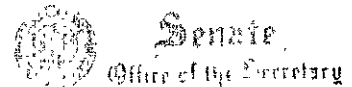



FIFTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE)
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
Second Regular Session)



'11 OCT -5 P5:47

SENATE
P.S.R. No. 616

REG. CLERK: _____


Introduced by HON. RAMON BONG REVILLA, JR.

A RESOLUTION
DIRECTING THE SENATE COMMITTEES ON CLIMATE CHANGE,
ENERGY, ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES, AND PUBLIC WORKS,
TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE
NATURAL DISASTER PREPAREDNESS AND READINESS
OF THE NATIONAL DISASTER RISK REDUCTION AND MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

Whereas, Republic Act 10121, also known as "An act strengthening the Philippine Disaster Risk Reduction and Management System, providing for the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Framework and Institutionalizing the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Plan appropriating funds therefore and for other purposes", was approved on May 27, 2010;

Whereas, the National Risk Reduction and Management Framework was adopted by the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council (NDRRMC) on June 16, 2011;

Whereas, Typhoons *Pedring* and *Quiel* brought heavy rains, winds and storm surges to the provinces of Central and Northern Luzon, and Metro Manila during the last week of September 2011;

Whereas, the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council (NDRRMC) reported that as of 4 October, 6:00 AM affected population of typhoons *Pedring* and *Quiel* is already at 91,119 families/417,737 individuals in 825 barangays of 91 municipalities, 6 cities, and 16 provinces. This huge number poses significant concern;

Whereas, the Manila Bay Seawall along Roxas Blvd. was damaged last September 27, 2011 due to the massive storm surge brought about by typhoon *Pedring*;

Whereas, the damage in the Manila Bay Seawall resulted to unprecedented floodings in the immediate area, damaging establishments such as the Ospital ng Maynila, the US Embassy and the Sofitel Philippine Plaza;

Whereas, the rains brought by typhoons Pedring and Quiel raised the water levels of several dams in Luzon, forcing Dam operators to open the water gates and release water to the flood river basins;

Whereas, the Dam Water Release Protocol dictates that once the water reaches critical levels the excess water should be discharged to ensure the integrity of the dam's structure;

Whereas, on September 2, 2011, the NAPOCOR requested permission from the National Water Resources Board (NWRB) to release water from the Angat Dam .amid forecasts that typhoons were heading toward the Philippines;

Whereas, the NWRB replied on September 12, 2011 that the release of water was not necessary since the water level hovered between 205 and 208 meters which was below the spilling level of 210 meters;

Whereas, several local government units affected by these typhoons express their sentiments that flooding was worsened by the release of water by proximate dams;

Whereas, to quote an article from the Philippine Daily Inquirer (30 September 2011), "Villasis Councilor Roderick Mina said the residents' fear was based on the trauma they experienced in 2009 when the sudden release of water from the dam caused a huge flood";

Whereas, dam protocols must ease the devastating effects of typhoons and not aggravate it;

Resolved, as it is hereby resolved, that the member agencies of the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council coordinate closely in order to develop safer, adaptive and disaster-resilient Filipino communities towards sustainable development, and promote an effective public awareness campaign on risk reduction and management;

Resolved further, that the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council effectively monitor, assess and propose rehabilitation measures on disaster-prone areas in the country;

Resolved finally, to direct the Senate Committees on Climate Change, Energy, Environment and Natural Resources, and Public Works to conduct an inquiry, in aid of legislation, on the Natural Disaster Preparedness and Readiness of the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council.

Adopted.


RAMON BONG REVILLA, JR.