

THIRTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC)
OF THE PHILIPPINES)
First Regular Session)

'04 JUL 26 19:25

SENATE

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S. B. No. 1469

Introduced by Senator Manuel "Lito" M. Lapid

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Based on a paper presented during the National Conference on National Disaster Mitigation, it appears that Filipinos are more reactionary than anticipatory in terms of disaster-preparedness and hazard awareness. It also seems that proactive planning to anticipate a probable disaster in the Philippines is low in the priorities of majority of its population, particularly among the low-income bracket because of the main preoccupation on daily subsistence and survival.

Ironically, the Philippines is one of the most disaster-prone countries in the world. Its archipelago is prone to earthquakes, volcanic eruptions, typhoons, tsunamis, floods and droughts because of its geologic and geographical conditions. Moreover, the country lies between two major tectonic plates which makes it a highly seismic area.

Every year, an average of about twenty typhoons enters the Philippines causing damage and unnecessary loss of lives. Flooding due to typhoons causes chronic problems in major cities as a result of inadequate drainage systems.

In response to the need to minimize loss of life, property damage and socio-economic losses caused by natural disasters and in recognition of the eminent need to promote a pro-active disaster preparedness program, this proposed measure aims to integrate in the curricula of all primary and secondary schools of our educational system the subject on disaster awareness, disaster mitigation and preparedness.

Such curriculum shall include, among others, courses on natural and man-made disasters in order to instill disaster awareness and promote active participation of the youth, students and society as a whole in disaster preparedness.

In view of the foregoing, the passage of this measure is earnestly sought.


MANUEL "LITO" M. LAPID

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AN ACT
REQUIRING THE TEACHING OF DISASTER AWARENESS
AND DISASTER MITIGATION AS PART OF THE
CURRICULUM OF ALL PRIMARY AND SECONDARY
SCHOOLS, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

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

SECTION 1. Teaching of disaster awareness and disaster mitigation is hereby required to be part of the curriculum of all primary and secondary schools in the Philippines.

SEC. 2. *Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR).* – Within ninety (90) days from the effectivity of this Act, the Department of Education (DepEd) shall adopt the necessary rules and regulations to implement the provisions of this Act.

SEC. 3. *Appropriations.* – The funds needed for this purpose shall be taken from the appropriations of the Department of Education. Thereafter, such amount necessary for the implementation of this Act shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

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SEC. 4. Repealing Clause. – All laws, presidential decrees, executive orders, proclamations, rules and regulations, or parts thereof which are inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SEC. 5. Separability Clause. - If any provision of this Act is declared unconstitutional, the other provisions not affected thereby shall remain valid.

SEC. 6. Effectivity Clause. – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days from its publication in the Official Gazette or in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,

