

NINETEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES Second Regular Session 23 SEP 26 P1 59

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SENATE

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COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 139
Submitted jointly by the Committees on National Defense and Security, Peace, Unification and Reconciliation; Public Works; and Finance onSEP 2 6 2023
RE: Senate Bill No2451
Recommending its approval in substitution of Senate Bill Nos. 193, 940, 1200, 1652, 2085 and 2143 taking into consideration House Bill No. 7354
Sponsor: Senator Jinggoy Ejercito Estrada

MR. PRESIDENT:

The Committees on National Defense and Security, Peace, Unification and Reconciliation; Public Works; and Finance, to which were referred **Senate Bill No. 193**, introduced by Senator Christopher "Bong" Go, entitled:

"AN ACT

ESTABLISHING A MANDATORY EVACUATION CENTER IN ALL CITIES, PROVINCES AND MUNICIPALITIES, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR"

Senate Bill No. 940, introduced by Senator Win Gatchalian, entitled:

"AN ACT

ESTABLISHING EVACUATION CENTERS IN EVERY MUNICIPALITY AND CITY, PROVIDING FOR THE NECESSARY FACILITIES, ENSURING THEIR STRUCTURAL CAPACITY, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR"

Senate Bill No. 1200, introduced by Senators Manuel "Lito" M. Lapid and Ramon Bong Revilla Jr., entitled:

"AN ACT

ESTABLISHING EVACUATION CENTERS IN EVERY CITY AND MUNICIPALITY, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR"

Senate Bill No. 1652, introduced by Senator Raffy T. Tulfo, entitled:

"AN ACT

ESTABLISHING EVACUATION CENTERS IN EVERY CITY AND MUNICIPALITY, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR"

Senate Bill No. 2085, introduced by Senator Mark Villar, entitled:

"AN ACT

ESTABLISHING EVACUATION CENTERS IN EVERY CITY AND MUNICIPALITY, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR"

Senate Bill No. 2143, introduced by Senator Jinggoy Ejercito Estrada, entitled:

"AN ACT

ESTABLISHING EVACUATION CENTERS IN EVERY CITY AND MUNICIPALITY, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR"

taking into consideration **House Bill No. 7354,** introduced by Representatives Romualdez (F.M.), Romualdez (Y.M.), Acidre, Ecleo, Adiong, *et al.*, entitled:

"AN ACT

ESTABLISHING EVACUATION CENTERS IN EVERY CITY AND MUNICIPALITY, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR"

have considered the same and have the honor to report them back to the Senate with the recommendation that the attached **Senate Bill No.** _____2451__ prepared by the Committees, entitled:

"AN ACT

ESTABLISHING EVACUATION CENTERS FOR EVERY CITY AND MUNICIPALITY, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR"

be approved in substitution of Senate Bill Nos. 193, 940, 1200, 1652, 2085 and 2143 taking into consideration House Bill No. 7354, with Senators Go, Gatchalian, Lapid, Tulfo, Villar (M), Ejercito Estrada and Revilla, Jr. as authors thereof.

Respectfully Submitted:

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Committee of Public Works; Vice Chairperson, Committee on National Defense and Security, Peace, Unification and Reconciliation; Vice Chairperson, Committee on Finance

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Committee on National Defense and Security, Peace, Unification and Reconciliation;
Committee on Public Works;
Committee on Finance

Members

Will interpellate and may propose

amendments

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Committee on National Defense and Security, Peace, Unification and Reconciliation;

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Ex Officio Members

SEN. LOREN LEGARDA

President Pro Tempore Senior Vice Chair, Committee on Finance

May interpellate & white

SEN. JOEL VILLANUEVA
Majority Leader

"will interpellate"

SEN. AQUILINO "KOKO" PIMENTEL III

Minority Leader

HON. JUAN MIGUEL F. ZUBIRI Senate President

NINETEENTH CONGRESS OF THE)
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES	j
Second Regular Session)

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SENATE S. B. No. **2451** RECEIVED BY:

(In Substitution of Senate Bill Nos. 193, 940, 1200, 1652, 2085 and 2143)

Prepared and submitted jointly by the Committees on National Defense and Security, Peace, Unification and Reconciliation joint with the Committees on Public Works and Finance with Senators Go, Gatchalian, Lapid, Tulfo, Villar (M.), Ejercito Estrada and Revilla Jr. as authors thereof

AN ACT ESTABLISHING EVACUATION CENTERS FOR EVERY CITY AND MUNICIPALITY, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

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

Section 1. Short Title. – This Act shall be known as the "Ligtas Pinoy Centers Act".

