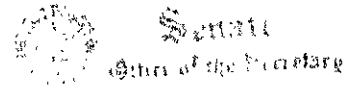


SIXTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC)
OF THE PHILIPPINES)
Second Regular Session)



15 JAN -5 P3 52

SENATE
S. No. 2547

RECEIVED BY: *J*

Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

AN ACT
INCLUDING THE NATIONAL YOUTH COMMISSION CHAIRPERSON AS A
MEMBER OF THE NATIONAL DISASTER RISK REDUCTION AND
MANAGEMENT COUNCIL, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT
NO. 10121, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE PHILIPPINE DISASTER RISK
REDUCTION AND MANAGEMENT ACT OF 2010

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The Constitution, Article 2, Section 13 provides:

The State recognizes the vital role of the youth in nation-building and shall promote and protect their physical, moral, spiritual, intellectual, and social well-being. It shall inculcate in the youth patriotism and nationalism, and encourage their involvement in public and civic affairs.

The United Nations International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (UNISDR) acknowledges the role of the youth in disaster risk reduction. In the 2000 United Nations World Disaster Reduction Campaign, the UNISDR declared that the youth “represent powerful sources for change and for mobilization. They occupy a central place in promoting a necessary change in behaviours and a shift in mentalities, if a successful disaster prevention and risk management are to be achieved. Young people should be given the chance to ensure their own protection and the protection of their world, through appropriate education and level of responsibility in the decision-making process.”¹

There are three main reasons why youth participation in disaster risk reduction matters: First, to be nurtured, protected, and treated with respect, and, to be consulted and involved are considered a right that our youth cannot be denied of. Second, to improve

¹ UNISDR. 2000. United Nations 2000 World Disaster Reduction Campaign to Focus on Disaster Prevention, Education and Youth. <http://www.unisdr.org/2000/campaign/pa-camp00-kit-eng.htm>.

the services for the youth, one of the sectors of society who are gravely affected in times of disaster, their views and interests must be well articulated and represented. Lastly, there are developmental benefits from youth participation, not only for the youth themselves but also for the whole society.²

The youth comprise a fifth of our country's population. Indeed, they are a "valuable resource for risk communication, education, advocacy, and help with practical risk reduction activities."³ Their innovative ideas, eagerness to learn and act, and social networks are a few of what the youth can offer to strengthen our country's disaster risk reduction and management efforts.

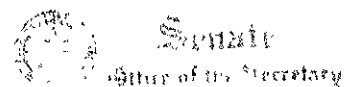
This bill seeks to make the youth partners in disaster risk reduction at a national level. It proposes to include a representative of the youth in the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council so as to empower them with coordination, integration, supervision, monitoring and evaluation functions, and more importantly, to engage them in a more valuable role of policy-making.


MIRIAM DEFENSOR SANTIAGO
78

² Head, B., *qtd. in* Fernandez, Glenn, and Rajib Shaw. Youth Participation in Disaster Risk Reduction in Infanta and Makati, Philippines: A Policy Review. *Int. J. Disaster Risk Sci.* 2013, 4 (3): 126-136. http://download.springer.com/static/pdf/703/art%253A10.1007%252Fs13753-013-0014-x.pdf?auth66=1418394498_8599808b41564d8f59ce45e5de370f13&ext=.pdf.

³ Mitchell, T., Tanner, T., and Haynes, K. April 2009. Children as agents of change for Disaster Risk Reduction: Lessons from El Salvador and the Philippines (Working Paper No. 1). http://www.childreninachangingclimate.org/database/ccc/Publications/MitchellTannerHaynes_AgentsForChange-WorkingPaper1_2009.pdf.

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



15 JAN -5 P3 52

SENATE
S. No. 2547

Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

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

1 AN ACT
2 INCLUDING THE NATIONAL YOUTH COMMISSION CHAIRPERSON AS A
3 MEMBER OF THE NATIONAL DISASTER RISK REDUCTION AND
4 MANAGEMENT COUNCIL, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT
5 NO. 10121, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE PHILIPPINE DISASTER RISK
6 REDUCTION AND MANAGEMENT ACT OF 2010

7 SECTION 1. Republic Act No. 10121, otherwise known as the Philippine Disaster
8 Risk Reduction and Management Act of 2010, Section 5, is hereby amended to read as
9 follows:

10 *Sec. 5. National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council. -*

11

12 The National Council's members shall be the following:

13

14 **(KK) CHAIRPERSON OF THE NATIONAL YOUTH COMMISSION**
15 **(NYC).**

16 SECTION 2. *Repealing Clause.* - Any law, presidential decree or issuance,
17 executive order, letter of instruction, administrative order, rule or regulation contrary to,
18 or inconsistent with, the provision of this Act is hereby repealed, modified, or amended
19 accordingly.

1 SECTION 3. *Effectivity Clause.* - This Act shall take effect fifteen days (15) days
2 after its publication in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,

/tmdp13Dec2014