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SENATE  
Senate Resolution No. 1056

RECEIVED BY

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INTRODUCED BY SENATOR FERDINAND R. MARCOS, JR.

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A RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE PROPER SENATE COMMITTEE TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, AND CALL UPON THE NATIONAL DISASTER RISK REDUCTION AND MANAGEMENT COUNCIL (NDRRMC) AND THE OFFICE OF CIVIL DEFENSE (OCD) TO REPORT ABOUT THE IMPLEMENTATION OF NATIONAL DISASTER RISK REDUCTION AND MANAGEMENT LAWS (REPUBLIC ACT NO. 10121 AND OTHER RELATED ISSUANCES) IN RELATION TO SUPER-TYPHOONS YOLANDA AND RUBY, FOR PURPOSES OF IMPROVING EXISTING LEGISLATION AND INSTITUTIONS AND OF ENSURING THE SAFETY AND CONTINUED SURVIVAL OF OUR CITIZENS, OUR COMMUNITIES, AND OUR NATION

**WHEREAS**, during the period of December 6 to 11, 2014, typhoon Ruby (international name: Hagupit) made multiple landfalls in the Philippines, crossing from Eastern Visayas towards the Bicol Region and then to the Southern Tagalog region, initially as a super-typhoon and eventually weakening and downgrading into a tropical storm;

**WHEREAS**, according to the official report (as of 10 December 2014, 6AM) of the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council (NDRRMC), a total of 2,392,593 persons have been affected, from Regions III, IV-A, IV-B, V, VI, VII, VIII, and up to the CARAGA, and the National Capital Regions, with nine (9) recorded casualties<sup>1</sup>;

**WHEREAS**, the NDRRMC also reported almost P2B worth of damages to agriculture and infrastructure as a consequence of the typhoon;

**WHEREAS**, according to the same report of the NDRRMC, a total of

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<sup>1</sup> The Philippine Red Cross has reported twenty-two (22) casualties (as of 10 December 2014).

1,766,929 persons have been evacuated, leading the United Nations International Strategies for Disaster Reduction/Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNISDR) to state its observation that it was "one of the largest peacetime evacuation in the history of the Philippine history";

**WHEREAS**, the overall efforts on disaster preparations and response in relation to typhoon Ruby have been described as a "success" and as having greatly improved;

**WHEREAS**, as envisioned by existing law, i.e., Republic Act No. 10121, the policy of the State is to institutionalize, adopt and implement a "coherent, comprehensive, integrated, efficient and responsive" management plan, as well as effective "vertical and horizontal coordination mechanisms" between and among national government agencies, local government units (LGUs), the citizenry, the local private sector, civil society organizations and non-government organizations, and even international organizations and foreign states, not only during and after disasters, but also before their occurrence;

**WHEREAS**, the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council (NDRRMC), chaired by the Department of National Defense (DND), is the inter-agency office composed of more than forty (40) agencies, offices and sectors, and which is tasked with "policy-making, coordination, integration, supervision, monitoring and evaluation functions", on the subject of disaster risk reduction and management (DRRM);

**WHEREAS**, in relation to its statutory mandate, the NDRRMC has issued the Rules and Regulations implementing R.A. No. 10121, and also the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Plan for 2011-2028, and the National Disaster Response Plan (as of June 2014);

**WHEREAS**, there is a need for Congress and the Filipino people to be informed about the implementation of the law and the other related issuances, as well as about the DRRM programs, plans and strategies and other best practices that were utilized by the national and local governments and other sectors and that were proven effective in preventing and mitigating loss of lives and properties in our communities, especially in relation to our experience

before, during and after the onslaught of typhoons Ruby and Yolanda, including significant problem areas and other important concerns, which cut across several relevant areas and sectors represented in the NDRRMC, for the ultimate purposes of improving our DRRM laws, policies, plans and strategies, and our institutions as well, including the aspect of rehabilitation, reconstruction and recovery, especially the lessons that we had learned from our experience with super-typhoon Yolanda in November 2013—which still remain as a work in progress—but also, most of all, ensuring the safety and continued survival of our citizenry, our communities and our nation.

**WHEREAS**, in our continuing quest not only for a comprehensive, but an effective and efficient disaster risk reduction, management and response plan, in accordance with Republic Act No. 10121, there is also a need to codify and institutionalize into the overall (DRRM) framework and plans, both on the national and local levels, these effective programs, best practices, and the like, in order to give them the character of consistency or flexible permanence, in order to ensure their continued and systematic application and implementation in the event of occurrence of other hazards in future, and even in spite of changes in political leadership;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Senate direct the proper committee to conduct an inquiry, in aid of legislation, and call upon the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council (NDRRMC) and the Office of Civil Defense (OCD), to report about the implementation of our National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management law (R.A. No. 10121 and other related issuances) in relation to super-typhoons Ruby and Yolanda, for purposes of improving existing legislation and institutions and of ensuring the safety and continued survival of our citizenry, our communities and our nation.

Adopted,

  
FERDINAND R. MARCOS, JR.