


FOURTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE)
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
Second Regular Session)

8 JUL 22 2015

RECEIVED BY: 

SENATE

S. No. 2457

Introduced by Senator Juan Miguel F. Zubiri

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The Philippines lies at the typhoon belt of Asia and the Pacific. It also lies at the crosshairs of three major bodies of water, namely the Pacific Ocean, South China Sea and Sulawesi Sea from where these typhoons gather strength, and render more rains.

These typhoons and the consequent damages that they bring are regular disasters, such that relief, reconstruction and rehabilitation activities have become essential budgetary items of the National Government and concerned Local Government Units.

However, the country has of late experienced extreme weather conditions such as the so-called super-typhoons characterized by stronger winds and heavier precipitation/rainfall.

When the country was hit by typhoons Milenyo, Paeng, Reming and Seniang, we sought a wide-arching and comprehensive program to address the needs of affected populace and rebuild the various types of infrastructure. The relief, reconstruction and rehabilitation was carried out by national agencies and Local Government Units as part of the Calamity Fund and Calamity Assistance and Rehabilitation Effort (CARE).

The P13.3 Billion damage wrought by typhoon Frank is as disastrous as those of the four previous typhoons. The National Disaster Coordinating Council reports the following damages:

- P7.542 billion in damage to agriculture, of which P2.654 billion is on account of fisheries resource and facilities loss;
- P5.779 billion, in infrastructure, of which P4.239 billion is on account of roads and bridges;
- 92,129 houses destroyed and 322,010 damaged; and
- 834,562 affected families or 4,195,665 persons, of which 518,107 families or 2,462,310 persons were displaced.

Typhoon Frank affected a wide swath of the Philippines; specifically, 5,855 villages in 49 provinces. The death at 557 continues to rise as well as 826 injured and 26 still missing.

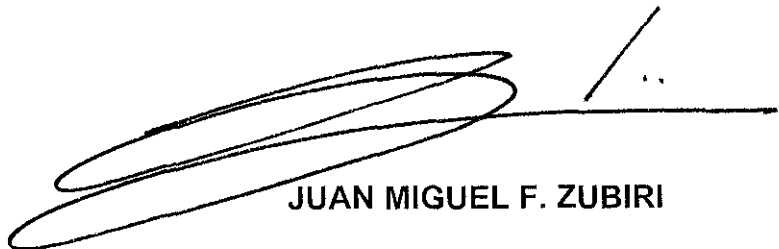
Worse, Panay Island has been hit most badly. The problem is aggravated by the incapacity of the Local Government Units to shoulder the relief, reconstruction and rehabilitation by themselves.

Donations from local and international sources show the goodwill and outpouring of sympathy for the victims. However, the damages need consistent and long-term availability of material, financial and logistical resources that cannot be sustained by donations alone.

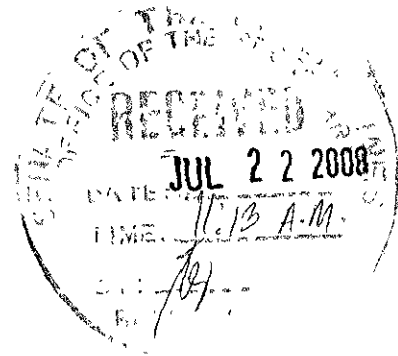
Panay is a major agricultural, agro-industrial and tourism area in the country. It is vital to the country's food security. Thus, we need to at least bring back Panay Island comparative to its situation prior to the devastation of typhoon Frank.

Therefore, this Bill seeks to address the need for relief, reconstruction and rehabilitation in Panay Island and Negros Occidental from the damages wrought by typhoon Frank.

Hence, approval of this bill is earnestly sought.



JUAN MIGUEL F. ZUBIRI



SENATE

S. No. 2457

Introduced by Senator JUAN MIGUEL F. ZUBIRI

AN ACT
APPROPRIATING THE AMOUNT OF SIX BILLION PESOS
FOR THE REHABILITATION OF THE PROVINCES OF AKLAN, ANTIQUE,
CAPIZ AND ILOILO ALL IN PANAY ISLAND AND IN NORTHERN NEGROS
OCCIDENTAL DUE TO THE DAMAGES CAUSED BY TYPHOON FRANK

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

3
4 **SECTION 1. Short Title.** – This Act shall be known as “The Paglaum Fund
5 of 2008.”