Sec 2. *Declaration of Policy.* – It shall be the policy of the State to uphold the constitutional right of the people for the protection of their life and property and the promotion of the general welfare. Towards this end, the State shall establish and maintain safe, fully-equipped, and fully-operational evacuation centers responsive to human-induced disasters, environmental or climatic events, in recognition of the vulnerability of the Philippines to climate change, hazards and public health crises and emergencies. It shall be the continuing policy of the State to ensure the structural capacity and structural integrity of evacuation centers and to provide the necessary and appropriate support facilities.

Sec. 3. Establishment of Evacuation Centers. – Evacuation centers shall be established for every city and municipality in the country which shall provide immediate and temporary accommodation for evacuees or people displaced from their homes due to human-induced disasters, calamities or other emergency events such as typhoons, floods, storm surges, droughts, earthquakes, tsunamis, volcanic eruptions and similar geotectonic phenomena and related severe climate disturbances, fire, outbreak of diseases, and others that may present imminent danger to life and property.

- Sec. 4. *Minimum Standards*. The following shall be the minimum standards for the essential facilities and conditions required in every evacuation center that will be established under this Act:
 - a) Location Designation The evacuation center shall be strategically located in the community and shall not be at risk of isolation. It shall be located at a safe distance from danger areas or hazards. The Local Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council (LDRRMC) of the LGU concerned shall coordinate with the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) to utilize the Mines and Geosciences Bureau (MGB) geohazard maps in determining the appropriate location of the evacuation center.
 - b) Structural Integrity and Building Capacity The evacuation centers shall be disaster-resilient, built with sturdy materials, constructed and designed to withstand super typhoons or wind speeds of at least three hundred kilometers per hour (300 kph), and seismic activity of at least 8.0 magnitude.

c) Facilities - The evacuation centers shall be well-ventilated and shall have 1 the capacity to accommodate the anticipated number of evacuees 2 3 considering the size of the population in the affected area. The evacuation center shall have the following minimum facilities: 4 1) Sleeping quarters for the evacuees; 5 2) Separate shower and toilet facilities designated for males and females, 6 with one (1) facility for every twenty (20) males and females and one 7 (1) for every eight (8) persons with disabilities or elderly; 8 3) Kitchen or food preparation and dining areas; 9 10 4) Trash and waste segregation and collection areas; 5) Health care areas which shall include an isolation or quarantine area for 11 potentially infectious persons, health station/clinic, breastfeeding room, 12 mental wellness space, counseling room; 13 14 6) Recreation Area; 7) Women and child-friendly spaces; 15 8) Rainwater harvesting and collection facilities; 16 9) Standby power for lighting, operation of medical and communication 17 equipment; 18 10) Powerhouse and standalone water pumping facilities; and 19 11) Storage area for food and non-food items. 20 d) Food safety - Kitchen and dining facilities shall be able to adequately 21 accommodate the number of people in the evacuation center. Food 22

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preparation and storage facilities shall comply with sanitation standards of

the Department of Health (DOH) to minimize the potential for contamination and invasion of insects and pests.

Sec. 5. *Lead Implementing Agency.* –The National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council (NDRRMC), through its secretariat, the Office of Civil Defense, shall be the lead implementing agency of this Act.

The NDRRMC shall develop a menu of minimum conceptual design standards for evacuation centers which will consider the following factors: (1) available lot sizes in the LGUs; (2) physical features of a site such as but not limited to climate and topography; (3) social attributes of an area such as culture and history; and (4) Emerging and Re-Emerging Infectious Diseases (EREID).

The NDRRMC, in coordination with the LGUs and relevant agencies, shall oversee and evaluate identified and constructed evacuation centers, which shall cover assessment of key aspects, such as but not limited to structural integrity, risk and hazard safety, floor area, suitability for intended use, service delivery, availability of camp facilities, and identification of any existing needs or gaps. It shall also conduct annual inspections to ensure the continuous improvement and effectiveness of these facilities.

Sec. 6. *Role of Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH)*— The DPWH shall be the agency tasked with the construction of the evacuation centers under this Act. It shall ensure that the structures comply with the provisions of Republic Act No. 6541, otherwise known as "The National Building Code of the Philippines," and other applicable laws.

The DPWH, upon recommendation of the NDRRMC, shall upgrade and convert existing structures that meet the minimum requirements of this Act into permanent

fully-equipped and disaster-resilient structure, particularly in cases where the LGU in the priority list has no available site for the construction of a new evacuation center.

