

SENATE

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P. S. RES. NO. 574

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Introduced by Senator Juan Miguel F. Zubiri

RESOLUTION

URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL WELFARE AND DEVELOPMENT (DSWD) TO FAST-TRACK THE RELEASE OF THE AVAILABLE FUNDS TO HELP THE VICTIMS IN THE CALAMITY-STRICKEN AREAS AND THE AFFECTED WORKERS DUE TO THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

WHEREAS, it was discovered that the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) still has undisbursed funds totalling more than Eighty-Three billion pesos (Php83,000,000,000.00);

WHEREAS, part of the available funds in the coffers of DSWD came from the unexpended regular budget amounting to Seventy Five billion pesos (Php75,000,000,000.00) and from the budget allocated by the "Bayanihan to Heal as One Act" and the "Bayanihan to Recover as One Act" amounting to Six billion Seven hundred million pesos (Php6,700,000,000.00);

WHEREAS, seven months into the Covid-19 pandemic, millions of Filipino workers became unemployed and have been yearning for help, financial or otherwise;

WHEREAS, at least three strong typhoons visited the Philippines in October and November 2020, claiming lives, devastating many places, damaging the agricultural sector, destroying power lines, houses and infrastructures and placing many regions under water;

WHEREAS, according to the Department of Agriculture, the damage to agriculture from recent typhoons Quinta, Rolly, and Ulysses has reached Ten billion pesos (Php10,000,000,000.00), excluding the damage from the Cagayan flooding;

WHEREAS, it is the primordial duty of the government to extend help to the people affected by the calamities and to help them recover from the misfortune;

WHEREAS, it has been observed that people are clamoring for help, workers and employees displaced by the pandemic and victims of the typhoons, but their pleas remained unanswered;

WHEREAS, there is an urgent need to fast-track the release of the funds in the custody of DSWD to help the victims of the typhoons, particularly those whose houses were totally destroyed as there are still a number typhoons expected to hit the country before the year ends: Now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED BY THE SENATE, To urge, as it hereby urges, the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) to fast-track the release of the available funds to help the victims in the calamity-stricken areas and the affected workers due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

Adopted,



JUAN MIGUEL F. ZUBIRI
Senator