

SIXTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC)
OF THE PHILIPPINES)
Second Regular Session)



15 MAR -3 P4 24

SENATE
P. S. R. No. 1207

RECEIVED BY: *J*

Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

RESOLUTION

DIRECTING THE PROPER SENATE COMMITTEE TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE REPORT THAT THE PHILIPPINE INSTITUTE FOR VOLCANOLOGY AND SEISMOLOGY (PHIVOLCS) WARNED THAT A MAGNITUDE-8 EARTHQUAKE MAY HIT BICOL REGION

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" states that it shall be the policy of the State to: "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";

WHEREAS, the *Manila Bulletin* on 4 February 2015 reported that the Philippine Institute of Volcanology and Seismology issued a warning about a possible magnitude-8 earthquake in the Bicol Region;

WHEREAS, the news quoted Phivolcs Director Renato Solidum as saying that the earthquake could be the strongest to ever strike the region;

WHEREAS, Solidum claimed that his forecast is based on activity in the Philippine trench, the result of the collision of tectonic plates and considered the deepest point on the planet, on which Bicol Region is sitting;

WHEREAS, all agencies involved in disaster risk reduction and management should be prepared to respond to earthquakes of such magnitude;

WHEREAS, Congress, through relevant legislation, must ensure the soundness of buildings and other structures in anticipation of earthquakes and other disasters;

WHEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED BY THE PHILIPPINE SENATE to direct the proper Senate committee to conduct an inquiry, in aid of legislation, on the report that the Philippine Institute for Volcanology and Seismology (Phivolcs) warned that a magnitude-8 earthquake may hit Bicol Region.

Adopted,

Miriam Defensor Santiago
MIRIAM DEFENSOR SANTIAGO
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