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SENATE

RECEIVED BY: 

P.S. Res. No. 539

Introduced by Senator Loren Legarda

RESOLUTION

DIRECTING THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC AFFAIRS TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, INTO THE REPERCUSSIONS OF THE FLOODING IN COTABATO CITY WITH THE END IN VIEW OF ENABLING THE CITY TO RECOUP ITS LOSSES AND SET UP AN EFFICIENT ECONOMIC PLANNING AND PROGRAMMING SCHEME THAT WILL CONSEQUENTLY IMPROVE THE CITY'S ECONOMY

Whereas, Cotabato City is considered a second class city in the country, earning between P240 million to P 300 million for the last three years, getting its income from agricultural products such as corn, rice, coconut, abaca, cotton and durian;

Whereas, typhoon Frank had adversely affected different regions in Central Mindanao, particularly Cotabato City;

Whereas, said typhoon had caused heavy flooding in the city as it pushed halfway through Pulangi River, a tributary of the Mindanao River, the dismantled tons of marsh grassland;

Whereas, the incidence of the flood would expectedly cause a significant decline in the city's earnings for the year as a consequence of destroyed crop fields and delayed business activities;

Whereas, the present solution of the government to the flooding, which is to de-clog the said river, is a mere palliative as it only addresses the flood problem of the city;

Whereas, the real panacea to address the issue of flooding is the efficient economic planning and programming of the said city that would eventually lead to the construction of a flood management and mitigation center to monitor, forecast and issue flood advisories to the populace inhabiting the shores of the Mindanao River;

Whereas, Mindanao River is the second most major river in the country and it has potentials of contributing to the economic development of the Mindanao region especially if appropriate economic programs are initiated;

Whereas, the intervention of government agencies such as the National Economic Development Authority in the implementation of specific programs through their provision of information and data analysis on the effects of disasters on socio-

economic activities and their assistance in developing damage assessment schemes can facilitate the realization of appropriate economic proposals;

Whereas, the development of small rural micro-enterprises that will generate economic activities for the people living along the coast of the said river, thereby introducing demand-driven financial and business services, can contribute to the overall economic performance of the country in terms of productivity and profitability;

Whereas, there should also be activities that involve the reinforcement of the city's economic sector through the development of agriculture, fishery and agribusiness designed to moderate and/or avert the effects of flood caused by natural catastrophes such as typhoons and storms;

Whereas, it is incumbent upon Congress to review policies and promulgate laws that will enable the Filipino people to withstand the negative effects of natural calamities through economic rebuilding;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, by the Senate of the Philippines, to direct the Senate Committee on Economic Affairs to conduct an inquiry, in aid of legislation, into the repercussions of the flooding in Cotabato City with the end in view of enabling the city to recoup its losses and set up an efficient economic planning and programming scheme that will consequently improve the city's economy

Adopted,


LOREN LEGARDA
Senator