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SENATE
Proposed Senate Resolution No. 483

RECEIVED BY. 

Introduced by Senator Aquilino “Koko” Pimentel III

**A RESOLUTION EXPRESSING THE PHILIPPINE SENATE’S
CONDOLENCES TO THE GOVERNMENTS OF TÜRKIYE AND
SYRIA ON THE DEATH TOLL CAUSED BY THE 2023
TÜRKIYE-SYRIA EARTHQUAKE; CALLING THE
PHILIPPINE GOVERNMENT TO PROVIDE AID; AND
UNDERTAKE AN INFORMATION CAMPAIGN FOR
EARTHQUAKE PREPARATION AND RESPONSE**

1 **WHEREAS**, on 6 February 2023, a 7.8 magnitude earthquake
2 struck the southern and central provinces of the Republic of Türkiye,
3 including Adana, Gazantiep, Hatay, Kahramanmaras, Malatya, and
4 Sanliurfa, areas which, according to World Vision International, have a
5 significant presence of non-governmental organizations (NGOs)
6 supporting Syrians through cross-border humanitarian operations. The
7 same earthquake also struck the northern and western regions of the
8 Syrian Arab Republic, including the cities of Aleppo, Latakia, Hama, and
9 Idlib. Aleppo was already ravaged by civil war¹;

10

11 **WHEREAS**, according to the United States Geological Survey, at
12 least 120 aftershocks have rumbled across the region in the ensuing days²;

13

¹ **2023 Turkey and Syria earthquake: Facts, FAQs, and how to help.** World Vision.
<<https://www.worldvision.org/disaster-relief-news-stories/2023-turkey-and-syria-earthquake-faqs>>

² *Ibid.*

1 **WHEREAS**, according to a flagship report by the United Nations
2 International Children’s Emergency Fund, even before the earthquake,
3 more than 6.5 million children in Syria needed humanitarian aid due to
4 the ongoing Syrian Civil War³;

5
6 **WHEREAS**, according to the World Health Organization Senior
7 Emergency Officer Adelheid Marschang, in a statement to Reuters, about
8 23 million people, including 1.4 million children, are likely to be affected
9 by this disaster⁴;

10
11 **WHEREAS**, the Philippine Senate joins the families of the
12 departed victims of this earthquake in grieving their deaths caused by this
13 disaster;

14
15 **WHEREAS**, the consequences of this disaster serve as a reminder
16 that the Philippines is located along the Pacific Ring of Fire, causing our
17 country to have frequent seismic and volcanic activity. This disaster also
18 serves as a reminder of the Filipino lives lost due to earthquakes and other
19 calamities throughout our history;

20
21 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Senate of the
22 Philippines, to express, as it hereby expresses, its profound sympathy and
23 sincere condolences on the more than thirty three thousand Turkish and
24 Syrian lives taken by the 6 February 2023 Türkiye-Syria Earthquake⁵.

25
26 Resolved, further, That the Philippine Senate call on the Philippine
27 Government to extend help to the affected localities in Türkiye and Syria
28 and to reinforce relief and aid already delivered.

29
30 Resolved furthermore, That the Philippine Senate call on the
31 Philippine Government to undertake an information campaign on how to

³ *Every Day Counts*. UNICEF. <<https://www.unicef.org/syria/every-day-counts>>

⁴ *WHO says Syria, already in crisis, needs massive humanitarian aid after quake*. Reuters. February 7, 2023. <<https://www.reuters.com/world/middle-east/who-says-syria-already-crisis-needs-massive-humanitarian-aid-after-quake-2023-02-07/>>

⁵ Amarachi Orié, Isil Sariyuce, Eyad Kourdi and Chris Liakos. *Death toll climbs to 33,000 people in Turkey-Syria earthquake*. February 12, 2023. <<https://edition.cnn.com/2023/02/12/middleeast/deaths-turkey-syria-earthquake-intl/index.html>>.

1 prepare for and respond to an earthquake of similar or greater magnitude
2 which may take place in the Philippines;

3

4 Resolved, finally, That a copy of this Resolution be furnished to the
5 Embassy of Türkiye in the Philippines and the Consulate of the Syrian
6 Arab Republic in the Philippines.

7

Adopted,


AQUILINO "KOKO" PIMENTEL III