

SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE )  
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES )  
*Second Regular Session* )

'18 MAR -8 A11 :43

SENATE  
S. No. 1735

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Introduced by Senator Grace Poe

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**AN ACT**  
**REORGANIZING AND STRENGTHENING THE DISASTER RISK REDUCTION AND**  
**MANAGEMENT SYSTEM OF THE PHILIPPINES, ESTABLISHING FOR THE**  
**PURPOSE THE DEPARTMENT OF DISASTER RESILIENCE AND EMERGENCY**  
**MANAGEMENT, EMPOWERING THE REGIONAL FIELD OFFICES,**  
**ESTABLISHING COORDINATING MECHANISMS, STRENGTHENING**  
**COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR, AND**  
**FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

***Explanatory Note***

Some events are so tragic and catastrophic that they are permanently imprinted on a nation's collective memory. In the case of Japan, it was the Nagasaki and Hiroshima bombings. In the case of the United States, it was the Pearl Harbor bombing and the September 11 attacks. In the case of the Philippines, it was Typhoon Yolanda (internationally known as Haiyan).

No typhoon in Philippine history has been as traumatically remembered as Yolanda. Above and beyond the data- 5,500 dead, 1.14 million houses destroyed and Php 24 billion worth of damaged infrastructure and agriculture- the imagery of 275 km/hour winds and huge waves of water wiping out communities will remain a national tragedy told and retold to generations hereafter.

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