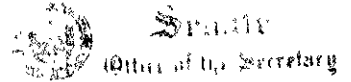


SIXTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC )  
OF THE PHILIPPINES )  
Second Regular Session )



15 MAR 17 P1:40

SENATE  
S.B. No. 2702

RECEIVED BY. *[Signature]*

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Introduced by: Senator Paolo Benigno "Bam" A. Aquino IV

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**AN ACT INCLUDING RESPONSIVE, EMPOWERED AND SERVICE-CENTERED YOUTH IN THE DISASTER RISK REDUCTION AND MANAGEMENT COUNCIL IN ALL LEVELS, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 10121, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE PHILIPPINE DISASTER RISK REDUCTION AND MANAGEMENT ACT OF 2010**

**EXPLANATORY NOTE**

Our beloved country is one of the most vulnerable nations to the threat of climate change<sup>1</sup>.

In the past years, the Philippines has experienced a consistent battery of alarming natural calamities. In 2013, Typhoon Yolanda or Haiyan, the deadliest typhoon in our history, affected over 14 million people<sup>2</sup> and took over 6,000 lives<sup>3</sup>.

While the Philippines has been on the receiving end of countless disasters, our resilience and spirit of volunteerism has become a source of comfort and inspiration.

In trying times, the youth sector serves as a beacon of hope and catalyst of action. Schools become depositories of donations and efficient centers for packing and deployment of relief goods, never running out of willing volunteers.

Others are volunteer firefighters, first responders and peacekeepers in their respective localities, like the Rescue Assistance Peacekeeping Intelligence Detail (RAPID) of Cebu City and the Ormoc City-based Hayag Youth Organization.

RAPID has vast experience in relief and rescue operation. They were one of the first responders in Tacloban City after the onslaught of Typhoon Yolanda. They also helped rescue passengers of a passenger vessel that collided with a cargo ship in Cebu last year.

Hayag, for its part, has been teaching swimming, disaster preparedness, first aid and open water safety training to youth. They have successfully taught their members when no one among them had a major accident when Typhoon Yolanda hit Ormoc City last year.

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<sup>1</sup> Fisher, Max. Washington Post. "This Map Shows why the Philippines is so vulnerable to climate change". November 12, 2013. Last accessed 2.13.2015 from <<http://www.washingtonpost.com/blogs/worldviews/wp/2013/11/12/this-map-shows-why-the-philippines-is-so-vulnerable-to-climate-change/>>

<sup>2</sup> Disasters Emergency Committee. "Haiyan Facts and Figures". Last accessed 2.13.2015 from <<http://www.dec.org.uk/facts-and-figures>>

<sup>3</sup> [3] CNN. "Typhoon Haiyan death toll tops 6,000 in the Philippines". December 13, 2013. Last accessed 2.13.2015 from <<http://edition.cnn.com/2013/12/13/world/asia/philippines-typhoon-haiyan/>>

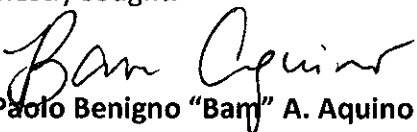
With impending disasters in the country's future, it is important to move from post-disaster relief to proactive disaster preparedness. And as the nation moves in this direction, it is important to include young Filipinos in this evolving discussion.

The Responsive, Empowered and Service-Centric Youth (RESCYouth) Act proposes to include the Filipino youth in the nation's disaster risk reduction policy body to recognize their role in DRRM and empower them with information and skills to help communities in times of crisis.

The measure seeks to have the National Youth Commission (NYC) Chairman be included in the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council (NDRRMC) to voice out the concerns and proposals of the Filipino youth on disaster prevention, promotion, education, rescue, and rehabilitation, among others.


There is nothing to lose, but so much to gain from engaging the youth in our quest to build a Philippines that is capable of efficiently responding to natural calamities and able to reduce its negative impact on society.

In view of the foregoing, the approval of this bill is earnestly sought.

  
Senator Paolo Benigno "Bam" A. Aquino IV

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**AN ACT INCLUDING RESPONSIVE, EMPOWERED AND SERVICE-CENTERED YOUTH IN THE DISASTER RISK REDUCTION AND MANAGEMENT COUNCIL IN ALL LEVELS, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 10121, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE PHILIPPINE DISASTER RISK REDUCTION AND MANAGEMENT ACT OF 2010**

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

1 **Section 1.** This Act shall be known as the "Youth Participation in Disaster Risk Reduction and  
2 Management Act of 2014."

