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SENATE
P.S. Res. No. 405

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Introduced by Senator Maria Lourdes Nancy S. Binay

RESOLUTION
CALLING FOR THE APPROPRIATE SENATE COMMITTEES TO INVESTIGATE, IN
AID OF LEGISLATION, GOVERNMENT'S DELAYED RESPONSE TO TYPHOON
YOLANDA

WHEREAS, it is a declared policy of the State to uphold the people's constitutional rights to life and property by addressing the root causes of vulnerabilities to disasters¹ and to provide maximum care, assistance and services to individuals and families affected by disasters²;

WHEREAS, under Republic Act 10121 or the Philippine Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Act of 2010, the National Disaster Risk Reduction & Management Council (NDRRMC) is the lead agency responsible for overall relief and rescue efforts during disasters or calamities;

WHEREAS, quick response to urgent relief needs of disaster victims is crucial in saving lives and preventing further loss of property;

WHEREAS, various local and international news coverage have shown real time accounts of survivors without food, water, shelter, in need of immediate medical assistance but have yet to receive any aid from the Philippine government days after typhoon Yolanda struck Eastern Visayas³;

WHEREAS, Cable News Network's (CNN) anchor Anderson Cooper, reporting live from Tacloban on November 13, 2013⁴, described the city's condition as a "miserable, miserable situation" and criticized the Philippine government's slow relief efforts.⁵

¹ Section 2 (a), Republic Act No. 10121 or the Philippine Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Act of 2010

² Section 2 (p), Republic Act No. 10121 or the Philippine Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Act of 2010

³ Velasco, Ed and Atienza, Paul. (November 13, 2013). CNN Rightly Shames Aquino Government Over Typhoon Response (The Daily Tribune, The Philippines). *The Daily Tribune*. Retrieved from <http://worldmeets.us/thedailytribune000001.shtml#.Upvry8QW2oM>

⁴ The Lead. *CNN*. http://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=vfkYYPSiHv4

⁵ Carter, Chelsea, Cooper, Anderson and Coren, Ana. (November 13, 2013). Typhoon Haiyan: No medicine, little aid at Tacloban Clinic. *CNN*. Retrieved from www.cnn.com/2013/11/13/world/asia/typhoon-haiyan/

WHEREAS, international media and organizations described the government's relief efforts as "disorganized"⁶;

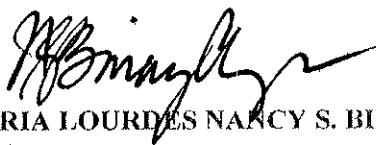
WHEREAS, United Nations humanitarian aid chief, Valerie Amos, admitted response to Philippines typhoon has been too slow⁷;

WHEREAS, Department of National Defense Secretary and Head of NDRRMC, Voltaire T. Gazmin, acknowledged government limitations and admitted that there were inadequate relief goods that arrived for the victims because there were only three C-130s to transport these much-needed goods⁸;

WHEREAS, pursuant to good governance and government accountability, it is imperative that facts and circumstances surrounding government's slow relief efforts be examined in order to address government's inadequacies and improve relief operations.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE, as it is hereby resolved to direct the appropriate Senate Committees to investigate, in aid of legislation, government's delayed response to typhoon Yolanda.

Adopted,



MARIA LOURDES NANCY S. BINAY
Senator

⁶ Panares, Joyce. (November 14, 2013). Govt slow response hit. *Manila Standard Today*. Retrieved from manilastandardtoday.com/2013/11/14/govt-slow-response-hit/; Belford, Audry. (November 16, 2013). Aid flows to typhoon survivors as Philippines struggles to rebuild. *Reuters*. Retrieved from <http://www.reuters.com/article/2013/11/16/us-philippines-typhoon-idUSBRE9A603Q20131116>

⁷ Williams, David. (November 14, 2013). 'We have let people down': UN aid chief admits response to Philippines typhoon has been too slow as rescue teams struggle to clear thousands of bodies and distribute food. *Mail Online*. Retrieved from <http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-2507119/Philippines-Typhoon-Haiyan-UN-aid-chief-admits-response-slow.html>.

⁸ Sun Star (November 29, 2013). Defense chief cites lessons learned from Yolanda. Retrieved from <http://www.sunstar.com.ph/breaking-news/2013/11/29/defense-chief-cites-lessons-learned-yolanda-316250>