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SENATE

P.S. Res. No. **572** 

## INTRODUCED BY: SENATOR EMMANUEL D. PACQUIAO

## **A RESOLUTION**

DIRECTING THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE STATUS AND CONTINUING VIABILITY OF THE COUNTRY'S EXISTING FLOOD CONTROL SYSTEM AND PENDINIG FLOOD CONTROL PROJECTS, IN THE INTEREST OF IMPROVING THE PREVENTION, MITIGATION AND REMEDIATION OF FLOODING AND INUNDATION AND THEIR ADVERSE EFFECTS TO COMMUNITIES

WHEREAS, the Constitution provides that the State shall promote a just and dynamic social order that will ensure the prosperity and independence of the nation and free the people from poverty through policies that provide adequate social services, promote full employment, a rising standard of living, and an improved quality of life for all;

WHEREAS, the country has repeatedly witnessed the heavy and sometimes catastrophic flooding of communities and cities, and tragically in a number of cases, the complete inundation of some areas;

WHEREAS, flooding and inundation of communities and areas, not only affect the living conditions and livelihood of the people for some time, but they may also cause longer-term negative health and economic effects;

WHEREAS, Executive Order No. 292 or the Administrative Code of 1987 mandates that the Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH) shall be responsible of the planning, design, construction and maintenance of infrastructure facilities, especially national highways, flood control and water resources development systems, and other public works in accordance with national development objectives;

WHEREAS, despite the flood control management plan of the government and the yearly public budget allotted for the same under the administration of the DPWH, the problems of flooding and inundation annually challenge many areas across the country during the rainy season;

WHEREAS, the factors of adjustments in weather systems, including Climate Change, and possibly design, implementation, construction and maintenance challenges and issues, may have impacted upon or affected the continuing viability of the country's flood control and management system, and national and local flood control projects;

WHEREAS, after the onslaught of Typhoon Ulysses which triggered widespread flooding in a number of regions in Luzon, it was reported that many roads do not have provisions for drainage such as the Lopez-Calauag road in Quezon province, a major thoroughfare between Manila and Bicol, and that lack of drainage was specified as a major reason for the flooding in the province;

WHEREAS, on the other hand, an P8.8 million 2018 DPWH drainage project in Parañaque was reported as possibly unnecessary and overpriced for a one-lane drain system, additionally considering that the city has drainage systems along both sides of the two-lane road of President's Avenue;

WHEREAS, a Senate inquiry is needed to review the continuing viability of the government's flood control and management system and pending flood control projects in order to provide the general public relief against adversities brought by floods;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Philippine Senate, to direct the Senate Committee on Public Works to conduct an inquiry, in aid of legislation, on the status and continuing viability of the country's existing flood control system and pending flood control projects, in the interest of improving the prevention, mitigation and remediation of flooding and inundation and their adverse effects to communities.

Adopted,

EMMANUEL D. PACQUIAO