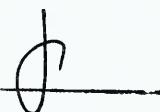


NINETEENTH CONGRESS OF THE)
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
First Regular Session)



'22 JUL 13 A10 :13

SENATE
S. No. 465

RECEIVED BY: 

Introduced by SENATOR JINGGOY EJERCITO ESTRADA

AN ACT
PROVIDING FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF A MULTIPURPOSE GYM IN ALL MUNICIPALITIES AND CITIES TO SERVE AS EVACUATION CENTER DURING TIMES OF CALAMITY OR DISASTER AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Republic Act No. 10121, otherwise known as the "Philippine Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Act of 2021" was enacted to protect life and property from damages and devastation brought about by natural and man-made disasters. It also seeks to build resilient local communities that are adaptive to climate change. Among its objectives is to "provide maximum care, assistance and services to individuals and families affected by disaster, implement emergency rehabilitation projects to lessen the impact of disaster, and facilitate resumption of normal social economic activities".

The important role of local government units (LGUs) in protecting our people and environment are acknowledged in RA 10121. However, one aspect where they can best assist their constituents was not outlined in the said law, and that is the provision of temporary shelter during calamities and disasters through evacuation centers.

At present, the most commonly used infrastructure as evacuation centers are public schools because of their immediate accessibility to the residents. However,

classes are disrupted whenever evacuees occupy school rooms during school days. Multipurpose halls or gyms are better options as evacuation centers because they are more spacious and their use do not interfere with important activities. However, not all cities and municipalities have multipurpose gyms.

The "*Multipurpose Gym in all Municipalities and Cities Act of 2022*" requires all cities and municipalities to construct a multipurpose gym that will house the individuals and families affected by calamities and disasters. To ensure the safety of the users as well as the reliability of the structure itself, the proposed measure specifies the location, structural capacity, and amenities that should be available in the said gyms.

This bill was filed by Senator Ralph G. Recto in the 18th Congress.

In view of the foregoing, the swift passage of this bill is earnestly sought.



JINGGOY EJERCITO ESTRADA

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TIMES OF CALAMITY OR DISASTER AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS
THEREFOR**

*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 "*Multipurpose Gym in*
2 *All Municipalities and Cities Act of 2022*".

3 Sec. 2. *Declaration of Policy.* - It shall be the policy of the State to protect the
4 people's right to life and property, and to promote their general welfare. Towards this
5 end, the State, in cognizance of the vulnerability of the Philippines to calamities and
6 disasters, shall provide for the construction of a multi-purpose gym in every
7 municipality and city to serve primarily as a refuge for displaced families in times of
8 calamities and disasters.

9 Sec. 3. *Construction of a Multipurpose Gym.* - The Department of Public Works
10 and Highways (DPWH) shall undertake the construction of a multipurpose gym in
11 every municipality and city throughout the country which shall serve as a civic center
12 and as an evacuation center for residents during calamities and disasters: *Provided,*
13 *That any such construction is based on a program prepared by DPWH in coordination*
14 *with a representative of the municipality and city concerned: Provided, further,* *That*
15 *the municipal or city mayor shall be furnished with the pertinent documents, data and*
16 *information before any construction shall commence: Provided, finally,* *That Local*

1 Government Units (LGUs) may include in their respective local infrastructure program
2 the construction of a multipurpose gym.

3 Sec. 4. *Construction Priority.* – The DPWH shall give construction priority to
4 third to sixth class municipalities, especially those located in disaster-prone areas. The
5 DPWH shall coordinate with the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management
6 Council and the LGUs concerned to determine which disaster-prone areas to prioritize
7 in the construction of the facility.

8 Priority should also be given to municipalities whose residents shall render
9 volunteer labor services for the construction of the multipurpose gym and for this
10 purpose, the DPWH shall issue the necessary guidelines.

11 Sec. 5. *Multipurpose Gym Requirements.* – The facilities shall, at the minimum,
12 have the following requirements:

13 (a) *Location* – The multipurpose gym should be easily accessible to
14 evacuees and to emergency rescue personnel. It should be kept at a
15 safe distance from danger areas or hazards. LGUs concerned shall
16 coordinate with the Department of Environment and Natural Resources
17 to identify the appropriate location of the multipurpose gym.

18 (b) *Structural Capacity* - The multipurpose gyms must be able to withstand
19 wind speeds of at least 155 miles per hour and seismic activity of at least
20 7.0 magnitude. The DPWH shall formulate the building specifications for
21 the multipurpose gyms and shall ensure the compliance with these
22 specifications during the construction of the facilities. DPWH shall
23 periodically review, and if necessary, revised herein stated specifications
24 as needed.

25 (c) *Amenities* - The multipurpose gym must be well-ventilated and can
26 accommodate large numbers of evacuees. It shall have, at the minimum,
27 the following amenities:

- 28 1) Floor area devoid of permanent fixtures to be used flexibly for
29 assemblies, sports events, and as sleeping quarters for evacuees;
30 2) Shower and toilet facilities; and,
31 3) Isolated area that can be used as a clinic in times of evacuations.

1 Sec. 6. *Operation and Management of the Multipurpose Gym.* – The Operation
2 and management of the multipurpose gym shall be under the office of the municipal
3 or city mayor. For the purposes of this Act, LGUs concerned are hereby authorized to
4 issue rules and regulations on the use of the facility and to impose minimal charges
5 as may be necessary for the maintenance and minimal repairs of the facility.

6 Sec. 7. *Appropriations.* – The Amount necessary for the immediate
7 implementation of the provisions of this Act shall be charged against the current
8 appropriations of the DPWH. Thereafter, such sums as may be necessary to carry out
9 the provisions of this Act shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

10 The LGUs are authorized to utilize local funds as may be provided in their
11 respective appropriation ordinances for the implementation of this Act.

12 Sec. 8. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.* – Within thirty (30) days from
13 the approval of this Act, the DPWH shall promulgate the rules and regulations for the
14 effective implementation of the provisions of this Act. The implementing rules and
15 regulations issued pursuant to this Act shall take effect thirty (30) days after its
16 publication in two (2) national newspapers of general circulation.

17 Sec. 9. *Separability Clause.* – If any provision or part hereof is held invalid or
18 unconstitutional, the remainder of the law or the provision or part not otherwise
19 affected shall remain valid and subsisting.

20 Sec. 10. *Repealing Clause.* – Any law, presidential decree or issuance,
21 executive order, letter of instruction, administrative order, rule, or regulation contrary
22 to or inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed, modified, or
23 amended accordingly.

24 Sec. 11. *Effectivity.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its
25 publication in the *Official Gazette* or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,