

SIXTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC
OF THE PHILIPPINES
First Regular Session

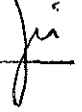


Senate
Office of the Secretary

'13 JUL 23 P1:29

S E N A T E

S. No. 1078

RECEIVED BY: 

Introduced by Senator Manuel "Lito" M. Lapid

EXPLANATORY NOTE

In a National Conference on National Disaster Mitigation, funded by the International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction (IDNDR), it was shown that Filipinos people are more reactionary than anticipatory in their disaster preparedness and hazard awareness programs. The same data indicated that proactive planning to anticipate a probable disaster is low in the priorities of a majority of the Philippine population, particularly among those of lower brackets. This is primarily because of a preoccupation with daily subsistence and survival.

Ironically, the Philippines is perhaps one of the most disaster-prone countries in the world. The Philippines' geologic and geographical conditions make it prone to earthquakes, volcanic eruptions, typhoons, tsunamis, floods, and droughts. Further, the country lies between two major tectonic plates of the world which makes it a highly seismic area.

Every year, an average of twenty typhoons enter the Philippines and frequently damage not only properties but the very lives of its citizens. As a consequence, flooding due to typhoons causes chronic problems in Metro Manila, particularly so because of the inadequate drainage system in the metro.

In response to the need to minimize loss of life, damage to property, and other socio-economic losses caused by natural disasters and in recognition to the imminent need to promote a proactive disaster preparedness program, this proposed measure shall integrate in the curricula of all primary and secondary schools a subject on disaster awareness and disaster mitigation.

Such curricula shall include, among others, discussions on natural and man-made disasters in order to instill disaster awareness and promote active participation of the youth, students and society as a whole in disaster preparedness for the benefit of the nation.

In view of the foregoing, approval of this bill is earnestly requested.

MANUEL "LITO" M. LAPID
Senator

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**AN ACT
REQUIRING THE TEACHING OF DISASTER AWARENESS AND
DISASTER MITIGATION AS PART OF THE CURRICULUM OF ALL
PRIMARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOLS**

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

1
2 **SECTION 1.** The teaching of disaster awareness and disaster mitigation is
3 hereby required to be integrated into the curriculum of all primary and secondary
4 schools in the Philippines.

5
6 **SEC. 2. *Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR).*** – The Department of
7 Education, Culture and Sports shall adopt the necessary rules and regulations to
8 implement the provisions of this Act.

9
10 **SEC. 3. *Appropriations.*** – The funds needed for this purpose shall be
11 taken from the appropriations of the Department of Education, Culture and Sports
12 (DECS). Thereafter, such amount necessary for the implementation of this Act shall be
13 included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

14
15 **SEC. 4. *Repealing Clause.*** – All laws presidential decrees, executive
16 orders, proclamations, rules and regulations, or parts thereof which are inconsistent with
17 the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

18
19 **SEC. 5. *Effectivity Clause.*** – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days
20 from its publication in the Official Gazette or in at least two (2) newspapers of general
21 circulation.

Approved,