

SENATE

S. No. 3317

Prepared Jointly by the Committees on Justice and Human Rights; Social Justice, Welfare and Rural Development and Finance with Senators Estrada, Villar, Legarda, Escudero, Pangilinan and Drilon as authors thereof.

1 AN ACT
2 PROTECTING THE RIGHTS OF INTERNALLY DISPLACED PERSONS, PROVIDING
3 PENALTIES FOR VIOLATIONS THEREOF AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

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

4 SECTION 1. *Short Title.* – This Act shall be known as the “Internal Displacement Act of
5 2012”.

6 SEC. 2. *Declaration of Principles and State Policies.* – Consistent with the principles enshrined
7 in the 1987 Constitution, the standards set by international humanitarian law and human rights laws,
8 including those enunciated in the United Nations Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement,
9 international treaties and conventions adhered to by the Philippines, it is also hereby declared a State
10 policy to promote and protect the rights of internally displaced persons in situations of armed conflict,
11 generalized violence, tribal/clan wars, violations of human rights, aggressive implementation of
12 development projects and other man-made disasters.

13 When an armed conflict of a non-international character is inevitable, the State shall ensure the
14 promotion and protection of the rights of the citizens who are non-combatants, who shall enjoy in full
15 equality, the same rights and freedoms under international and domestic law as do other persons in their
16 country. These citizens shall not be discriminated against in the enjoyment of any rights and freedoms on
17 the ground that they are internally-displaced.

18 SEC. 3. *Definition of Terms.* – The following terms, as defined accordingly, shall be used in this
19 Act:

20 a) “Internal displacement” refers to the involuntary movement or forced evacuation or expulsion
21 of any person or group of persons who flee or leave their homes or places of habitual residence,
22 without crossing an internationally recognized State border, as a result of or in order to avoid the
23 effects of armed conflict, situations of generalized violence, violations of human rights, land
24 conversion and any other land conflict, aggressive implementation of development projects,
25 natural and man-made disasters.

26 b) “Arbitrary internal displacement” refers to acts of internal displacement or any other coercive
27 act committed by any person or group/s of persons and directed against the civilian population,
28 which are contrary to law, good morals, public order or public policy, or committed with abuse of
29 authority, oppressive or wanton disregard of the right to life, liberty or property and abode of the

1 residents of an area in which they are lawfully present, and are characterized by those situations
2 as defined in Section 6 of this Act.

3 c) “Internally Displaced Person” hereinafter described as an IDP, refers to any individual who has
4 suffered harm as a direct result of internal displacement, whether arbitrary or not, as defined
5 herein.

6 d) “Order of Battle/ Watchlist” refers to any document or determination made by the military,
7 police or any law enforcement agency of the government, listing the names of persons and
8 organizations that it perceives to be enemies of the State and that it considers as legitimate targets
9 as combatants that it could deal with, through the use of means allowed by domestic and
10 international law.

11 e) “Apartheid” means inhumane acts committed in the context of an institutionalized regime of
12 systematic oppression and domination by one racial group or groups and committed with the
13 intention of maintaining that regime.

14 f) “Ethnic cleansing” refers to rendering an area ethnically homogenous by using force or
15 intimidation to remove from a given area persons of another ethnic or religious group.

16 g) “Tribal/Clan War” means any conflict that may arise between members of different tribal
17 groups, indigenous groups or clans or between and among members of the same tribe, indigenous
18 group or clan.

19 SEC.4. *Scope.* – This Act shall primarily provide for the protection of rights of IDPs during and
20 after displacement, as well as their resettlement, relocation and re-integration. This Act shall likewise
21 cover arbitrary internal displacement of civilians as a result of or in order to avoid the effects of armed
22 conflict, situations of generalized violence, violations of human rights, aggressive implementation of
23 development projects, natural and man-made disasters. In the case of natural disasters, due reference
24 shall be made to the pertinent provisions of Republic Act No. 10121, otherwise known as the Philippine
25 Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Act of 2010, regarding the early warning measures and durable
26 solutions in relation with internal displacement as a result of natural disasters.

