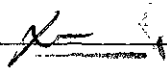


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Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

RESOLUTION
DIRECTING THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL
RESOURCES TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE
INSTITUTIONALIZATION OF APPROPRIATE GOVERNMENT PROGRAMS TO
PREPARE FOR AND MITIGATE THE ADVERSE EFFECTS OF NATURAL
CATASTROPHES

WHEREAS, the Constitution, Article 2, Section 5 states that: "The maintenance of peace and order, the protection of life, liberty, and property, and the promotion of the general welfare are essential for the enjoyment by all the people of the blessings of democracy";

WHEREAS, Presidential Decree No. 1566 mandates the National Disaster Coordinating Council (NDCC) to strengthen the country's disaster control capability and establish a community disaster preparedness program nationwide.

WHEREAS, according to the International Red Cross and Crescent Societies, the Philippines is one of the most disaster-prone countries in the world;

WHEREAS, the geographic location of the Philippines makes it more vulnerable to natural disasters such as typhoons, floods, earthquakes, and landslides.

WHEREAS, an average of 22 tropical cyclones hit the Philippines every year, five of which are destructive, 22 out of the 300 volcanoes in the country are active, which denotes a higher probability of volcanic eruptions and leads to the occurrence of high-intensity earthquakes every six years;

WHEREAS, the Philippine Red Cross confirms that around 30,000 Filipinos died due to disaster-related incidents in the last 20 years;

WHEREAS, the United Nations Disaster Assessment and Coordination (UNDAC) Team, which conducted an assessment of the country's National Disaster Response Capacity, acknowledged that the Philippines is capable of dealing with day-to-day emergencies;

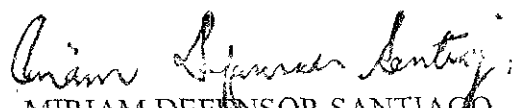
WHEREAS, the UNDAC Team notes that in the event of a major disaster, existing disaster response systems and personnel would be unable to effectively respond to these adversities,

WHEREAS, the most effective strategy to minimize the adverse effects of disasters remains to be mitigation and preparedness,

WHEREAS, in order to improve the country's preparedness for natural disasters, it is very essential to streamline the country's current disaster management systems, practices, and coordination mechanisms.

WHEREFORE, be it resolved, as it is hereby resolved by the Philippine Senate, to conduct an inquiry, in aid of legislation, on the institutionalization of appropriate government programs to prepare for and mitigate the adverse effects of natural catastrophes.

Adopted.


MIRIAM DEFENSOR SANTIAGO