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SENATE  
P. S. R. No. 1071

Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

RESOLUTION  
DIRECTING THE PROPER SENATE COMMITTEE TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY,  
IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE REPORT THAT MORE THAN 150,000 PEOPLE  
DISPLACED BY TYPHOON RUBY REMAINED IN EVACUATION CENTERS FIVE DAYS  
AFTER THE STORM BATTERED THE PHILIPPINES

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, 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, the *Philippine Daily Inquirer*, in an article on 16 December 2014, reported that from as many as 1.4 million evacuees, a little more than 150,000 people displaced by Typhoon Ruby (international name: Hagupit) still remain in evacuation centers five days after the typhoon blew out into the West Philippine Sea;

WHEREAS, the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council (NDRRMC) was quoted in the news as saying that as of 14 December, 156,904 evacuees, or 30,689 families, are still in 463 government-designated shelters in Ruby-affected provinces;

WHEREAS, nearly all of them—149,350 evacuees, or 29,250 families—are reportedly in the Eastern Visayas region, specifically in Northern Samar, Eastern Samar and Samar provinces;

WHEREAS, the NDRRMC reportedly confirmed that 38,110 houses were completely destroyed by the typhoon, 36,641 of which are in Eastern Visayas;

WHEREAS aside from houses completely destroyed, 203,595 more houses were damaged, 183,115 of which are also in Eastern Visayas;

WHEREAS, Congress, through relevant legislation, must establish mechanisms to improve the government's rehabilitation and relocation efforts after major disasters such as typhoons;

WHEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED BY THE PHILIPPINE SENATE to direct the proper Senate committee to conduct and inquiry, in aid of legislation, on the report that more than 150,000 people displaced by typhoon Ruby remained in evacuation centers five days after the storm battered the Philippines.

Adopted,

/tjsc

  
MIRIAM DEFENSOR SANTIAGO  
JP