

SENATE
P. S. Res. No. 306

Introduced by Senator Maria Lourdes Nancy S. Binay

RESOLUTION
EXPRESSING SYMPATHY FOR THE VICTIMS OF THE DEVASTATING
EARTHQUAKE THAT STRUCK CENTRAL VISAYAS ON OCTOBER 15, 2013
AND EXHORTING GOVERNMENT AGENCIES AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT
UNITS TO COORDINATE EFFORTS IN PROVIDING IMMEDIATE DISASTER
RELIEF AND LONG-TERM RECOVERY SUPPORT TO AFFECTED
COMMUNITIES

WHEREAS, on the morning of October 15, 2013, a devastating earthquake with 7.2 magnitude shook Central Visayas, leaving at least 185 persons dead, 583 injured and 9 missing;

WHEREAS, Bohol and Cebu are the two provinces severely affected by the earthquake, particularly the areas of Loon, Maribojoc, Clarin, Tubigon, Calape, Sagbayan, Inabanga and Tagbilaran in Bohol;

WHEREAS, by October 20, 2013, a total of 703,244 families or 3,542,281 persons were affected. Out of the total affected, 78,585 families or 370,495 persons in the Province of Bohol were left homeless of which 22,816 families or 113,227 persons are inside evacuation centers and 55,769 families or 257,268 persons are outside evacuation centers¹.

WHEREAS, as of October 20, 2013; 2,104 aftershocks have been recorded. The aftershocks have exacerbated the damaged caused by the earthquake and have forced residents in Bohol to stay out of their houses and camp out in open fields in makeshift tents²;

WHEREAS, the earthquake destroyed thousands of houses, caused landslides in the Provinces of Cebu and Bohol, damaged seaports, airports, historic churches, government/public buildings, schools, hospitals and private establishments, cut off power supply, and destroyed roads and bridges;

WHEREAS, the earthquake has cut off water supply in worst-hit areas depriving residents access to safe and potable water;

¹ National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council (October 20, 2013). *SitRep No. 12 re Effects of Magnitude 7.2 Sagbayan, Bohol Earthquake*. Retrieved from <http://www.ndrrmc.gov.ph/attachments/article/1108/NDRRMC%20Update%20%20Sitrep%2012%20re%20Effects%20of%20Bohol%20EQ.pdf>

² Cupin, B. (2013, October 20). After Bohol quake: Worry, recovery. *Rappler*. Retrieved from <http://www.rappler.com/nation/41787-bohol-quake-aftermath-six-days-on>.

WHEREAS, affected communities in Bohol and Cebu are susceptible to outbreak of various diseases due to lack of food, absence of clean drinking water and poor sanitation³;

WHEREAS, the residents of Loon, Maribojoc, Antequera, Calape, Cortez, Sagbayan, Baclayon, Tubigon, and Clarin in Bohol have complained of insufficient or lack of relief assistance and slow-paced distribution of relief goods⁴;

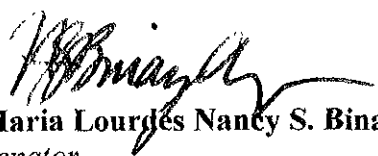
WHEREAS, there have been complaints regarding selective distribution of relief goods in the Province of Bohol⁵;

WHEREAS, there is an urgent need for government agencies and local government units to coordinate efforts in providing immediate and adequate disaster relief as well as long-term recovery and redevelopment assistance to the Provinces of Bohol and Cebu;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate:

- (1) expresses its deepest sympathy to the victims of the October 15, 2013 earthquake that devastated Central Visayas, particularly the Provinces of Bohol and Cebu;
- (2) exhorts all government agencies and local government units to coordinate efforts in providing immediate and adequate disaster relief as well as long-term recovery and redevelopment assistance to the Provinces of Bohol and Cebu;
- (3) recommends the creation of a Bohol-Cebu Earthquake Task Force to undertake disaster relief as well as long-term recovery and redevelopment actions in the Provinces of Bohol and Cebu; and
- (4) encourages private citizens to give aid to the victims of this tragedy and support recovery and redevelopment efforts.

Adopted,


Maria Lourdes Nancy S. Binay
Senator

³ Ordinario, C., Mayuga, J., Torres, E. (2013, October 19). PMA issues warning vs disease outbreak in Bohol, Cebu. *Business Mirror*. Retrieved from <http://businessmirror.com.ph/index.php/en/news/nation/21101-pma-issues-warning-vs-disease-outbreak-in-bohol-cebu>.

⁴ Maceda, E.M. (2013, October 19). Inadequate relief. *The Philippine Star*. Retrieved from <http://www.philstar.com/opinion/2013/10/19/1246877/inadequate-relief>.

Napallacan, J., Matus, C., & Fernandez, C.E. (2013, October 17) Relief goods reaching Bohol hardly enough for suffering families. *Inquirer News*. Retrieved from <http://newsinfo.inquirer.net/509271/relief-goods-reaching-bohol-hardly-enough-for-suffering-families>.

⁵ Galarpe, M. V. (2013, October 19). 'Selective' relief distribution in Bohol hit. *Sun Star*. Retrieved from <http://www.sunstar.com.ph/breaking-news/2013/10/19/selective-relief-distribution-bohol-hit-309403>