

FIFTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC )  
OF THE PHILIPPINES )  
First Regular Session )

31.01.1  
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

10 AUG -2 P5 54

SENATE  
S. No. 2293

RECEIVED BY: 

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Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

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#### EXPLANATORY NOTE

According to a report from the Geosciences Australia, the Asia-Pacific faces an era of large-scale natural disasters which could kill up to a million people at a time, with Indonesia, the Philippines and China most at risk.

The Philippines by virtue of its geographic location within the Pacific Ring of Fire, the tectonic and typhoon belts, experiences an unusually high exposure to natural disasters. The country is visited by at least 20 to 25 typhoons every year and incidents of flooding and landslides are higher in the country than in anywhere else. On average 887 earthquakes every year are experienced in the Philippines with some proving to be damaging. In 1999, a research group based in Brussels, Belgium found that the Philippines had the greatest number of natural disasters in the world from 1900 to 1998.

These disasters produce significant economic costs, involving direct and indirect damages to life and property, and substantial social and environmental impacts compound the costs to reduce and manage the disasters. It is for this reason that this bill requires that covered Local Government Units should make use of up-to-date technologies in the preparation of their Disaster Preparedness Plans.\*

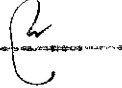
  
MIRIAM DEFENSOR SANTIAGO  
ASST

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\* This bill was originally filed in the 14<sup>th</sup> Congress.

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FIFTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC )  
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RECEIVED BY: 

SENATE  
S. No. **2293**

Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

1 AN ACT IN RELATION TO THE DISASTER PREPAREDNESS PLANS  
2 OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNITS

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

3 SECTION 1. *Coverage.* As used in this Act, the term local government unit (LGU)  
4 shall cover only those which have at least Five Hundred Thousand (500,000.00) inhabitants, as  
5 certified by the National Statistics Office (NSO).

6 SECTION 2. *Disaster Preparedness Plan.* In the preparation of the LGU's Disaster  
7 Preparedness Plan, up-to-date industry standard or the best technology available, including  
8 computer models, to develop evacuation time estimates, shall be used to complete such plan.

9 SECTION 3. *Revision.* In the event that a LGU has already developed a Disaster  
10 Preparedness Plan, such plan shall be revised to come into compliance with Section 2 of this Act.

11 SECTION 4. *Repealing Clause.* – All laws, decrees, orders, rules and regulations or  
12 parts thereof inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed, amended or  
13 modified accordingly.

14 SECTION 5. *Separability Clause.* – If, for any reason, any provision of this Act is  
15 declared to be unconstitutional or invalid, the other sections or provisions hereof which are not  
16 affected thereby shall continue to be in full force and effect.

1           SECTION 6. *Effectivity Clause.* – This Act shall take effect after fifteen (15) days  
2 following its publication in the *Official Gazette* or in two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

3           Approved,