27 SEC. 5. *Prevention of Arbitrary Internal Displacement* – State authorities, including local
28 government units, and parties to an armed conflict, irrespective of their legal status and applied without
29 any adverse distinction, shall respect and ensure compliance with their obligations under international
30 law, including human rights law and humanitarian law, so as to prevent and avoid conditions that might
31 lead to arbitrary internal displacement of persons.

32 SEC. 6. *Prohibited Acts Of Arbitrary Internal Displacement.* – The prohibited acts of arbitrary
33 internal displacement shall include, but are not limited to, those committed:

34 a) based on policies of apartheid, “ethnic cleansing” or similar practices aimed at/or resulting in
35 altering the ethnic, religious or racial composition of the affected population;

36 b) in situations of armed conflict, unless the security of the civilians is involved;

37 c) in cases of large-scale development projects, including land conversion and any other land
38 conflict, which are not justified by compelling and overriding public interest;

39 d) in cases of natural and man-made disasters, unless the safety and health of those affected
40 require their evacuation;

41 e) when used as a collective punishment;

1 f) in cases of tribal/clan wars, unless the security of those civilians not involved in the conflict is
2 endangered; and

3 g) violations of the rights of IDPs during displacement under Section 9 of this Act.

4 An Order of Battle/Watchlist issued by the military or any law enforcement agency of the
5 government, shall not justify an arbitrary internal displacement and shall subject the perpetrators to the
6 penalties provided under Section 13 of this Act.

7 SEC. 7. *Protection from Arbitrary Internal Displacement.* – All authorities, including the local
8 government units (LGUs) concerned, groups and persons, irrespective of their legal status and applied
9 without any adverse distinction, shall protect its citizens against being arbitrarily displaced from their
10 homes or places of habitual residence.

11 Displacement shall not be carried out in a manner that violates the rights to life, liberty, dignity
12 and security of those affected.

13 In addition, the following safeguards against arbitrary internal displacement shall be observed by
14 all concerned authorities, groups and persons:

15 a) All feasible alternatives shall be explored in order to avoid displacement. Where no
16 alternatives exist, all measures shall be undertaken to minimize displacement and its adverse
17 effects on the population that will be affected;

18 b) If displacement is inevitable, the authorities shall ensure, to the greatest practicable extent, that
19 proper accommodation is effected in satisfactory conditions of safety, nutrition, water and
20 sanitation, health and hygiene, and that members of the same family, especially women and
21 children, are not separated;

22 c) Indigenous peoples, minorities, peasants, pastoralists and other groups with special dependency
23 on and attachment to their lands shall be protected from arbitrary internal displacement, in
24 accordance with Republic Act No. 8371, otherwise known as the Indigenous People's Rights Act
25 of 1997;

26 d) In situations other than during the emergency stages of armed conflict and disaster, the
27 following guarantees shall be complied with:

28 (1) a specific decision shall be taken by the authority empowered by law to order such
29 measures;

30 (2) full disclosure of information on the reasons and procedures for the displacement and,
31 when applicable, also on compensation and relocation;

32 (3) free and informed consent of those persons to be displaced shall be sought;

33 (4) authorities concerned shall endeavor to involve those affected, particularly women, in the
34 planning and management of their relocation, resettlement and reintegration;

35 (5) law enforcement measures, when required, shall be carried out by competent legal
36 authorities; and

37 (6) the right to an effective remedy, including the review of such decisions by appropriate
38 judicial authorities, shall be respected.

39 SEC. 8. *Permanent Prohibition Against Arbitrary Internal Displacement* – The prohibition of
40 arbitrary internal displacement and the fundamental safeguards for its prevention shall not be suspended

1 under any circumstances, including political instability, threat of war, state of war or other public
2 emergencies.

