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Senate
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SENATE
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Introduced by Senator Alan Peter "Compañero" S. Cayetano

**RESOLUTION URGING THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH OF GOVERNMENT
TO RE-ALIGN THE UNRELEASED AMOUNTS OF THE PRIORITY
DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE FUND (PDAF) IN THE 2013 GENERAL
APPROPRIATIONS ACT, TO A SPECIAL SUPPLEMENTAL CALAMITY
FUND FOR AREAS AFFECTED BY NATURAL AND HUMAN-MADE
DISASTERS, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED, TO THE ZAMBOANGA
SIEGE, TYPHOON SANTI, AND THE MAGNITUDE 7.2 CARMEN,
BOHOL EARTHQUAKE**

WHEREAS, the Philippines has been affected by several major disasters, natural and human-made, this year;

WHEREAS, from the 8th to the 13th of October 2013, Typhoon "SANTI" (international name: NANI) brought strong rains and winds to the Philippine area of responsibility, thereby causing severe damage to agriculture and public infrastructure;

WHEREAS, the National Disaster and Risk Reduction Management Council (NDRMMC) report on Typhoon "SANTI" states that, as of 6:00 a.m. of 16 October 2013, Typhoon "SANTI" has caused the death of at least 15 individuals and injury to no less than 32. A total of 187,321 families or 900,421 persons were affected in 800 barangays in 76 municipalities and nine cities in 14 provinces of Regions I, II, III, IV-A and V;

WHEREAS, the NDRMMC also reports that a total of 59,001 houses were damaged in Nueva Ecija, Tarlac, Bulacan, Aurora, Pampanga, Pangasinan, Nueva Vizcaya and Zambales. Total damage to infrastructure and agriculture has amounted to PhP3,286,702,208.20;

WHEREAS, in the early morning of 15 October 2013, another tragedy in the form of an earthquake of tectonic origin with 7.2 magnitude occurred in the Central Visayas Region (Region VII), primarily affecting the cities of Tagbilaran and Cebu, as well as the entire provinces of Bohol and Cebu, which felt the effects of an "Intensity VII - Destructive" earthquake;

WHEREAS, the NDRMMC report on the Magnitude 7.2 Carmen, Bohol Earthquake states that, as of 6:00 a.m. on 17 October 2013, at least 156 individuals have died, no less than 374 individuals were injured, and a total of 631,809 families or 3,209,058 persons were affected in 1,080 barangays in 37 municipalities and seven cities in three provinces of Region VII;

WHEREAS, the NDRMMC also reports extensive damage caused to bridges, highways, cultural heritage sites, public buildings, hospitals, and other structures, prompting the affected individuals to evacuate and transfer to gymnasiums and other open spaces, as well as extensive damage to private property including homes and places of business;

WHEREAS, the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees reports that, as of 17 September 2013, the armed conflict crisis in Zamboanga City between the Armed Forces of the Philippines and the Moro National Liberation Front (MNLFF) which erupted on 9 September 2013 has displaced more than 80,000 persons in 15 barangays, caused the death of 90 persons, and injured 155 persons. Several areas in Basilan were likewise affected;

WHEREAS, the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) and other government agencies have released funds to their field offices to address the needs of the affected communities. Nonetheless, there is a need to augment the funds devoted to calamity relief and recovery;

WHEREAS, local government units in the affected areas have also disbursed funds for rescue, retrieval and rehabilitation activities. However, these amounts will not be enough to comprehensively address the concerns of all the affected areas to ensure their complete recovery from the disasters;

WHEREAS, families and communities affected by the disasters likewise require direct financial aid/funds for the rebuilding of their homes and the restoration of businesses since the disasters have caused not only the massive loss of lives and injuries, but also the destruction of homes and businesses;

RESOLVED, as it is hereby resolved by the Philippine Senate, that the Senate re-align the unreleased amounts of the Priority Development Assistance Fund (PDAF) in the 2013 General Appropriations Act as a supplemental calamity fund for the areas affected by natural and man-made calamities, including, but not limited to, the Zamboanga Siege, Typhoon Santi, and the Magnitude 7.2 Carmen, Bohol Earthquake.

FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the calamity fund shall be used for the relief to and rehabilitation of calamity stricken areas; to repair and rebuild public infrastructure; and for direct financial aid to individuals for medical, livelihood and housing assistance.

Adopted,



ALAN PETER "COMPAÑERO" S. CAYETANO
Senator