

THIRTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC)
OF THE PHILIPPINES)
First Regular Session)

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SENATE
P.S. Resolution No. 136

RECEIVED BY: _____

Introduced by **Senator Richard J. Gordon**

**RESOLUTION CALLING FOR AN INVESTIGATION, IN AID OF
LEGISLATION, ON THE CAUSES OF TYPHOON-TRIGGERED
TRAGEDIES AND THE ACTIONS AND PRECAUTIONS TO AVOID ITS
RECURRENCE**

WHEREAS, the Philippines is located in the Circum-Pacific belt of fire and typhoon, that has constantly subjected the country to natural disasters and calamities;

WHEREAS, the most calamitous of these disasters is the Ormoc Tragedy of 1991 when a devastating flood brought about by Typhoon Uring took more than five thousand (5,000) lives and affected over forty thousand (40,000) families;

WHEREAS, our country has suffered too many typhoon-triggered tragedies, taking a total of more than nine thousand (9,000) lives and affecting an aggregate of over ten million (10,000,000) families since 1991;

WHEREAS, about one hundred fifty-three thousand three hundred twenty-one (153,321) families have been affected and three hundred eighty-six (386) lives were sacrificed, three hundred forty-three (343) severely injured while two hundred forty-one (241) individuals are still missing due to the destructive landslides and floodings that resulted from Typhoons Unding, Violeta and Winnie that successively hit Camarines Sur, Camarines Norte, Naga, Legaspi, Masbate, Mindoro Oriental, Nueva Vizcaya, Nueva Ecija, Quezon, Aurora, Bulacan, Marikina and Rizal in a mere span of three weeks;

WHEREAS, it is the duty of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) to identify danger zones prone to natural hazards, whether geologic, hydrologic or weather-related, to prevent tragedies and promote environmental stability;

WHEREAS, it is the duty of the Philippine Atmospheric, Geophysical and Astronomical Services Administration (PAGASA) to provide protection of life and property against natural hazards due to typhoons, floods, drought, giant waves, and high seas by forecasting and warning the people of impending weather phenomenon;

WHEREAS, it is the duty of the National Disaster Coordinating Council (NDCC) and its member departments and agencies to strengthen the Philippine disaster control capability and ensure community preparedness in response to typhoons and other natural calamities;

WHEREAS, there is a need to know and strengthen the standard operating procedures and mechanisms of these government agencies and provide the necessary support to effectively and efficiently perform their duties;

WHEREAS, it is imperative that we, as a nation, take the lessons of these tragedies to heart and develop a strong resolve to do whatever is humanly possible to ensure that our people do not become hapless victims of the fury of nature, because human life is sacred to us as a nation: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate, as it is hereby resolved, To call for an investigation, in aid of legislation, on the causes of typhoon-triggered tragedies and the actions and precautions by the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), the Philippine Atmospheric, Geophysical and Astronomical Services Administration (PAGASA), the National Disaster Coordinating Council (NDCC) and other relevant government agencies to avoid its recurrence.

Adopted,



RICHARD J. GORDON