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

RECEIVED B

SENATE S.B. No. <u>1886</u>

Introduced by SENATOR IMEE R. MARCOS

AN ACT

AMENDING REPUBLIC ACT NO. 10121 OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE "PHILIPPINE DISASTER RISK REDUCTION AND MANAGEMENT ACT OF 2010" AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Section 5, Article II of the 1987 Constitution states that "the maintenance of peace and order, the protection of life, liberty, and property, and promotion of the general welfare are essential for the enjoyment by all the people of the blessings of democracy."

The geographical location of the Philippines makes it susceptible to strong typhoons, tsunamis, sea level rise, storm surges, flooding, landslides, volcanic eruptions earthquakes and other natural disasters. It is located along the typhoon belt in the Pacific. As such, it is visited by an average of twenty (20) typhoons every year, five (5) of which are destructive. Being situated also in the "Pacific Ring of Fire", it is also vulnerable to recurrent earthquakes and volcanic activities.

The Philippines has witnessed the most damaging disasters in recent history. Notable is the magnitude 7.6 Luzon Earthquake in July 1990 which killed 2,412, affected 1,597,553, and destroyed 100,000 houses with an estimated total loss of USD 250 million. In June 1991, Mount Pinatubo's eruption was considered the largest volcanic explosion in the 20th century killing 640 individuals, affecting 1,036,065, destroying 40,000 houses, and damaging more than 70,000 houses. Another significant disaster is the Super Typhoon "Haiyan", locally known as Typhoon "Yolanda" in November 2013 which affected a total of 3,424,593 families or 16,078,181 persons. Typhoon "Yolanda" left 6,318 persons dead, 28,689 persons injured and 1,061 persons still missing, as of date.

The entry of the new decade was also met by other disasters aside from the emergence of the COVID-19 pandemic. In January 2020, Taal Volcano in Batangas had a phreatomagmatic eruption from its main crater spewing ashes all over Calabarzon

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(Region IV-A), National Capital Region (NCR), and some parts of Central Luzon (Region III) and Ilocos Region (Region I), thus, affecting more than 736,000 people in Calabarzon, Central Luzon and NCR that led to the evacuation of more than 135,000 people, damage to infrastructure and livelihoods, interruption of work and education, and disruption of essential services, such as water supply. In November 2020, the Cagayan Valley Region, especially, in Central Isabela and the areas found in the entire stretch of the lower Cagayan River System down to Aparri, Cagayan were submerged by massive floods due to the onslaught of Typhoon "Ulysses" and unrelenting monsoon rains. Finally, prior to the end of 2021, on 16 December 2021, Typhoon "Odette" (known internationally as "Rai") made landfall several times on different islands in the Visayas and Mindanao which brought torrential rains, violent winds, landslides, storm surges, and affected over 7.8 million people across 11 regions. Typhoon Odette brought loss of lives and severe destruction to private property and public infrastructures reaching over PhP17.71 billion. In October 2022, Typhoon Karding destroyed Php 3.12 billion-worth of agriculture and damaged or destroyed 99,852 houses.

With the continuous vulnerability of the Philippines to climate change and other natural phenomena, Filipinos will always be at the helm of hazards brought about by the mentioned natural disasters. Due to the prevalence of these disasters and the natural *bayanihan* spirit of the Filipino people. Accredited Community Disaster Volunteers (ACDV) have emerged in the affected areas. As such, it is high time that enlisted ACDVs, who risk their lives serving during natural disasters shall be given due compensation by receiving hazard pay, compensatory benefits, and individual personal accident insurance.

Thus, this bill aims to recognize and reward the service of ACDVs by entitling them to receive hazard pay when engaged in any of the activities defined under this Act, compensatory benefits, and individual personal accident insurance, as provided in this Act.