3 SEC. 9. *Rights During And After Displacement.* – The provisions of the Bill of Rights under
4 Article III of the 1987 Philippine Constitution notwithstanding, the following rights shall be afforded to
5 IDPs during and after their displacement, without discrimination of any kind, such as those based on race,
6 color, sex, language, religion or belief, political or other opinion, national, ethnic or social origin, legal or
7 social status, age, disability, property, birth or on any other similar criteria:

8 A. *Provision And Access To Basic Necessities.* - At the minimum, regardless of the
9 circumstances, and without discrimination, competent authorities shall provide IDPs with and
10 ensure safe access to:

- 11 1. essential and adequate food and nutrition and potable water;
- 12 2. basic shelter and housing;
- 13 3. appropriate clothing; and
- 14 4. essential medical and dental services and sanitation, including psychological and social
15 services, and essential drugs and medicines;

16 B. *Protection Against Criminal Offenses And Other Unlawful Acts.* –

17 1. It shall be prohibited to commit any of the following acts against IDPs in all circumstances:

- 18 a) Murder;
- 19 b) Hostage-taking;
- 20 c) Summary or arbitrary execution and enforced disappearance, including abduction or
21 unacknowledged detention, threatening or resulting in death; and
- 22 d) Unlawful confinement.

23 2. Attacks or other acts of violence against IDPs who do not or no longer participate in
24 hostilities shall be prohibited in all circumstances, without prejudice to being held liable for
25 any offense committed by them. In particular, IDPs shall be protected against:

- 26 a) direct or indiscriminate attacks or other acts of violence, including the creation of
27 areas wherein attacks on civilians are permitted;
- 28 b) starvation as a method of combat;
- 29 c) their being used to shield military objectives from attack, or to shield, favor or
30 impede the operations of the military, police or any armed group;
- 31 d) attacks against any evacuation center, facility, encampment or other settlements; and
- 32 e) the use of anti-personnel landmines.

33 3. IDPs, whether or not their liberty has been restricted, shall be protected in particular against:

- 34 a) rape, mutilation, torture, cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, and
35 other outrages upon personal dignity, such as acts of gender-specific violence, forced
36 prostitution and any form of indecent assault;
- 37 b) slavery or any contemporary form of slavery, such as sale into marriage, sexual
38 exploitation or forced labor of children;

1 c) *human trafficking*; and

2 d) acts of violence intended to spread terror among IDPs.

3 Threats and incitement to commit any of the foregoing acts under paragraph B, sub-sections 1 and
4 3 herein shall be prohibited.

5 4. IDPs shall not be interned in or confined in any evacuation center, facility, encampment or
6 other settlements. If in exceptional circumstances such internment or confinement is necessary, it
7 shall not last longer than what is required by the circumstances, as may be determined by the
8 CHR.

9 5. IDPS shall be protected against discriminatory practices of recruitment into the Armed Forces
10 of the Philippines, law enforcement agencies, or any armed groups as a result of their
11 displacement. In particular, any cruel, *inhuman* or *degrading* practices that compel compliance or
12 punish non-compliance with recruitment shall be prohibited in all circumstances.

13 *C. Freedom Of Movement. –*

14 1. Every IDP has the right to liberty of movement and freedom to choose his/her
15 residence. In particular, he/she has the right to remain, move freely in and out of any evacuation
16 center, facility, encampment or other settlements, *subject to its existing rules and regulations*;

17 2. IDPs, whether or not they are living in an evacuation center, facility, encampment or
18 other settlements, shall not be discriminated against in the enjoyment of the following rights:

19 a) to enjoy freedom of thought, conscience, religion or belief, opinion and expression,

20 b) to seek freely opportunities for employment and to participate in economic
21 activities;

22 c) to associate freely and participate equally in community affairs;

23 d) to vote and participate in governmental and public affairs, including the right to
24 have access to the means necessary to exercise these rights; and

25 e) to communicate in a language they understand.

26 3. IDPs have the right to:

27 a) seek safety in another part of the country;

28 b) leave the country;

29 c) seek asylum in another country; and

30 d) be protected against forcible return to resettlement in any place where their lives,
31 safety, liberty and/or health would be at risk.

