SIXTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES First Regular Session



SENATE P.S. Res__ **377**

Introduced by Senator Poe

RESOLUTION

URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS (DFA), NATIONAL STATISTICS OFFICE (NSO), AND OTHER GOVERNMENT AGENCIES ISSUING OFFICIAL DOCUMENTS EVIDENCING IDENTITY AND OTHER PERSONAL INFORMATION (E.G. PASSPORTS, BIRTH CERTIFICATES, CLEARANCES, CERTIFICATIONS AND THE LIKE), TO WAIVE THEIR FEES FOR THE VICTIMS OF SUPER TYPHOON "YOLANDA," AS SUCH DOCUMENTS ARE ESSENTIAL FOR THEIR EMPLOYMENT, AVAILMENT OF GOVERNMENT SERVICES, FOR RE-ENROLMENT OF PUPILS AND STUDENTS, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Whereas, Super Typhoon "Yolanda" (international codename: Haiyan), recorded as one of the strongest typhoons in history, obliterated numerous cities and municipalities in the provinces of Leyte, Samar, Cebu, Palawan, Iloilo and others last November 8;

Whereas, a total of 41 provinces were affected by the wrath of Super Typhoon Yolanda, and has affected 4.5 million Filipinos, according to the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council;

Whereas, Super Typhoon Yolanda, with its 235 mph gusts of destructive winds, was reported to have destroyed 70-80 percent of structures in its path;

Whereas, the homes of the victims of Super Typhoon Yolanda, together with their personal belongings and effects, as well as their personal records and documents, were destroyed and/or lost;

Whereas, victims of Super Typhoon Yolanda would undoubtedly incur huge expenses, assuming that their money has not been lost/swept away, to purchase basic necessities for their survival, as well as more expenses for the rehabilitation and reconstruction of their homes and the normalization of their lives;

Whereas, victims of Super Typhoon Yolanda, in the course of their recovery from the destruction and trauma that they've suffered, would surely need documentation evidencing their identity and other personal information for purposes of employment, availment of aid/benefit from government agencies and the like;

Whereas, each and every ounce of aid available within the bounds of law must be extended to the victims of Super Typhoon Yolanda for their speedy recovery and rehabilitation;

Whereas, the Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA), National Statistics Office (NSO), and other agencies issuing official documents evidencing identity and other personal information (e.g. passports, birth certificates, clearances, certifications and the like), should be urged to waive their respective fees, in relation to the processing and issuance of the afore-mentioned official documents, in favor of the victims of Super Typhoon Yolanda;

Whereas, the above-mentioned proposed waiving of fees would be of help, no matter how minimal, to our countrymen who are slowly rising on their feet after having been struck down to the ground by Super Typhoon Yolanda;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, as it is hereby resolved by the Philippine Senate, to urge the Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA), National Statistics Office (NSO), and other agencies issuing official documents evidencing identity and other personal information (e.g. passports, birth certificates, clearances, certifications and the like), to waive their respective fees, in relation to the processing and issuance of such official documents, in favor of the victims of Super Typhoon Yolanda.

Adopted,

grace poe