



14 MAY 27 P4:50

SENATE
P. S. Res. No. 677

RECEIVED BY: *jc*

Introduced by Senator Joseph Victor G. Ejercito

RESOLUTION

DIRECTING THE PROPER SENATE COMMITTEE, TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY IN AID OF LEGISLATION AS TO THE STATUS OF THE REHABILITATION AND RECONSTRUCTION OF SCHOOL BUILDINGS AND CLASSROOMS OF PUBLIC ELEMENTARY AND HIGH SCHOOLS, AND STATE UNIVERSITIES AND COLLEGES (SUCs) IN THE YOLANDA-HIT REGIONS AND PROVINCES WITH THE END VIEW OF ADDRESSING THE SLOW IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ON-GOING REHABILITATION PROGRAM OF THE GOVERNMENT

WHEREAS, it has been six (6) months since the devastating typhoon, Yolanda, hit the Visayas region on November 8, 2013 and the rehabilitation efforts have not yet been completed;

WHEREAS, classes in public elementary and high schools and State Universities and Colleges (SUCs) are set to start on June 2;

WHEREAS, Secretary Armin Luistro of the Department of Education (DepEd) admitted that almost 200,000 elementary and high school students in Yolanda-devastated areas will be holding classes in 1,828 makeshift and prefabricated classroom and 2,555 tents;¹

WHEREAS, based from the data of the Department of Education (DepEd), of the 2,172 totally damaged classrooms, only 764 have been constructed so far.² And a total of 5,007 classrooms out of the 9,420 partially damaged have been repaired. ³ About 26 state colleges and universities (SUCs) affected by Yolanda have not yet received their budget for rehabilitation. ⁴

WHEREAS, Congress has allocated more than P100 billion for the rehabilitation of disaster-hit areas in the 2014 national budget aside from a P14.6-billion supplemental budget.;

WHEREAS, P1 billion would go to the repair of public elementary and high schools, while the remaining P1 billion would be spent for the rehabilitation of damaged facilities of SUCs.

¹ Retrieved from <http://www.mb.com.ph/yolanda-schools-rehab-not-yet-done/>

² Retrieved from <http://www.philstar.com/headlines/2014/05/24/1326598/public-schools-yolanda-areas-still-awaiting-repairs>

³ Ibid

⁴ Retrieved from <http://www.manilatimes.net/palace-denies-red-tape-delaying-yolanda-rehab/99344/>

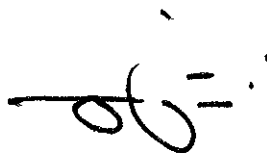
WHEREAS, there is a slow pace of the government's response in the reconstruction and rehabilitation in the areas; and that DepEd efforts only extend to *Brigada Eskwela*, its annual event which gathers public and private stakeholders to volunteer to prepare classrooms in the country for the opening of classes.⁵

WHEREAS, for the protection of students from the threat of the rainy season and El Niño phenomenon, there is a need to speed-up the construction, restoration and repair of the public school buildings;

WHEREAS, the lagging rehabilitation efforts of the government means also prolonging the anguish of the survivors specially for the students whose classes will resume soon;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, *as it is hereby resolved*, for the Senate to direct the proper committee **TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY IN AID OF LEGISLATION AS TO THE STATUS OF THE REHABILITATION AND RECONSTRUCTION OF SCHOOL BUILDINGS AND CLASSROOMS OF PUBLIC ELEMENTARY AND HIGH SCHOOLS, AND STATE UNIVERSITIES AND COLLEGES (SUCs) IN THE YOLANDA-HIT REGIONS AND PROVINCES WITH THE END VIEW OF ADDRESSING THE SLOW IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ON-GOING REHABILITATION PROGRAM OF THE GOVERNMENT.**

Adopted,



JOSEPH VICTOR G. EJERCITO
Senator

⁵ Retrieve from <http://www.thedailyguardian.net/index.php/local-news/41389-ten-t-schools-in-yolanda-hit-town>