


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SENATE  
P.S.R. No. **1019**

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Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

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RESOLUTION  
DIRECTING THE PROPER SENATE COMMITTEE TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID  
OF LEGISLATION, ON THE REPORT THAT MANY YOLANDA SURVIVORS IN  
BUNKHOUSES ARE MOVING BACK TO LEYTE NO-BUILD ZONES

WHEREAS, the Constitution, Article 2, Section 5, provides: "The maintenance of peace and order, the protection of life, liberty, and property, and promotion of the general welfare are essential for the enjoyment by all the people of the blessings of democracy";

WHEREAS, Republic Act No. 10121, otherwise known as the Philippine Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Act of 2010, Section 2, provides:

"It shall be the policy of the State to:

"(a) Uphold the people's constitutional rights to life and property by addressing the root causes of vulnerabilities to disasters, strengthening the country's institutional capacity for disaster risk reduction and management and building the resilience of local communities to disasters including climate change impacts;

...

"(l) Recognize and strengthen the capacities of LGUs and communities in mitigating and preparing for, responding to, and recovering from the impact of disasters";

WHEREAS, Super Typhoon Yolanda (International codename: Haiyan), one of the strongest tropical cyclones ever recorded, killed at least 7,350, forced massive evacuations, and flattened entire villages in central Philippines in November 2013;

WHEREAS, InterAksyon.com, in an article posted on 5 November 2014, reported that many bunkhouses in Palo, Leyte have been abandoned by survivors of super typhoon Yolanda and many of them are back with improvised shelters in areas designated by government as no-build zones;

WHEREAS, it was reported that shanties were mushrooming in no-build zones like in Barangay San Jose, where half of the bodies were found after Yolanda;

WHEREAS, media claimed to have found almost half of the 400 units built in Palo town uninhabited, in decrepit condition, and with toilets in disrepair;

WHEREAS, in interviews, residents explained that they went back to no-build zones because most of them don't want to be away from their means of livelihood;

WHEREAS, residents added that they remedy the risk by simply evacuating to a safer area temporarily each time they hear of a weather disturbance;

WHEREAS, nearly ₱14 million was reportedly spent by the government to build the bunkhouses, which were designed as temporary shelters while the permanent homes are being built through a combination of government resources, foreign and local aid, volunteer work, and resources from NGOs;

WHEREAS, Congress, through relevant legislation, should ensure efficient and effective government disaster response and rehabilitation in order to address vulnerabilities of the affected people and communities;

WHEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE PHILIPPINE SENATE to direct the proper Senate committee, to conduct an inquiry in aid of legislation, on the report that many Yolanda survivors in bunkhouses are moving back to Leyte no-build zones.

Adopted,

  
MIRIAM DEFENSOR SANTIAGO  
JP

/lml