUEL R. SISON
Secretary to the Mayor


RODOLFO F. LAPID
Secretary to the City Council

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