32 *D. Recognition, Issuance And Replacement Of Documents. -* The authorities concerned shall
33 issue to the IDPs all documents necessary for the enjoyment and exercise of their legal rights.
34 The authorities concerned shall facilitate the issuance of new documents or the replacement of
35 documents lost in the course of displacement, without imposing unreasonable conditions, such as
36 requiring them to return to one's area of habitual residence in order to obtain these. Men and
37 women shall have equal rights to obtain these documents and to be issued the same in their own
38 names.

1 *E. Family Unity And Missing Persons. –*

2 1. Members of internally displaced families who wish to remain together shall be allowed
3 to do so. Families that are separated by displacement and whose personal liberty has been
4 restricted by internment or confinement in any evacuation center, facility, encampment or other
5 settlements, should be reunited as quickly as possible and all appropriate measures shall be taken
6 to expedite the reunion of such families, particularly when children are involved;

7 2. The State shall encourage the cooperation of international and local humanitarian
8 organizations engaged in the task of family reunification;

9 3. The authorities concerned shall endeavor to establish the fate and whereabouts of IDPs
10 reported missing and cooperate with relevant international organizations engaged in this task.
11 They shall inform the next-of-kin on the progress of the investigation and notify them of any
12 result;

13 4. The authorities concerned shall endeavor to collect and identify the mortal remains of
14 those deceased, prevent their despoliation or mutilation and facilitate the return of those remains
15 to the next-of-kin or dispose of them respectfully; and

16 5. Grave sites of IDPS shall be protected and respected in all circumstances and shall
17 have the right of access to the grave sites of their deceased relatives.

18 *F. Health And Education. –*

19 1. Certain IDPs, such as children, especially unaccompanied minors, expectant mothers,
20 mothers with young children, female heads of households, persons with disabilities and elderly
21 persons, shall be entitled to protection and assistance required by their condition and to treatment
22 which takes into account their special needs;

23 2. All wounded and sick IDPs as well as those with disabilities shall receive to the fullest
24 extent practicable and with the least possible delay, the medical care and attention they require,
25 without distinction on any grounds other than the medical ones. When necessary, IDPs shall have
26 access to psychological and social services;

27 3. Special attention should be paid to the health needs of women, including access to
28 female health care, providers and services, such as reproductive health care as well as appropriate
29 counselling for victims of sexual and other abuses;

30 4. Special attention should also be given to the prevention of contagious and infectious
31 diseases, including AIDS, among IDPs; and

32 5. The authorities concerned shall ensure that IDPS, in particular, displaced children,
33 receive education that shall be free and compulsory at the primary level. Special efforts should
34 be made to ensure the full and equal participation of women and girls in educational program, and
35 that respect for their cultural identity, language and religion, educational and training facilities
36 shall be made available to them as soon as circumstances permit.

37 *G. Property And Possessions. -* The property and possessions of IDPs shall, in all circumstances,
38 be protected against the following acts:

- 39 1. pillage;
- 40 2. direct or indiscriminate attacks or other acts of violence;
- 41 3. being used to shield military operations or objectives;
- 42 4. being made the object of reprisal;
- 43 5. being destroyed or appropriated as a form of collective punishment; and

1 6. destruction, arbitrary and illegal appropriation, occupation or use.
2

3 The rights and obligations herein shall not be interpreted as restricting, modifying or impairing
4 the provisions of any international human rights or international humanitarian law or rights granted to
5 persons under domestic law.

6 SEC. 10. *Assistance during Displacement Of IDPs.* - The primary duty and responsibility for
7 providing humanitarian assistance to IDPs lie with national authorities, in close collaboration with the
8 local government unit/s exercising territorial jurisdiction over the affected area/s. As such, the military
9 and law enforcement agencies conducting operations, Department of Social Welfare and Development
10 (DSWD), Department of Health (DOH), local government hospitals, LGUs concerned and other
11 appropriate government agencies shall provide immediate relief and humanitarian assistance to IDPs,
12 families and communities.

13 Humanitarian assistance to IDPs shall not be diverted, for any political or military reasons. All
14 authorities concerned shall grant and facilitate the free passage of humanitarian assistance to the internally
15 displaced and ensure rapid, safe and unimpeded access of persons engaged in giving such assistance, their
16 transport and supplies to the displaced communities. They shall not be the objects of attack or other acts
17 of violence.