3 **Section 2.** Section 3 of Republic Act (RA) No. 10121 is hereby amended as follows:

4 Section 3. *Definition of Terms.* - For purposes of this Act, the following shall refer  
5 to:

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7 **((PP) "YOUTH" – REFERS TO THOSE PERSONS AGED FIFTEEN (15) TO THIRTY**  
8 **(30) YEARS OLD AS PROVIDED UNDER REPUBLIC ACT (RA) 8044.**

9 **(QQ) "YOUTH PARTICIPATION" – REFERS TO THE PROCESS OF INVOLVING**  
10 **YOUNG PEOPLE IN THE INSTITUTIONS AND DECISIONS THAT AFFECT THEIR**  
11 **LIVES INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO ORGANIZING GROUPS FOR SOCIAL**  
12 **AND POLITICAL ACTIONS, PLANNING THEIR PROGRAMS, AND ADVOCATING**  
13 **THEIR INTEREST IN THE COMMUNITY TO RAISE CONSCIOUSNESS, EDUCATE**  
14 **OTHERS, AND PROVIDE SERVICES.**

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16 **Section 3.** Section 5 of RA No. 10121 is hereby amended as follows:

17 Section 5. *National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council.* - The  
18 present National Disaster Coordinating Council or NDCC shall henceforth be

1 known as the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council,  
2 hereinafter referred to as the NDRRMC or the National Council.

3 The National Council shall be headed by the Secretary of the Department of  
4 National Defense (DND) as Chairperson with the Secretary of the Department of  
5 the Interior and Local Government (DILG) as Vice Chairperson for Disaster  
6 Preparedness, the Secretary of the Department of Social Welfare and  
7 Development (DSWD) as Vice Chairperson for Disaster Response, the Secretary  
8 of the Department of Science and Technology (DOST) as Vice Chairperson for  
9 Disaster Prevention and Mitigation, and the Director-General of the National  
10 Economic and Development Authority (NEDA) as Vice Chairperson for Disaster  
11 Rehabilitation and Recovery.

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

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14 (v) Commissioner of the National Anti-Poverty Commission-Victims of  
15 Disasters and Calamities Sector (NAPCVDC);

16 **(W) CHAIRPERSON OF THE NATIONAL YOUTH COMMISSION (NYC);**

17 [(w)] **(X)** Chairperson, National Commission on the Role of Filipino  
18 Women;

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20 **Section 4.** Section 7 is hereby amended to read as follows:

21 *Section 7. Authority of the NDRRMC Chairperson.* - The Chairperson of the  
22 NDRRMC may call upon other instrumentalities or entities of the government  
23 and nongovernment, **CIVIC, AND YOUTH ORGANIZATIONS**, for assistance In  
24 terms of the use of their facilities and resources for the protection and  
25 *preservation of life and properties in the whole range of disaster risk reduction*  
26 *and management.* This authority includes the power to call on the reserve force  
27 as defined in Republic Act No. 7077 to assist in relief and rescue during disasters  
28 or calamities.

29 **Section 5.** Section 10 is hereby amended to read as follows:

30 *Section 10. Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Organization at the*  
31 *Regional Level.* - The current Regional Disaster Coordinating Councils shall  
32 henceforth be known as the Regional Disaster Risk Reduction and Management  
33 Councils (RDRRMCs) which shall coordinate, integrate, supervise, and evaluate  
34 the activities of the LDRRMCs. The RDRRMC shall be responsible in ensuring  
35 disaster sensitive regional development plans, and in case of emergencies shall

1 convene the different regional line agencies and concerned institutions and  
2 authorities.

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4 The existing regional offices of the OCD shall serve as secretariat of the  
5 RDRRMCs. The RDRRMCs shall be composed of the executives of regional offices  
6 and field stations at the regional level of the government agencies, **AS WELL AS**  
7 **REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE CIVIL SOCIETY AND YOUTH ORGANIZATIONS.**

8 **Section 6.** Section 11 is hereby amended to read as follows:

9 Section 11. *Organization at the Local Government Level.* - The existing Provincial,  
10 City, and Municipal Disaster Coordinating Councils shall henceforth be known as  
11 the Provincial, City, and Municipal Disaster Risk Reduction and Management  
12 Councils. The Barangay Disaster Coordinating Councils shall cease to exist and its  
13 powers and functions shall henceforth be assumed by the existing Barangay  
14 Development Councils (BDCs) which shall serve as the LDRRMCs in every  
15 barangay.

