EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES First Regular Session



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SENATE P.S. Res. No. <u>143</u>

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INTRODUCED BY SENATOR RISA HONTIVEROS

A RESOLUTION GETTING THE SENSE OF THE SENATE IN SUPPORTING THE YOUTH STRIKE FOR CLIMATE ON SEPTEMBER 20-27, 2019, ITS CALLS, AND ITS SUCCEEDING STEPS TOWARDS CLIMATE ACTION

WHEREAS, the Climate Change Act of 2009 or RA 9729 provides that 'it is the policy of the State to afford full protection and the advancement of the right of the people to a heathy ecology in accord with the rhythm and harmony of nature.'¹

WHEREAS, the Philippines adopted 'the Philippine Agenda 21 framework which espouses sustainable development to fulfill human needs while maintaining the quality of the natural environment for current and future generations.²

WHEREAS, the Act requires the State to adhere to the objectives of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and 'to cooperate with the global community in the resolution of climate change issues, including disaster risk reduction.' The State should also encourage the involvement of 'national and local governments, businesses, non-government organizations, local communities, and the public to prevent and reduce the adverse impacts of climate change and, at the same time, maximize the benefits of climate change.'³

WHEREAS, according to a 2018 report from the UN Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), the planet will reach the vital threshold of 1.5 degrees Celsius (2.7 degrees Fahrenheit) as early as 2030 if the matter at hand continues to be overlooked. This will trigger extreme disasters, such as drought, wildfires, floods, and food shortage.⁴

WHEREAS, on 22 April 2015, 197 parties including the Philippines signed the Paris Agreement which deals with the commitment of signatory countries in the reduction and mitigation of greenhouse gases (GHGs) to help achieve the 1.5°C challenge.⁵

WHEREAS, according to National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA), there has been an increase of eight inches in the global sea level in the last century, a decrease in the amount of spring snow cover in the planet's northern hemisphere, thinning of ice sheets from both North and South poles, record breaking temperatures

¹ https://www.officialgazette.gov.ph/2009/10/23/republic-act-no-9729/

² ibid

³ ibid

⁴ https://www.ipcc.ch/site/assets/uploads/sites/2/2019/05/SR15_SPM_version_report_LR.pdf

⁵ https://ph.ambafrance.org/The-Philippines-ratifies-the-Paris-Agreement

in land or in sea beyond 700 meters, which are symptomatic of a climate crisis awaiting detonation.⁶

WHEREAS, youth and students from over a hundred countries organized the Youth Strike for Climate, a campaign movement on fighting for climate justice and demanding political action on the crisis.⁷

WHEREAS, the Philippines has joined the global movement and for the third time, youth, students, climate activists, environmentalists, concerned individuals, and groups will participate in the 3rd International Youth Strike for Climate on Friday, the 20th of September 2019 and will participate in the series of events on the #GlobalWeekOfAction on September 20-27, 2019.⁸

WHEREAS, the following areas are the 26 locations in the country where the strikes will be held: Luzon (Ilocos Norte, Baguio, Pampanga, Bataan, Caloocan City, Quezon City, Mandaluyong City, Cabuyao and Los Baños, Laguna, Dasmariñas, Cavite, Infanta, Quezon Province, Puerto Prinsesa, Palawan and Albay and Sorsogon, Bicol), Visayas (Tacloban City, Dumaguete City, Cebu City, Iloilo, Bacolod, Negros Occidental and Guian, Samar), and Mindanao (Davao City, Tawi-Tawi, South Cotabato, General Santos, Iligan, Bukidnon, and Digos).⁹

WHEREAS, we will put into record the official expression of the Senate the need to address the climate crisis and to enact laws that will address it, especially for those who are the most vulnerable to it: our farmers, fisherfolks, victims of disaster, women in rural areas, and the youth.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, to get the sense of the senate in supporting the Youth Strike for Climate on September 20-27, 2019, its calls, and its succeeding steps towards climate action.

Adopted,

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⁶ https://www.ipcc.ch/site/assets/uploads/2018/02/ar4-wg1-chapter3-1.pdf

⁷ https://www.nytimes.com/2019/09/20/climate/global-climate-strike.html

⁸ https://www.rappler.com/move-ph/239919-list-global-climate-strike-mobilizations-philippines-2019