6
7 **SECTION 2. Appropriation.** – An amount of **SIX BILLION PESOS** (PHP
8 6,000,000,000.) is hereby appropriated for the rehabilitation of the Provinces of
9 Aklan, Antique, Capiz and Iloilo all in Panay Island, and in Northern Negros
10 Occidental, due to the damages caused by Typhoon Frank.

11
12 It shall be called the Paglaum Fund or the “Fund”.

13
14 The amount herein appropriated is separate from the regular appropriations
15 for the above mentioned provinces to be provided for under the 2009
16 Appropriations Act.

17
18 **SECTION 3. Use of Funds.** – The amount shall cover the rehabilitation,
19 repair and reconstruction of roads, bridges, irrigation systems, school buildings,
20 government buildings, sea ports and airports, Department of Health and regional
21 hospitals, and other infrastructures; purchase of school desks, textbooks and
22 workbooks, hospital equipment, supplies and medicines; purchase of relocation
23 sites and construction of housing units; and funding for the Comprehensive
24 Integrated Delivery of Social Services (CIDSS) under the Department of Social
25 Welfare and Development, livelihood programs and support to farmers and
26 fishermen, and other agricultural support programs.

27
28 **SECTION 4. Creation of a Paglaum Fund Commission.** – The Paglaum
29 Fund Commission is hereby created and hereinafter referred to as the
30 “Commission”, to be composed of Region 6’s Regional Development Council
31 Chairman as Chairman and the Regional Directors of the Department of Public
32 Works and Highways (DPWH), Department of Agriculture (DA), Department of

1 Education (DepEd), Department of Health (DOH), Department of Social Welfare
2 and Development (DSWD) and the Area Manager of the National Housing
3 Authority (NHA), as members, and two (2) members from the Local Government
4 Units and two (2) Members of the House of Representatives, all from Region 6,
5 and to be appointed by the President.

6
7 The members of the Commission shall not receive any remuneration or
8 compensation in relation to their tasks in the Commission.

9
10 **SECTION 5. Powers and Functions of the Commission.** – The Commission
11 shall identify the projects to be funded from the Fund and submit the same to the
12 President for approval.

13
14 The Commission may accept proposals for funding from the local
15 government units, other government agencies and the private sector, such as but
16 not limited to, non-governmental organizations, people's organizations and the
17 business sector, and decide which projects will be funded from the Fund for
18 approval of the President.

19
20 The Commission may also conduct consultations from the different sectors
21 in the affected areas in Region 6 to help them identify the projects to be funded
22 from the Fund.

23
24 After the President has approved the projects submitted by the Commission
25 for funding, it shall publish such list in the internet through a website created for
26 the purpose, in the local governments units' posting areas and in the Philippine
27 Information Agency's website.

28
29 The Commission shall identify the projects to be funded from the Fund
30 within two (2) years upon the effectivity of this Act and *functus officio* cease to
31 exist.

32
33 **SECTION 6. Quorum.** – Six (6) members of the Commission shall
34 constitute a quorum to transact business. The decision of the majority of members
35 constituting a quorum shall be carried.

36
37 **SECTION 7. Secretariat of the Commission.** – The Secretariat of the
38 Commission shall be the Regional Development Council of Region 6. The
39 Secretariat shall assist the Commission in carrying out its functions.

40
41 **SECTION 8. Administrative Fund of the Commission.** – An amount of Ten
42 Million Pesos (PHP 10,000,000.) from the Fund is hereby allocated for the
43 administrative expenses of the Commission.

44
45 **SECTION 9. Submission to Congress.** – The Commission shall submit to
46 the Congress of the Philippines, through the Chairmen of the Committee on
47 Appropriations, in the case of the House of Representatives, and Committee on
48 Finance, in the case of the Senate, an itemized list of projects to be funded under
49 the Fund within thirty days from the approval of the President.

50
51 No funding for specific project shall be released unless the project has been
52 submitted to the Congress of the Philippines.

53

1 **SECTION 10. *Repealing Clause.*** All laws, presidential decrees and
2 issuances, executive orders, rules and regulations or parts thereof inconsistent
3 with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

4
5 **SECTION 11. *Separability Clause.*** If, for any reason or reasons, any part
6 or provision of this Act shall be held to be unconstitutional or invalid, other parts or
7 provisions hereof which are not affected thereby shall continue to be in full force
8 and effect.

9
10 **SECTION 12. *Effectivity.*** – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after
11 its publication in two national newspapers of general circulation.

12
13 Approved,