

Republic of the Philippines
Congress of the Philippines

Senate

Manila City

Sixteenth Congress

First Regular Session



RESOLUTION NO. 14

RESOLUTION WAIVING AND ABANDONING THE USE
OF THE REMAINING 2013 SENATE PRIORITY
DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE FUND AND
EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF THE SENATE FOR
THE PRESIDENT TO UTILIZE THE SAVINGS
CREATED BY SUCH ABANDONMENT TO
AUGMENT THE CALAMITY FUND

WHEREAS, Special Provision Nos. 1 (Use of Fund), 2 (Project Identification), and 3 (Legislator's Allocation) of the Priority Development Assistance Fund (PDAF) under Republic Act No. 10352, otherwise known as the General Appropriations Act of 2013, provide that each member of the Senate has the authority to identify Two Hundred Million Peso worth of soft

programs and infrastructure projects to be implemented by executive agencies or Local Government Units;

WHEREAS, the country has recently encountered many difficult challenges due to successive natural and man-made calamities and disasters, including the devastation caused by typhoons Santi and Labuyo, the siege and unrest in Zamboanga, and most recently, the magnitude 7.2 earthquake in the Visayas region, particularly Bohol and Cebu;

WHEREAS, these disasters have brought pain and suffering to our people, disrupted the functioning of our communities, caused mass casualties, major damages to properties and disrupted our peoples' means of livelihood, and caused widespread human, material, economic and environmental losses;

WHEREAS, the Calamity Fund provided for under the GAA of 2013 is no longer sufficient to cover the cost of aid, relief, rehabilitation services, repair and reconstruction of calamity-stricken communities;

WHEREAS, in their desire to assist the families and communities affected by these occurrences in rebuilding their homes and restoring their livelihoods, help in the speedy post-disaster recovery, reconstruction, and rehabilitation of the provinces affected by the disasters, the Senators have manifested their intention to no longer avail, and therefore waive and abandon their respective remaining 2013 PDAF allocations;

WHEREAS, with the Senators' waiver and abandonment of the use of their remaining 2013 PDAF allocations, the Senate Finance Committee will no longer endorse any request for the release of funds;

WHEREAS, such waiver and abandonment would create savings pursuant to Section 53 of the GAA of 2013 which defines savings as the portions or balances of any programmed appropriation that is free from any obligation or encumbrance which is still available because of final discontinuance or

abandonment of work, activity, or purpose for which the appropriation is authorized;

WHEREAS, Section 25 (5), Article VI of the 1987 Constitution provides that the President may, by law, be authorized to augment any item in the general appropriations law for the executive branch from savings in other items of its appropriation;

WHEREAS, Section 52 of the GAA of 2013 authorizes the President to use savings to augment actual deficiencies incurred for the current year in any item of the executive branch's appropriation;

WHEREAS, Section 49 (9) and (10), Chapter 5, Book VI of the 1987 Administrative Code (Executive Order No. 292) explicitly provides that the savings in the appropriations under the GAA may be used for the disaster relief and rehabilitation, repair, improvement and renovation of government buildings and infrastructure and other capital assets damaged by natural calamities;

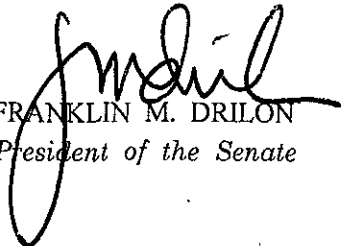
WHEREAS, the abandonment by the Senators of their remaining 2013 PDAF allocations will effectively convert the same into savings which the President may use to augment the Calamity Fund for the repair, improvement and renovation of government buildings and infrastructure and other capital assets damaged by natural and man-made calamities: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, as it is hereby resolved, That Senators hereby waive and abandon the use of their respective remaining 2013 PDAF allocations, and that consequently, no endorsement for release of funds under the PDAF shall be made by the Senate Finance Committee.

Resolved, further, That the Senate of the Philippines express its sense for the President of the Republic of the Philippines to utilize the savings created by the abandonment by the Senators of their remaining 2013 PDAF allocations to augment the Calamity Fund for disaster relief, speedy post-disaster recovery, reconstruction, and rehabilitation of the calamity-affected provinces.


Resolved, finally, That a copy of this Resolution be furnished the Office of the President and the House of Representatives.

Adopted,



FRANKLIN M. DRILON
President of the Senate

This Resolution was adopted by the Senate on October 22, 2013.



OSCAR G. YABES
Secretary of the Senate