

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

5 APR 27 P3:04

SENATE 246  
P. S. R. No. \_\_\_\_\_

RECEIVED BY: \_\_\_\_\_

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Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

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RESOLUTION

DIRECTING THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES AND THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND FOOD TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY IN AID OF LEGISLATION ON APPROPRIATE GOVERNMENT PROGRAMS TO PREPARE FOR AND MITIGATE THE POSSIBLE EFFECTS OF THE EL NIÑO PHENOMENON, WHICH THE PHILIPPINE ATMOSPHERIC, GEOPHYSICAL AND ASTRONOMIC SERVICES ADMINISTRATION (PAG-ASA) FORECASTS TO OCCUR IN THE COMING MONTHS

WHEREAS, the weather bureau of the Philippine Atmospheric, Geophysical and Astronomic Services Administration (PAG-ASA) warned provinces in Northern Luzon and some areas of the Visayas to prepare for possible drought conditions in the coming months because of the El Niño weather phenomenon;

WHEREAS, the El Niño is a global meteorological phenomenon that develops in the Pacific, most often off Peru, and is associated with extreme climatic variability characterized by devastating rains, winds, drought, and other events;

WHEREAS, this phenomenon, which develops every few years, involves the warming of the Pacific Ocean by 1 to 2 degrees Celsius, extending from the Peruvian coast to the International Date Line, or one quarter of the earth's surface; the change in sea temperature alters tropical weather patterns and influences short-term climate over the globe through changes in atmospheric circulation;

WHEREAS, according to PAG-ASA, the regions of Cordillera, Ilocos, and Western Visayas are the ones likely to experience the El Niño phenomenon this summer; areas that have experienced two consecutive months of "way below normal rainfall" are the ones that have the "potential for drought conditions," in particular the provinces of Isabela, Nueva Vizcaya, Nueva Ecija, Quirino, Aurora, Palawan, Negros Oriental, Siquijor, Biliran, Bukidnon, Davao del Sur, South Cotabato, and Sarangani;


WHEREAS, Luzon, considered the country's rice granary, will have temperatures ranging from 21 to 35 degrees Celsius, warmer than the more mountainous Visayas and Mindanao;

WHEREAS, PAG-ASA advised all concerned government agencies to continue implementing appropriate measures to mitigate the potential impact of the El Niño on agriculture, water resources, hydropower generation, health and sanitation, and other sectors.

WHEREFORE, be it resolved, as it is hereby resolved by the Philippine Senate, to direct the Senate Committee on Environment and Natural Resources and the Senate Committee on Agriculture and Food to conduct an inquiry in aid of legislation on appropriate government

programs to prepare for and mitigate the possible effects of the El Niño phenomenon, which the PAG-ASA forecasts to occur in the coming months.

Adopted,

  
MIRIAM DEFENSOR SANTIAGO

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