16 (a) Composition: The LDRRMC shall be composed of, but not limited to, the  
17 following:

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19 (15) The President of the Association of Barangay Captains (ABC),  
20 member;

21 **(16) A LOCAL YOUTH REPRESENTATIVE AS MAY BE DETERMINED BY THE**  
22 **LGU, IN CONSONANCE WITH THE GUIDELINES ISSUED BY NYC AND THE**  
23 **DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT (DILG);**

24 ~~[(16)]~~ **(17)** The Philippine National Red Cross (PNRC), member;

25 ~~[(17)]~~ **(18)** Four (4) accredited CSOs, members; and

26 ~~[(18)]~~ **(19)** One (1) private sector representative, member.

27 **Section 7.** Section 12 is hereby amended to read as follows:

28 Section 12. *Local Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Office (LDRRMO).* -  
29 (a) There shall be established an LDRRMO in every province, city and  
30 municipality, and a Barangay Disaster Risk Reduction and Management  
31 Committee (BDRRMC) in every barangay which shall be responsible for setting  
32 the direction, development, implementation and coordination of disaster risk  
33 management programs within their territorial jurisdiction.

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(b) The provincial, city and municipal DRRMOs or BDRRMCs shall perform the following functions with impartiality given the emerging challenges brought by disasters of our times:

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(8) Conduct continuous disaster monitoring and mobilize instrumentalities and entities of the LGUs, CSOs, private groups and organized volunteers, **INCLUDING YOUTH ORGANIZATIONS**, to utilize their facilities and resources for the protection and preservation of life and properties during emergencies in accordance with existing policies and procedures;

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**(17) MONITOR AND ENSURE THE IMPLEMENTATION OF RESPONSE AND REHABILITATION PROGRAMS FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH, SUCH AS MENTAL HEALTH AND PSYCHO-SOCIAL SERVICES, GENDER SENSITIVITY AND SECURITY, LIVELIHOOD, AND EDUCATION;**

~~[(17)]~~ **(18)** Within its area, promote and raise public awareness of and compliance with this Act and legislative provisions relevant to the purpose of this Act;

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(d) The BDRRMC shall be a regular committee of the existing BDC and shall be subject thereto. The punong barangay shall facilitate and ensure the participation of at least **ONE (1) YOUTH REPRESENTATIVE, THROUGH THE GUIDELINES FORMULATED BY THE NYC AND THE DILG; THE SK CHAIRPERSON; AND** two (2) CSO representatives from existing and active community-based people's organizations representing the most vulnerable and marginalized groups in the barangay.

**Section 8.** Section 13 is hereby amended to read as follows:

*Section 13. Accreditation, Mobilization, and Protection of Disaster Volunteers and National Service Reserve Corps, CSOs and the Private Sector.* - The government agencies, CSOs, **YOUTH ORGANIZATIONS**, private sector and LGUs may mobilize individuals or organize volunteers to augment their respective personnel complement and logistical requirements in the delivery of disaster risk reduction programs and activities. The agencies, CSOs, **YOUTH ORGANIZATIONS**, private sector, and LGUs concerned shall take full responsibility for the enhancement, welfare and protection of volunteers, and shall submit the list of volunteers to the OCD, through the LDRRMOs, for accreditation and inclusion in the database of community disaster volunteers.

1 A national roster of ACDVs, National Service Reserve Corps, CSOs, **YOUTH**  
2 **ORGANIZATIONS**, and the private sector shall be maintained by the OCD  
3 through the LDRRMOs. Accreditation shall be done at the municipal or city level.

4 **YOUTH ORGANIZATIONS UNDER THE YOUTH ORGANIZATION REGISTRATION**  
5 **PROGRAM (YORP) OF THE NYC, ESPECIALLY THOSE THAT SPECIALIZE IN**  
6 **DISASTER RISK REDUCTION AND MANAGEMENT, SHALL BE TAPPED BY THE**  
7 **NDRRMC TO ASSIST IN PREPARING FOR, RESPONDING TO, AND RECOVERING**  
8 **FROM DISASTERS.**

9 Mobilization of volunteers shall be in accordance with the guidelines to be  
10 formulated by the NDRRMC consistent with the provisions of this Act. Any  
11 volunteer who incurs death or injury while engaged in any of the activities  
12 defined under this Act shall be entitled to compensatory benefits and individual  
13 personnel accident insurance as may be defined under the guidelines.

