

SIXTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC)
OF THE PHILIPPINES)
First Regular Session)



Senate
Office of the Secretary

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SENATE
S. No. **1576**

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Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

EXPLANATORY NOTE

As a tropical country, the Philippines has always been subjected to dozens of typhoons per year. The strong winds and torrential rainfalls brought about by these typhoons have brought destruction to our countrymen who were unfortunate enough to be in their path. Countless lives have been lost and damages to properties have accumulated to billions of pesos as a result of these catastrophes.

However, as seen last 2012, even the monsoon rains can bring about massive destruction due to floods. The varying degrees of success in disaster response and destructive effect mitigation across the local government units indicate a disparity in terms of preparedness and knowhow. A major effort must be done to collate our flood related knowledge as a country and disseminate such information to all stakeholders to minimize the damage brought about by floods.

This bill will allow us to establish a centralized effort to study the effect of flooding and how best to prepare and respond to each catastrophe.

act
Miriam Defensor Santiago
MIRIAM DEFENSOR SANTIAGO



13 SEP -5 25:42

SENATE
S. No. 1576

RECEIVED BY: *[Signature]*

Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

1 AN ACT
2 ESTABLISHING THE OFFICE OF FLOOD RESEARCH AND POLICY TO PLAN,
3 COORDINATE, CONDUCT, AND SHARE RESEARCH ON FLOODING, FLOOD
4 PREVENTION, AND OTHER FLOOD-RELATED ISSUES

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

7 SECTION 1. *Short Title.* - This Act shall be known as National Flood Research and
8 Education Act.

9 SECTION 2. *Office of Flood Research and Policy.* - There is hereby established within
10 the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council (NDRRMC) an Office of Flood
11 Research and Policy (OFRP), which shall be headed by a Director.

12 SECTION 3. *Duties.* - The Director of the OFRP shall -

13 (A) Make recommendations and identify best practices for predicting, preventing, and
14 minimizing flooding and its effects, in accordance with Section 4;

15 (B) Submit to Congress an annual report, in accordance Section 6; and

(C) Establish and maintain a page on the public NDRRMC website, in accordance
with Section 6.

16 SECTION 4. *Best Practices.* - The Director, in consultation with the NDRRMC, taking
17 into consideration the regional differences in hydrology, weather, geography, economy, and
18 population density across the country, shall develop recommendations and identify best practices
19 for predicting, preventing, and minimizing flooding and its effects, including—

20 (A) Risk-assessment tools, methods, and models;

- 1 (B) Strategies and techniques for monitoring and predicting flooding;
- 2 (C) Strategies and techniques for flood management and prevention;
- 3 (D) Adoption and use of relevant technologies;
- 4 (E) National, regional, and local flood policies; and
- 5 (F) Coordination and cooperation among government agencies and local governments
- 6 regarding flood-related efforts.

7 SECTION 5. *Grants to Institutions of Higher Education.* – The OFRP may extend
8 research grants to institutions of higher education to conduct research on flooding, flood
9 prevention, and other flood related issues. The OFRP shall ensure that the said grants are used
10 for their designated purpose.

11 SECTION 6. *Report.* – The Director shall submit to Congress an annual report on the
12 activities of the OFRP.

13 The OFRP shall establish and maintain a page within the public NDRRMC website in
14 which it shall publish the recommendations and best practices described in Section 4 and the
15 annual report as provided in this section. The OFRP shall also provide the local government units
16 (LGUs) versions of the report which particularly applies to them.

17 SECTION 7. *Appropriations.* – To carry out the provisions of this Act, such amount as is
18 necessary is hereby authorized to be appropriated from the National Treasury.

19 SECTION 8. *Separability Clause.* – If any provision of this Act is declared
20 unconstitutional or invalid, the other sections or provisions hereof which are not affected thereby
21 shall continue to be in full force and effect.

22 SECTION 9. *Repealing Clause.* – All laws, decrees, orders, rules, and regulations or
23 parts thereof inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed, amended, or
24 modified accordingly.

1 SECTION 10. *Effectivity Clause.* -- This Act shall take effect after fifteen (15) days
2 following its publication in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,