

9 NOV 10 11:17

SENATE
P. S. Res. No. **1450**

Introduced by **Senator Biazon**

RESOLUTION

DIRECTING THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON URBAN PLANNING, HOUSING AND RESETTLEMENT TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE GOVERNMENT'S PLAN TO RELOCATE INFORMAL SETTLERS LIVING ALONG WATERWAYS AND SHORELINES

Whereas, Section 29 of Republic Act No. 7279 or the Urban Development and Housing Act of 1992 provides: "Within two (2) years from the effectivity of this Act, the local government units, in coordination with the National Housing Authority, shall implement the relocation and resettlement of persons living in danger areas such as esteros, railroad tracks, garbage dumps, riverbanks, shorelines, waterways, and in other public places such as sidewalks, roads, parks and playgrounds. The local government unit, in coordination with the National Housing Authority, shall provide relocation or resettlement sites with basic services and facilities and access to employment and livelihood opportunities sufficient to meet the basic needs of the affected families;"

Whereas, Seventeen years have passed since the passage of the law and the full implementation of Section 29 of the UDHA is yet to be achieved;

Whereas, Aside from the mandate of the UDHA, the Supreme Court, in a landmark decision in December 2008, also specifically ordered the Metro Manila Development Authority (MMDA) and the Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH) to dismantle structures and other encroachments on all waterways leading to Manila Bay;

Whereas, On 21 May 2009, by virtue of Executive No. 803, a Metro Manila Inter-Agency Committee (MMIAC) on Informal Settlers was created to plan, coordinate and implement, in coordination with concerned government agencies, a Comprehensive Shelter Program (CSP) for informal settlers affected by government infrastructure projects and those living in danger areas within Metro Manila;

Whereas, EO 803 designates the Metropolitan Manila Development Authority (MMDA) as Chair and the National Housing Authority (NHA) as the Vice Chair of the MMIAC while the other members of the committee include the Housing and Urban Development Coordinating Council (HUDCC), the Presidential Commission for the Urban Poor (PCUP), the National Anti-Poverty Commission (NAPC), the Department

of Public Works and Highways (DPWH), the Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG), the Office of the President External Affairs, the Department of Budget and Management (DBM), Commission on Human Rights (CHR), Caritas Manila and National Urban Poor Sectoral Council as the representative of the urban poor;

Whereas, According to the MMIAC, there are around 107,997 households living in danger areas which include those in esteros, garbage dumps, sidewalks, along river banks, shorelines, waterways and rail road tracks and those under bridges;

Whereas, Following the massive flooding caused by Tropical Storm "Ondoy" on Sept. 26, the President ordered the immediate relocation of families living near waterways and shorelines;

Whereas, Several solutions have been employed in the past to the problem of informal settlers including actual relocation, "on-site or in-city relocation," and "balik-probinsiya" only to be confronted not by a lessening but a burgeoning in the number of informal settlers living along danger areas;

Whereas, There is therefore a need to determine possible solutions that may be employed in "relocating" informal settlers living along waterways and shorelines in order that precious time and scarce government resources are spent in a cost-effective manner; *Now Therefore, Be It Resolved, As It Is Hereby Resolved*

By The Senate, To Direct The Senate Committee On Urban Planning, Housing And Resettlement To Conduct An Inquiry, In Aid Of Legislation, On The Government's Plan To Relocate Informal Settlers Living Along Waterways And Shorelines.

Adopted,


RODOLFO G. BIAZON
Senator