14 **Section 9.** Section 14 is hereby amended to read as follows:

15 Section 14. *Integration of Disaster Risk Reduction Education into the School*  
16 *Curricula and Sangguniang Kabataan (SK) Program and Mandatory Training for*  
17 *the Public Sector Employees.* - The DepED, the CHED, the Technical Education  
18 and Skills Development Authority (TESDA), in coordination with the OCD, the  
19 National Youth Commission (NYC), the DOST, the DENR, the DILG-BFP, the DOH,  
20 the DSWD and other relevant agencies, shall integrate disaster risk reduction  
21 and management education in the school curricula of secondary and tertiary  
22 level of education, including the National Service Training Program (NSTP),  
23 whether private or public, including formal and non-formal, technical-vocational,  
24 indigenous learning, and out-of-school youth courses and programs.

25 The NDRRMC, the RDRRMCs, the LDRRMCs, the LDRRMOs, the BDRRMCs the SK  
26 councils, **AND THE BARANGAY YOUTH REPRESENTATIVE**, shall **ENSURE**  
27 **COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION, SPECIFICALLY THE YOUTH**, [encourage  
28 *community, specifically the youth, participation*] in disaster risk reduction and  
29 management activities, such as organizing quick response groups, particularly in  
30 identified disaster-prone areas, as well as the inclusion of disaster risk reduction  
31 and management programs as part of the SK programs and projects.

32 The public sector employees shall be trained in emergency response and  
33 preparedness. The training is mandatory for such employees to comply with the  
34 provisions of this Act.

35 **Section 10.** Section 15 is hereby amended to read as follows:

36 Section 15. *Coordination During Emergencies.* - The LDRRMCs shall take the lead  
37 in preparing for, responding to, and recovering from the effects of any disaster  
38 based on the following criteria:

1 (a) The BDC, if a barangay is affected;

2 (b) The city/municipal DRRMCs, if two (2) or more barangays are  
3 affected;

4 (c) The provincial DRRMC, if two (2) or more cities/municipalities are  
5 affected;

6 (d) The regional DRRMC, if two (2) or more provinces are affected; and

7 (e) The NDRRMC, if two (2) or more regions are affected.

8 The NDRRMC and intermediary LDRRMCs shall always act as support to LGUs  
9 which have the primary responsibility as first disaster responders. Private sector  
10 and civil society groups, **INCLUDING YOUTH ORGANIZATIONS**, shall work in  
11 accordance with the coordination mechanism and policies set by the NDRRMC  
12 and concerned LDRRMCs.

13 **Section 11.** Section 21 is hereby amended to read as follows:

14 Section 21. *Local Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Fund (LDRRMF).* -  
15 The present Local Calamity Fund shall henceforth be known as the Local Disaster  
16 Risk Reduction and Management Fund (LDRRMF). Not less than five percent  
17 (5%) of the estimated revenue from regular sources shall be set aside as the  
18 LDRRMF to support disaster risk management activities such as, but not limited  
19 to, pre-disaster preparedness programs including training, purchasing life-saving  
20 rescue equipment, supplies and medicines, for post-disaster activities, and for  
21 the payment of premiums on calamity insurance. The LDRRMC shall monitor and  
22 evaluate the use and disbursement of the LDRRMF based on the LDRRMP as  
23 incorporated in the local development plans and annual work and financial plan.  
24 Upon the recommendation of the LDRRMO and approval of the sanggunian  
25 concerned, the LDRRMC may transfer the said fund to support disaster risk  
26 reduction work of other LDRRMCs which are declared under state of calamity.

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28 **NOT LESS THAN FIVE PERCENT (5%) OF THE LDRRMF SHALL BE ALLOCATED TO**  
29 **SUPPORT YOUTH-ORIENTED PRE- AND POST-DISASTER ACTIVITIES INCLUDED**  
30 **IN THE YOUTH PLAN SUCH AS, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, TREE-PLANTING,**  
31 **TRAINING, INFORMATION DISSEMINATION, AND CLIMATE CHANGE**  
32 **ADAPTATION EFFORTS.**

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34 **Section 12.** All other laws, decrees, executive orders, proclamations and other executive  
35 issuance's which are inconsistent with or contrary to the provisions of this Act are hereby  
36 amended or repealed accordingly.



1 **Section 13.** If any provision of this Act shall be held unconstitutional or invalid, the other  
2 provisions not otherwise affected shall remain in full force and effect.

3 **Section 14.** This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days following its complete publication in the  
4 Official Gazette or in two (2) national newspapers of general circulation.

Approved.