Sec. 7. *Coordination Among Agencies.* – The NDRRMC shall coordinate with the
DENR, Department of Human Settlements and Urban Development (DHSUD), DPWH,
Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD), DOH, Department of the
Interior and Local Government (DILG) and Department of Science and Technology
(DOST) for technical assistance with regard to the design and building specifications,
facility functionality, cost estimates, and construction details of the evacuation centers
that will be established and upgraded pursuant to this Act.

The concerned government agencies and instrumentalities shall provide assistance to the NDRRMC, when necessary, to ensure the effective and efficient implementation of this Act.

Sec. 8. *Priority in the Establishment of Evacuation Centers.* – The NDRRMC shall, in consultation with the Department of Science and Technology – Philippine Institute of Volcanology and Seismology (DOST-PHIVOLCS), Department of Science and Technology – Philippine Atmospheric, Geophysical and Astronomical Services Administration (DOST-PAGASA) and Department of Environment and Natural Resources – Mines and Geosciences Bureau (DENR-MGB), identify areas to be given the highest priority in the establishment of new evacuation centers.

The NDRRMC shall make a priority list of (a) LGUs that need evacuation centers and (b) LGUs that need the upgrading and conversion of existing infrastructure, using criteria that take into account the LGU's susceptibility, exposure and vulnerability to hazards, their readiness in implementing the construction of evacuation centers, and such other factors as may be determined by NDRRMC. It shall also specify a timeline

and annual targets, including appropriate budgetary requirements, in relation to the establishment of evacuation centers in priority areas and high-risk communities.

Sec. 9. *Turnover of Evacuation Center.* – Upon evaluation and determination that the evacuation center constructed or the converted existing structure meets the prescribed standards, the NDRRMC shall enter into a memorandum of agreement (MOA) with the DPWH and the concerned local government units (LGUs), for its proper turnover, maintenance, operation, and management. The NDRRMC, together with the DSWD, shall provide technical assistance and support services to these LGUs in the management of the facility.

Sec. 10. *Operation and Management.* – The LGUs concerned shall be primarily responsible for the operation, supervision, and management of evacuation centers established under this Act.

The local *sanggunian* shall promulgate rules, guidelines, and procedures for the use and operation of the evacuation center under its jurisdiction. The guidelines shall prescribe rules on the utilization of the evacuation center for other activities or purposes authorized by the LGU: *Provided*, That the utilization of the evacuation center and its amenities for such authorized activities or purposes shall only be temporary with corresponding provisions on cleaning, disinfecting, and sanitizing immediately after use; *Provided further*, That it shall not in any way compromise the serviceability or impede the use thereof when a disaster occurs; *Provided finally*, That the LGU shall impose such penalties as may be deemed proper on the organizers of authorized activities when the evacuation center suffers any damage, defacement, or loss during or as a result of such activities.

The LGUs may enter into MOAs with other LGUs for the shared use of said evacuation centers, as the need arises. LGUs may also enter into contracts that would be beneficial for the evacuation centers, including but not limited to the enhancement of amenities, upgrading of building capacity, among others.

The LGUs shall be responsible for facilitating the general cleaning and repair of facilities, including fumigation, and ensuring that the facility is safe for its intended use.

Sec. 11. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.* – Within sixty (60) days from the effectivity of this Act, the NDRRMC shall, in consultation with the DPWH, DSWD, DHSUD, DOST, DENR, League of Cities of the Philippines, League of Municipalities of the Philippines, and other concerned government and private agencies, promulgate the necessary rules and regulations to carry out the provisions of this Act.

Sec. 12. *Appropriations*. – The amount necessary for the initial implementation of the construction of evacuation centers shall be charged against the current year's appropriation of the DPWH provided for this purpose. Thereafter, the amounts necessary for the construction of evacuation centers shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act. The LGU concerned shall provide for the continued maintenance, operation and management of the evacuation centers.

Sec. 13. *Separability Clause.* – If any provision of this Act is declared unconstitutional, the remainder thereof not otherwise affected shall remain in full force and effect.

Sec. 14. *Repealing Clause*. – All laws, presidential decrees, executive orders, letters of instruction, administrative regulations that are inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed, amended, or modified accordingly.

- Sec. 15. Effectivity. This Act shall take effect fifteen after (15) days following
- 2 the completion of its publication in the Official Gazette, or in a newspaper of general
- 3 circulation.

Approved,