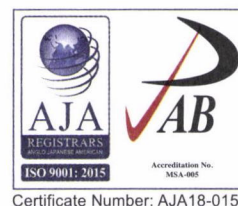




Republic of the Philippines
Department of Finance
INSURANCE COMMISSION
1071 United Nations Avenue
Manila



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TRANQUILINO E. ESPEJON
IC Supervising Administrative Officer
Administrative Division
Insurance Commission

Date: _____

Circular Letter No.:	2020-93
Date:	22 September 2020
Supersedes:	CL No. 2020-87

CIRCULAR LETTER

TO : ALL ENTITIES REGULATED BY THE INSURANCE COMMISSION

SUBJECT : SUSPENSION OF THE IMPOSITION OF PENALTY FOR THE NON-FILING, LATE FILING, AND FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH COMPULSORY NOTIFICATION AND OTHER REPORTORIAL REQUIREMENTS DURING THE PERIOD OF COMMUNITY QUARANTINE


WHEREAS, the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) has spread in different parts of the world, including the Philippines;

WHEREAS, the COVID-19 outbreak has been characterized by the World Health Organization (WHO) as a pandemic;

WHEREAS, per a Memorandum from the Executive Secretary dated 16 March 2020, the entirety of Luzon was placed under enhanced community quarantine (ECQ);

WHEREAS, by reason of the COVID-19 outbreak and the imposition of community quarantine in different areas in the country, the Insurance Commission has issued various Circular Letters extending the deadlines for the filing and submission of various regulatory documentary requirements;

WHEREAS, the President issued Administrative Order No. 30 dated 21 April 2020, "Directing All Government Offices to Formulate and Issue Guidelines on the Interruption of Periods for the Filing of Documents, Payment of Taxes, Charges and Other Fees, and Cancellation of Proceedings Before Their Respective Offices, and on the Movement of Timelines for the Release of


TRANQUILINO E. ESPEJON
IC Supervising Administrative Officer
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Date: _____ **Benefits**", enjoining all heads of departments, agencies, offices, and instrumentalities of the government to immediately formulate and issue rules or guidelines to be applied in areas under community quarantine, as well as adopting and ratifying all issuances previously released by agencies pertaining to the extension, interruption or movement of the periods and timelines set by law for the filing of documents, conduct of proceedings, payment of taxes, fees, and other charges, and the grant of any benefit or claim due to COVID-19 insofar as the same are consistent with the guidelines set forth by the IATF and the directives of the Office of the President;

WHEREAS, the penalties for delay in the submission of reportorial requirements to the Commission is provided for in Circular Letter No. 2014-15 dated 15 May 2014 on "Fees and Charges";


WHEREAS, the Commission has previously issued Circular Letter No. 2019-07 dated 18 March 2019 or the "Guideline and Grounds for the Reduction of Penalties Due to Delays in the Submission of Reportorial Requirements";

WHEREAS, on 27 August 2020, the Commission issued Circular Letter No. 2020-87 or the "Guidelines on the Imposition of Penalty for the Late Filing and/or Submission of Various Regulatory Documentary Requirements by Reason of the Imposition of Community Quarantine in Different Areas in the Philippines";

WHEREAS, on 11 September 2020, Republic Act No. 11494, otherwise known as the "Bayanihan to Recover as One Act", was signed into law;

WHEREAS, this Commission recognizes that with the COVID-19 crisis still unfolding and the various declarations placing different areas in the country under different levels of community quarantine which, in turn, affect the operations of regulated entities and pose specific challenges to the preparation of various regulatory documentary requirements, there is a need to relax the imposition of penalties for delays in the submission of the said requirements;

NOW, THEREFORE, in view of all the foregoing and pursuant to the powers granted to the Insurance Commissioner under Section 437 of the Insurance Code, as amended by Republic Act No. 10607; Section 6 of Republic Act No. 9829, otherwise known as "The Pre-Need Code of the Philippines"; Section 4 of Executive Order No. 192, series of 2015; Implementing Rules and Regulations of Republic Act No. 9160, otherwise known as the "Anti-Money Laundering Act of 2001 (AMLA), as amended"; Rule 27 of the Implementing Rules and Regulations of Republic Act No. 10168, otherwise known as "The Terrorism Financing Prevention and Suppression Act"; and Section 4(www) of R.A. 11494, the following guidelines are hereby adopted and promulgated:


TRANQUILINO E. ESPEJON
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Section 1. Application. – This Circular shall apply to the penalties imposed under Item No. VII, paragraph B of CL No. 2014-15 and the other Circular Letters subsequently issued by the Commission which require the regulated entities' submission of reportorial requirements and impose penalty for any delay in the filing and/or submission thereof: *Provided, That this Circular shall only cover the filing and/or submission of reportorial requirements to the Commission due on or before 31 December 2020.*

Section 2. Suspension of Imposition of Penalties. – Pursuant to Section 4(www) of R.A. 11494 directing "regulatory agencies to desist from imposing fines and other monetary penalties for non-filing, late filing, failure to comply with compulsory notification and other reportorial requirements relating to business activities and transactions that promote continuity and capacity-building in all sectors of the economy during the CQ", **the imposition of penalties for non-filing, late filing, and failure to comply with compulsory notification and other reportorial requirements the deadline of which falls during the imposition of community quarantine is hereby suspended.** For this purpose, CL No. 2020-87 is hereby deemed **superseded.**

Section 3. Separability Clause. – If any provision of this Circular Letter shall be held unconstitutional or invalid, the other provisions not otherwise affected shall remain in full force and effect.

Section 4. Effectivity. – This Circular shall take effect immediately.


DENNIS B. FUNA
Insurance Commissioner

