



Senate
Office of the Secretary

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

20 FEB 13 P 2 :48

SENATE
S.B. NO. 1345

RECEIVED BY: _____

Introduced by Senator Maria Lourdes Nancy S. Binay

AN ACT
ESTABLISHING THE OFFICE OF FLOOD RESEARCH AND POLICY TO
PLAN, COORDINATE, CONDUCT, AND SHARE RESEARCH ON FLOODING,
FLOOD PREVENTION, AND OTHER FLOOD-RELATED ISSUES

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Article II, Section 15 of the 1987 Philippine Constitution provides:

“The State shall protect and promote the right to health of the people and instill health consciousness among them.”

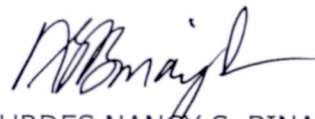
Article II, Section 16 of the 1987 Philippine Constitution provides:

“The State shall protect and advance the right of the people to a balanced and healthful ecology in accord with the rhythm and harmony of nature.”

The Philippines is a tropical country that faces an average of 20 typhoons per year. The strong winds and heavy rainfalls brought about by these typhoons have brought destruction to our countrymen. Countless lives have been lost, damage to properties have accumulated, and in addition flash floods have hit major roads making them impassable that cause worsening traffic.

The proposed bill seeks the establishment of a centralized effort to further study the effects of flooding and how to prepare and respond to catastrophes.

In view of the foregoing, the passage of this measure is earnestly sought.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'ML Binay', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

MARIA LOURDES NANCY S. BINAY
Senator




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Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Philippines in Congress assembled:

1 Section 1. *Short Title.* – This Act shall be known as the “National Flood
2 Research and Education Act.”

3
4 Sec. 2. *Office of Flood Research and Policy.* – There is hereby established
5 within the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council (NDRRMC)
6 an Office of Flood Research and Policy (OFRP), which shall be headed by a
7 Director.

8
9 Sec. 3. *Duties.* – The Director of the OFRP shall:

- 10 (A) Make recommendations and identify best practices for
11 predicting, preventing, and minimizing flooding and its effects,
12 in accordance with Section 4;
13 (B) Submit to Congress an annual report, in accordance with
14 Section 6; and
15 (C) Establish and maintain a page on the public NDRRMC website,
16 in accordance with Section 6.
17

1 Sec. 4. *Best Practices.* – The Director, in consultation with the NDRRMC,
2 taking into consideration the regional differences in hydrology, weather,
3 geography, economy, and population density across the country, shall develop
4 recommendations and identify best practices for predicting, preventing, and
5 minimizing flooding and its effects, including:

6 (A) Risk-assessment tools, methods, and models;

7 (B) Strategies and techniques for monitoring and predicting
8 flooding;

9 (C) Strategies and techniques for flood management and
10 prevention;

11 (D) Adoption and use of relevant technologies;

12 (E) National, regional, and local flood policies; and

13 (F) Coordination and cooperation among government agencies
14 and local governments regarding flood-related efforts.

15
16 Sec. 5. *Grants to Institutions of Higher Education.* – The OFRP may extend
17 research grants to institutions of higher education to conduct research on
18 flooding, flood prevention, and other flood related issues. The OFRP shall ensure
19 that the said grants are used for their designated purpose.

20
21 Sec. 6. *Report.* – The Director shall submit to Congress an annual report
22 on the activities of the OFRP.

23 The OFRP shall establish and maintain a page within the public NDRRMC
24 website in which it shall publish the recommendations and best practices
25 described in Section 4 and the annual report as provided in this section. The
26 OFRP shall also provide the local government units (LGUs) versions of the report
27 which particularly applies to them.

28

1 Sec. 7. *Appropriations.* – To carry out the provisions of this Act, such
2 amount is as necessary is hereby authorized to be appropriated from the
3 National Treasury.

4
5 Sec. 8. *Separability Clause.* – If any provision of this Act is declared
6 unconstitutional or invalid, the other sections or provisions hereof which are not
7 affected thereby shall continue to be in full force and effect.

8
9 Sec. 9. *Repealing Clause.* – All laws, decrees, orders, rules, and
10 regulations or parts thereof inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are
11 hereby repealed, amended, or modified accordingly.

12
13 Sec. 10. *Effectivity Clause.* – This Act shall take effect after fifteen (15)
14 days following its publication in at least two (2) newspapers of general
15 circulation.

Approved,