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

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MEE R. MARCOS



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AMENDING REPUBLIC ACT NO. 10121 OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE "PHILIPPINE DISASTER RISK REDUCTION AND MANAGEMENT ACT OF 2010" AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

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

SECTION. 1. Section 9 of Republic Act No. 10121, otherwise known as the 1 "Philippine Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Act of 2010", shall be amended 2 to read as follows: 3 4 "Section 9. Powers and Functions of the OCD. - The OCD shall have 5 the following powers and functions: 6 7 (a) Advise the National Council on matters relating to disaster risk 8 reduction and management consistent with the policies and scope as 9 defined in this Act; 10 11 XXX 12 13 (o) Prepare the criteria and procedure for the enlistment of 14 accredited community disaster volunteers (ACDVs) WHO SHALL BE 15 ENTITLED TO RECEIVE HAZARD PAY WHEN ENGAGED IN ANY 16 ACTIVITIES DEFINED UNDER THIS ACT, OF THE 17 COMPENSATORY BENEFITS, AND INDIVIDUAL PERSONAL 18 ACCIDENT INSURANCE, AS PROVIDED IN THIS ACT. It shall 19 include a manual of operations for the volunteers which shall be 20 developed by the OCD in consultation with various stakeholders; 21 22 xxx." 23 24

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SEC. 2. Section 13 of Republic Act No. 10121, otherwise known as the "Philippine Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Act of 2010", shall be amended to read as follows:

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36 37 "Section 13. Accreditation, Mobilization, and Protection of Disaster Volunteers and National Service Reserve Corps, CSOs and the Private Sector. – The government agencies, CSOs, private sector and LGUs may mobilize individuals or organized volunteers to augment their respective personnel complement and logistical requirements in the delivery of disaster risk reduction programs and activities. The agencies, CSOs, private sector, and LGUs concerned shall take full responsibility for the enhancement, welfare and protection of volunteers, and shall submit the list of volunteers to the OCD, through the LDRRMOs, for accreditation and inclusion in the database of community disaster volunteers.

A national roster of ACDVs, National Service Reserve Corps, CSOs and the private sector shall be maintained by the OCD through the LDRRMOs. Accreditation shall be done at the municipal or city level.

Mobilization of volunteers shall be in accordance with the guidelines to be formulated by the NDRRMC consistent with the provisions of this Act. Any volunteer who incurs death or injury while engaged in any of the activities defined under this Act shall be entitled to compensatory benefits and individual personnel accident insurance as may be defined under the guidelines. **PROVIDED THAT, ACDVs SHALL BE ENTITLED TO HAZARD PAY, AS MAY BE DETERMINED BY THE OCD, WHENEVER ENGAGED IN ANY OF THE ACTIVITIES, AS DEFINED IN THIS ACT.**"

SEC. 3. Section 21 of Republic Act No. 10121, otherwise known as the "Philippine Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Act of 2010", shall be amended to read as follows:

"Section 21. *Local Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Fund (LDRRMF).* - The present Local Calamity Fund shall henceforth be known as the Local Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Fund (LDRRMF).

Not less than five percent (5%) of the estimated revenue from regular sources shall be set aside as the LDRRMF to support disaster risk management activities such as, but not limited to, pre-disaster preparedness programs including training, purchasing life-saving rescue equipment, supplies and medicines, for post-disaster activities, and for the payment of **HAZARD PAY AND** premiums on calamity insurance. The LDRRMC shall monitor and evaluate the use and disbursement of the LDRRMF based on the. LDRRMP as incorporated in the local development plans and annual work and financial plan. Upon the recommendation of the LDRRMO and approval of the *sanggunian* concerned, the LDRRMC may transfer the said fund to support disaster risk reduction work of other LDRRMCs which are declared under state of calamity.

Of the amount appropriated for LDRRMF, thirty percent (30%) shall be allocated as Quick Response Fund (QRF) or stand-by fund for relief and recovery programs in order that situation and living conditions of people in communities or areas stricken by disasters, calamities, epidemics, or complex emergencies, may be normalized as quickly as possible.

Unexpended LDRRMF shall accrue to a special trust fund solely for the purpose of supporting disaster risk reduction and management activities of the LDRRMCs within the next five (5) years. Any such amount still not fully utilized after five (5) years shall revert back to the general fund and will be available for other social services to be identified by the local *sanggunian*."

SEC. 4. Repealing Clause. – All laws, decrees, orders, rules and regulations or other issuances or parts thereof inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

25 **SEC. 5.** *Separability Clause.* – If any portion or provision of this Act is declared 26 unconstitutional, the remainder of this Act or any provision not affected thereby shall 27 remain in force and effect.

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29 **SEC. 6.** *Effectivity.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its 30 publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

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Approved,