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SENATE
P.S. Resolution No. 383

RECEIVED BY: *ja*

Introduced by: Senator Paolo Benigno "Bam" A. Aquino IV

RESOLUTION
EXPRESSING THE GRATITUDE AND APPRECIATION OF THE SENATE TO ALL PHILIPPINE GOVERNMENT AGENCIES, PRIVATE INSTITUTIONS, AND NON-GOVERNMENT ORGANIZATIONS, CIVIC GROUPS, FOREIGN GOVERNMENTS, AND INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS, INCLUDING FOREIGN HUMANITARIAN ORGANIZATIONS, FOR THE RESPONSIVE RELIEF AND ASSISTANCE OPERATIONS IN THE PHILIPPINES DUE TO THE CATASTROPHIC DAMAGE CAUSED BY TYPHOON YOLANDA

Whereas, typhoon Yolanda (international name: Haiyan) caused severe devastation in the Philippines on 08 November 2013. The eye of the "supertyphoon" crossed many cities and provinces in the Eastern, Western, and Central Visayas region, bringing with its extreme winds of almost 300 miles per hour, and heavy rainfall. The strength of Yolanda caused widespread flooding in the populated low-lying areas due to storm surges, claiming thousands of lives and destroying tens of billions of pesos worth of property;

Whereas the provinces of Aklan, Capiz, Cebu, Iloilo, Leyte, Palawan, and Samar were placed under a state of national calamity on 11 November 2013. The local government officials in the typhoon-stricken provinces were themselves victims also of the calamity, necessitating the national government and other sectors to step in and extend urgent assistance. State funds were necessary to implement immediate relief and rehabilitation efforts and to control prices of basic goods;

Whereas, foreign governments, humanitarian organizations, and various socio-civic and volunteer-driven organizations came to the aid of the Philippines to provide much-needed relief in order to prevent further loss of life, injury, disease, and destruction of property. They were instrumental in ensuring that basic goods reached the far corners of the affected provinces; offered medical and psychological counseling services; helped to construct basic sanitation facilities and shelters; and also assisted in transporting people to and from the affected provinces; among other crucial forms of assistance.

Whereas, different agencies and organizations, both local and foreign, public and private, displayed solidarity and sensitivity in helping the Filipino community to rise above the challenges of rebuilding their lives and communities at this most challenging time. The timely response of these different groups helped in saving more lives and in reducing life-threatening conditions such as hunger, disease, and debilitating injuries;

Whereas, Filipinos from all over the Philippines and even all over the world have expressed, in many different ways, their profound gratitude for the aid received and for the world's display of solidarity during this time of grieving, healing, and national rebuilding. While thousands of lives have been lost and billions

of pesos worth of property have been damaged, the Filipino nation is consoled by the fact that millions more stand with the Philippines at this very difficult time.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, as it is hereby resolved, that the Filipino nation expresses its deepest gratitude to all Philippine government agencies, private institutions, and non-government organizations, civic groups, and foreign governments and international organizations, including foreign humanitarian organizations, for the responsive relief and assistance operations in the Philippines due to the catastrophic damage caused by typhoon Yolanda.

Adopted,

Bam Aquino