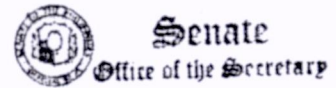


EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE )  
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES )  
*First Regular Session* )



20 JAN 20 P 2 :10

**SENATE**  
S. No. 1272

RECEIVED BY: *[Signature]*

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Introduced by Senator Francis "Tol" N. Tolentino

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**AN ACT**  
**AMENDING REPUBLIC ACT No. 10121, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS**  
**"PHILIPPINE DISASTER RISK REDUCTION AND MANAGEMENT ACT OF**  
**2010" BY REINFORCING LOCAL GOVERNMENT COORDINATION AND**  
**RESPONSE EFFORTS, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

By virtue of its geographic location, the Philippines is highly prone to natural calamities such as tropical cyclones, floods, earthquakes and volcanic eruptions. The country is likewise the fifth country in the world with the highest weather-related losses at \$2.932 billion dollars, according to the 2019 Global Climate Risk Index.

For this reason, the culture of preparedness for disasters is well-ingrained in Filipino culture and has been institutionalized in Philippine laws as early as 1941 with the establishment of the Civil Emergency Administration. This was followed by the enactment of Presidential Decree Number 1566, which codified all the laws and regulations regarding disaster management and created the National Disaster Coordinating Council on October 19, 1970.

It was only in 2010 when the country shifted to proactive disaster management approaches and strategies with the passage of Republic Act 10121 (R.A. No. 10121) or the Disaster Risk Reduction and Management (DRRM) Act, which created the NDRRMC (Council). Among the primary functions of the Council is to provide a comprehensive, all-hazard, multi-sectoral, inter-agency, and community-based approach to disaster risk

management. However, the Council does not operate in isolation and there remains more that could be done, especially in empowering Local Government Units (LGUs) in disaster management.

The current framework under R.A. No. 10121 does not cover a comprehensive action plan on evacuation and post-recovery operations, which should be at the heart of the country's disaster response policy. Given that joint efforts of the Council, the LGUs and other government agencies remain vital in strengthening the country's disaster resilience, a more detailed coordination framework between the stakeholders should be established.

Now therefore, to strengthen the emergency response system of the country and to streamline evacuation and post recovery efforts, this bill aims to provide the following:

- A) The creation of an inter-local government unit response mechanism and business continuity plan, which includes the identification and creation of permanent evacuation centers, safe refuge zones, evacuation routes and assembly points;
- B) A mandate for the joint planning of LGUs for traffic control, evacuation transport and accommodation of persons and animals; and
- C) The authorization of the Government to utilize private or commercial buildings, such as but not limited to schools, shopping malls, restaurants, warehouses, as evacuation centers or safe zones, provided that payment, from the local government unit or the national government in case of incapacity of the former, for the use of such private institutions shall be made after such use.

The State must exert all efforts to address against calamities, both natural and man-made, to save not only lives of citizens in disaster stricken areas but that of the future generations. Considering the foregoing, the immediate enactment of this bill is respectfully requested.



**FRANCIS "TOL" N. TOLENTINO**

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE )  
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RESPONSE EFFORTS, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

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

1 Section 1. *Short Title.* This Act shall be known as the "Expanded Philippine  
2 Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Framework of 2020."

3 Sec. 2. Section 15 of Republic Act No. 10121, otherwise known as the  
4 "Philippine Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Act of 2010", is hereby amended  
5 as follows:

6 "Sec. 15. *Coordination During Emergencies.* -

7 "(a) XXX

8 "XXX

9 "(e) XXX

10 **"AN INTER-LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNIT RESPONSE MECHANISM AND**  
11 **BUSINESS CONTINUITY PLAN, SHALL BE FORMULATED, WHICH INCLUDES**  
12 **THE IDENTIFICATION AND CREATION OF PERMANENT EVACUATION**  
13 **CENTERS, SAFE REFUGE ZONES, EVACUATION ROUTES AND ASSEMBLY**

1 **POINTS. JOINT PLANNING FOR TRAFFIC CONTROL, INTER-LOCAL**  
2 **GOVERNMENT UNITS CALAMITY DRILLS, EVACUATION TRANSPORT, AND**  
3 **ACCOMMODATION OF PERSONS AND ANIMALS SHALL LIKEWISE**  
4 **BE ESTABLISHED."**

5 The NDRRMC and intermediary LDRRMCs shall always act as support to LGUs  
6 which have the primary responsibility as first disaster responders. Private sector and  
7 civil society groups shall work in accordance with the coordination mechanism and  
8 policies set by the NDRRMC and concerned LDRRMCs.

9 Sec. 3. Section 17 of Republic Act No. 10121 is hereby amended as follows:

10 "Sec. 17. *Remedial Measures.* -

11 "(a) XXX

12 "XXX

13 "(d) XXX

14 **"(e) GRANTING POWERS TO THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNITS**  
15 **AFFECTED TO OCCUPY OR UTILIZE PRIVATE OR COMMERCIAL BUILDINGS,**  
16 **SUCH AS BUT NOT LIMITED TO SCHOOLS, SHOPPING MALLS,**  
17 **RESTAURANTS, WAREHOUSES, AS EVACUATION CENTERS OR SAFE ZONES,**  
18 **PROVIDED THAT PAYMENT, FROM THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNIT OR THE**  
19 **NATIONAL GOVERNMENT IN CASE OF INCAPACITY OF THE FORMER, FOR**  
20 **THE USE OF SUCH PRIVATE INSTITUTIONS SHALL BE MADE AFTER SUCH**  
21 **USE."**

22 Sec. 4. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.* The NDRRMC, the League of  
23 Provinces, Cities, Municipalities, and Barangays, and other concerned government  
24 agencies shall formulate and prescribe, after public hearing and publication as required  
25 by law, the Implementing Rules and Regulations in order to carry out the provisions  
26 of this Act within 90 days from its effectivity.

27 Sec. 5. *Separability Clause.* If any provision of this Act shall be held  
28 unconstitutional or invalid, the other provisions not otherwise affected shall remain in  
29 full force and effect.

30 Sec. 6. *Repealing Clause.* All laws, decrees, executive orders, proclamations  
31 and other executive issuances which are inconsistent with or contrary to the provisions  
32 of this Act are hereby amended or repealed accordingly.

1            *Sec. 7. Effectivity Clause.* This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days following  
2 its complete publication in the Official Gazette or in two (2) national newspapers of  
3 general circulation.

4            Approved,

5