18 All concerned authorities shall assist the IDPs in the recovery of their property and possessions,
19 and shall provide or assist these persons in obtaining appropriate compensation or other forms of just
20 reparation.

21 *Sec.11. Return, Resettlement And Re-Integration.* -. Competent authorities, such as the military
22 and law enforcement agencies conducting operations, DSWD, DOH, local government hospitals, LGUs
23 concerned and other appropriate government agencies, have the primary duty and responsibility to
24 establish conditions and provide means for IDPs to return voluntarily, in safety and with dignity, to their
25 homes or places of habitual residence, or to resettle voluntarily.

26 Said authorities shall likewise ensure the full participation of IDPs in planning and management
27 of their return, resettlement and re-integration.

28 SEC.12. *Mechanisms for International Humanitarian Assistance* - International humanitarian
29 organizations, their local counterparts and other appropriate actors shall have the right to offer their
30 services in support of the internally displaced. This Act shall be considered in good faith and not as an
31 unfriendly act or interference in the internal affairs of the Government. Consent thereto shall not be
32 arbitrarily withheld, particularly when authorities concerned are unable or unwilling to provide the
33 required humanitarian assistance.

34 When providing assistance to IDPs, said organizations shall respect relevant domestic laws,
35 international standards and codes of conduct. They shall give due regard to the protection of the needs
36 and human rights of the IDPs.

37 The importation and donation of food, clothing, medicine and equipment necessary for relief and
38 assistance of IDPs is hereby authorized in accordance with Section 105 of the Tariff and Customs Code of
39 the Philippines, as amended, and the prevailing provisions of the General Appropriations Act as regards
40 national internal revenue taxes and import duties of national and local government agencies.

41 SEC. 13. *Penalties.* - a) The penalty of *reclusion temporal* in its minimum to medium period
42 shall be imposed upon the following persons:

43 (1) Those who directly commit the act of arbitrary internal displacement;

- 1 (2) Those who directly force, instigate, encourage, induce or incite others to commit the act
2 of arbitrary internal displacement;
- 3 (3) Those who cooperate in the act of arbitrary internal displacement by committing another
4 act, without which the act of arbitrary internal displacement would not have been carried out;
- 5 (4) Those commanding officers, as well as all elements of the military, police and/or other
6 law enforcement agencies, who actually and/or directly participate in the act of arbitrary
7 internal displacement;
- 8 (5) Those who cooperated in the execution of the act of arbitrary internal displacement by
9 previous or simultaneous acts; and
- 10 (6) Those commanding officers of the military, police or other law enforcement agencies or
11 other authorities, for acts of arbitrary internal displacement committed by forces under his/her
12 effective command and control, or effective authority and control as the case may be, as a
13 result of his/her failure to exercise control properly over such forces, where said commanding
14 officers or authorities knew or, owing to the circumstances at the time, should have known
15 that the forces were committing or about to commit such crimes, and failed to take all
16 necessary and reasonable means within his/her power to prevent or repress their commission,
17 or to submit the matter to the competent authorities for investigation and prosecution.
- 18 b) The penalty of *prision mayor* in its minimum period shall be imposed upon those who attempt
19 to commit the offense of arbitrary internal displacement.
- 20 c) The penalty of *prision mayor* in its minimum period shall be imposed upon the persons who,
21 having knowledge of the act of arbitrary internal displacement and without having participated
22 therein, either as principals or accomplices, took part subsequent to its commission in any of the
23 following manner:
- 24 1. By themselves profiting from or assisting the offender to profit from the effects of the act
25 of arbitrary internal displacement;
- 26 2. By concealing the act of arbitrary internal displacement and/or destroying the effects or
27 instruments thereof, in order to prevent its discovery; and
- 28 3. By harboring, concealing or assisting in the escape of the principal/s in the act of
29 arbitrary internal displacement, provided the accessory acts are done with the abuse of the
30 official's public functions.
- 31 d) The courts shall also impose the corresponding accessory penalties under the Revised Penal
32 Code, especially where the offender is a public officer.

