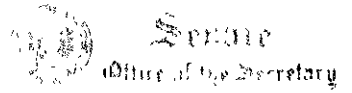


SIXTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC )  
OF THE PHILIPPINES )  
Second Regular Session )



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SENATE  
P. S. R. No. 1122

RECEIVED BY

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Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

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RESOLUTION

DIRECTING THE PROPER SENATE COMMITTEE TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID  
OF LEGISLATION, ON THE ALLEGED FAILURE OF METROPOLITAN MANILA  
DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (MMDA) TO PROPERLY ACCOUNT FOR THE  
CALAMITY FUNDS

WHEREAS, the Constitution, Article 2, Section 27 provides: "The State shall maintain honesty and integrity in the public service and take positive and effective measures against graft and corruption";

WHEREAS, Presidential Decree No. 1445 also known as the Government Auditing Code of the Philippines, Section 2 states that: "It is the declared policy of the State that all resources of the government shall be managed, expended, or utilized in accordance with law and regulations, and safeguarded against loss or wastage through illegal or improper disposition, with a view to ensuring efficiency, economy, and effectiveness in the operations of government";

WHEREAS, the Metropolitan Manila Development Authority (MMDA) is the government agency mandated to perform planning, monitoring, and coordinative functions, and in the process, exercise regulatory and supervisory authority over the delivery of metro-wide services within Metro Manila;

WHEREAS, due to the devastation wrought by Super Typhoon Yolanda, the MMDA created the "Mercy Mission" for the immediate provision of the humanitarian assistance to the Leyte Province;

WHEREAS, the MMDA was appointed as the lead coordinator in the process of adopting two sister LGUs worst-hit by the super typhoon namely, Leyte and Samar, and help in the clearing of the impact areas of debris and providing other humanitarian activities including rehabilitation works to ensure the safe movement of residents and emergency response units;

WHEREAS, according to the 2013 Commission on Audit (COA) report, ₱5.5 million worth of calamity funds were appropriated to support the logistics and other operational expenses of the Mercy Mission teams;

WHEREAS, despite the list of accomplishments of MMDA's Mercy Mission, COA's inquiry with management revealed that these humanitarian activities cannot be quantified directly from the actual costs of disbursements, which was allegedly due to the urgency of the situation such that no adequate plans were established for the activities to be undertaken;

WHEREAS, the Audit Team could not validate and evaluate the submitted accomplishments and determine if the ₱5.5 million calamity funds were utilized or expended properly and maximized for the intended purpose;

WHEREAS, it is imperative for the concerned agency to prepare plans and budgets for emergency operations and oversee disaster-related activities to include proper accounting and reporting of utilized funds and monitoring of activities in order to ensure efficiency, economy, and effectiveness in the operations of government in attaining the desired and intended purpose of such programs and activities;

WHEREAS, there is also a need for the agency to submit physical accomplishment showing each accomplished activity and pertinent costs including physical targets or budgeted cost of works to be performed including the timeframe for such activity in order to properly evaluate these accomplished activities;

WHEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED BY THE PHILIPPINE SENATE to direct the proper Senate committee to conduct an inquiry, in aid of legislation, on the alleged failure of the Metropolitan Manila Development Authority (MMDA) to properly account for the calamity funds.

Adopted,

  
MIRIAM DEFENSOR SANTIAGO  
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