33 Sec. 14. *Applicability of the Revised Penal Code and Special Penal Laws.* - The provisions of the
34 Revised Penal Code and other relevant special penal laws, insofar as they are applicable, shall be
35 suppletory to this Act.

36 SEC.15. *Jurisdiction of the Courts.* - The proper and competent civilian courts shall have
37 jurisdiction over the offense of arbitrary internal displacement as defined and penalized in this Act.

38 SEC.16. *Liability of Concerned Law Enforcement Agencies.* Where the operations conducted by
39 the military, police and other law enforcement agencies cause damage to IDPs, they shall provide jointly
40 and severally the necessary financial assistance for the return, resettlement or re-integration of IDPs.

1 SEC.17. *Compensation.* – The CHR shall determine the damages inflicted against IDPs and direct
2 the parties and agencies responsible for arbitrary internal displacement to award monetary compensation
3 under the following circumstances:

4 (a) Where death of an individual victim occurs, the amount of Fifty Thousand Pesos
5 (P50,000.00) shall be granted to the legal heirs of the victim by way of a death benefit;

6 (b) Where physical, emotional and/or psychological injury is caused to an individual victim,
7 actual and compensatory damages, including moral, nominal, exemplary and temperate damages
8 resulting from such injury, shall be reimbursed to him; and

9 (c) Where loss of or damage to property of an individual victim occurs, the amount
10 corresponding to the fair market value of the property lost or destroyed or the amount mutually
11 agreed upon by the parties involved, whichever is higher, shall be paid to the victim.

12 SEC. 18. *Role of the CHR.* – The CHR shall be designated as the institutional focal point for
13 IDPs. As such, the CHR shall have the following additional functions:

14 a) To monitor IDP conditions to ensure that their rights are respected and protected in all phases
15 of internal displacement;

16 b) To conduct public inquiries, document violations of human rights, assist IDPs in seeking
17 redress of grievances and work to ensure an effective response by the concerned authorities;

18 c) To investigate, on its own or on complaint by any party, all forms of human rights violations
19 against IDPs involving civil and political rights, in accordance with Section 18(1) of Article XIII
20 of the 1987 Constitution, and when found in the investigation that the filing of a case in court is
21 warranted, request the assistance of any department, bureau, office or agency, such as the
22 National Prosecution Service of the Department of Justice or the Ombudsman, by virtue of
23 Executive Order No. 163, Series of 1987;

24 d) To determine the damages incurred against IDPs and facilitate award of compensation for such
25 victims by directing the parties and agencies responsible for the violations to grant the same;

26 e) To cite any person in contempt for violations of the orders issued by them in accordance with
27 the Rules of Court;

28 f) To follow up on early warning and ensure effective measures to protect the civilian population
29 against arbitrary internal displacement;

30 g) To advise the government on the rights of IDPs, formulate sound national policy and
31 legislation and to facilitate discussions to effectively address situations of internal displacement;

32 h) To undertake educational activities and training programs for State authorities, including the
33 AFP;

34 i) To hold public information drives on the protection and rights of IDPs, and foster IDP
35 participation in the decision-making process regarding issues that concern them; and

36 j) To carry out such other acts that may be necessary to fully implement the purposes of this Act.

37 SEC. 19. *Joint Congressional Oversight Committee.* - A Joint Congressional Oversight
38 Committee is hereby created, composed of the Chairman of the Senate Committee on Justice and Human
39 Rights and seven (7) other Senators designated by the Senate President, and the Chairman of the House
40 Committee on Human Rights and seven (7) other Members of the House of Representatives, designated
41 by the Speaker of the House of Representatives: *Provided, That, of the seven (7) Members to be*

1 designated by each House of Congress, four (4) should represent the Majority and three (3) from the
2 Minority.

3 The Joint Congressional Oversight Committee shall also have the power to inquire into, summon
4 and investigate the Orders of Battle as defined under this Act, as well as the legal and factual
5 justifications for the inclusion of specific persons and groups in said Orders of Battle. In this regard, the
6 Joint Congressional Oversight Committee may issue mandatory process directing the transmission of all
7 such documents relevant and necessary for the Committee to determine the validity of the inclusion of
8 specific persons or groups in the Orders of Battle. For this purpose, the highest ranking officers or heads
9 of offices shall be charged with testifying before the Joint Congressional Oversight Committee in relation
10 to any inquiries on the Orders of Battle.

11 The invocation of national security as a defense may not prevent the Joint Congressional
12 Oversight Committee from inquiring into the factual and/or legal bases for the existence of an Order of
13 Battle or the inclusion of specific persons or groups in said Orders of Battle. Should there be a need to
14 inquire into the factual basis for the invocation of national security, the Committee shall convene in an
15 Executive session and hear the officials invoking it. Should the basis not be satisfactory to the Committee,
16 the public hearing/s will continue and appropriate recommendations would thereafter be made by the
17 Committee.

18 SEC. 20. *Monitoring of Compliance with this Act.* An inter-agency coordinating committee shall
19 be tasked to periodically monitor the compliance with this Act. The committee shall be headed by the
20 Chairperson of the Commission on Human Rights. Members of this group shall be composed of

- 21 a. A representative, with the rank of Undersecretary, from the Department of Social Welfare
22 and Development;
- 23 b. A representative, with the rank of Undersecretary, from the Department of National Defense;
- 24 c. A representative, with the rank of Undersecretary, from the Department of Interior and Local
25 Government;
- 26 d. A representative from the Office of Civil Defense /National Disaster Risk Reduction and
27 Management Coordinating Council;
- 28 e. A representative of human rights non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and other human
29 rights groups, nominated by a selection board composed of human rights groups and non-
30 governmental organizations (NGOs);
- 31 f. The Chairperson of the Committee on Justice and Human Rights of the Senate; and
- 32 g. The Chairperson of the Committee on Justice of the House of Representatives.

33 The Committee shall work towards the collection of data on the number and conditions of IDPs,
34 leading to a registry that will aid the government in efficient planning and policy making regarding
35 issues affecting IDPs.

36 The Committee shall likewise prioritize the releasing of immediate financial assistance, allotted
37 by its component agencies, to those affected by arbitrary internal displacement.

38 The Committee shall submit an annual report to the Joint Congressional Oversight Committee
39 herein created, thirty (30) days after the end of each fiscal year. Such annual report shall be the basis for
40 proposed amendments to existing legislation to improve the conditions of internally displaced persons.

1 SEC.21. *Appropriations.* – The amount of Fifty Million Pesos (P50,000,000.00) shall be
2 appropriated for the initial implementation of the provisions of this Act. The subsequent annual funding
3 for the implementation of this Act shall be included in the General Appropriations Act.

4 SEC.22. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.* - The CHR shall issue the necessary rules and
5 regulations to implement the provisions of this Act within sixty (60) days from its effectivity.

6 In the formulation of the rules and regulations, the CHR shall take the lead and coordinate with
7 DSWD, DND, DILG, DENR, DOH, National Commission on Indigenous Peoples (NCIP), Presidential
8 Commission on Urban Poor (PCUP), Housing and Urban Development Coordinating Council (HUDCC),
9 National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Coordinating Council (NDRRMCC), National
10 Housing Authority (NHA) and consult with local government units concerned, human rights
11 nongovernmental organizations and people's organizations.

12 SEC.23. *Repealing Clause.* – All laws, decrees, executive orders, memorandum orders,
13 memorandum circulars, administrative orders, ordinances or any part thereof which are inconsistent with
14 the provisions of this Act are hereby deemed repealed or modified accordingly.

15 SEC.24. *Separability Clause.* – If any part or provision of this Act shall be declared
16 unconstitutional or invalid, the other provisions hereof which are not affected thereby shall remain in full
17 force and effect.

18 SEC.25. *Effectivity.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days upon its publication in the
19 Official Gazette or at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,