

CONGRESS OF THE PHILIPPINES
SIXTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

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SENATE

P. S. R. No. 302



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INTRODUCED BY SENATE PRESIDENT FRANKLIN M. DRILON

RESOLUTION EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF THE SENATE FOR THE EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT TO REALIGN THE REMAINING 2013 SENATE PRIORITY DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE FUND TO THE NATIONAL DISASTER RISK REDUCTION AND MANAGEMENT FUND

WHEREAS, the Philippines has recently encountered many difficult challenges and numerous natural and man-made disasters, including devastating typhoons, the siege and unrest in Zamboanga, and most recently, the magnitude 7.2 earthquake in the Visayas region particularly Bohol and Cebu;

WHEREAS, these disasters have brought pain and suffering to our people, disrupted the functioning of our communities, caused mass casualties, major damages to properties and disrupted our peoples' means of livelihood, and caused widespread human, material, economic and environmental losses;

WHEREAS, the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Fund for 2013 (NDRRM Fund) under the Republic Act No.10352, otherwise known as the "General Appropriations Act of 2013" (GAA), which covers the costs of aid, relief, and rehabilitation services and repair and reconstruction of affected communities, is Seven Billion Five Hundred Million Pesos (P7,500,000);

WHEREAS, the Office of the President declared that only One Billion Three Hundred Seventy Million Pesos (P1.37Billion) of the NDRRM Fund remains;

WHEREAS, the Senators of the Philippines express their desire to assist the victims of these occurrences and help in the speedy post-disaster recovery, reconstruction, and rehabilitation of the provinces affected by the disasters;

WHEREAS, the Senators' Priority Development Assistance Fund (PDAF) for 2013, the amount appropriated for Senate identified priority programs and projects to be implemented by executive agencies, has a remaining balance that can be used by the President of the Philippines to augment the NDRRM Fund for the above purposes;

WHEREAS, Sec. 25 (5), Article VI of the 1987 Constitution provides that the President may, by law, be authorized to augment any item in the general appropriations law for their respective offices from savings in other items of their respective appropriations;

WHEREAS, Sec. 52 of the GAA of 2013 authorizes the President to use savings to augment actual deficiencies incurred for the current year in any item of his appropriation;

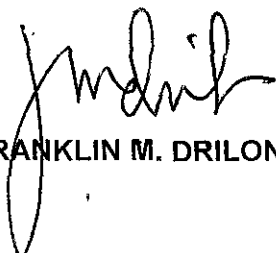
WHEREAS, Sec. 53 of 2013 GAA defines **savings** as the portions or balances of any programmed appropriation that is free from any obligation or encumbrance which is still available because of *final discontinuance or abandonment of work, activity, or purpose* for which the appropriation is authorized;

WHEREAS, Section 49, Chapter 5, Book VI of the 1987 Administrative Code (Executive Order No. 292) explicitly provides that the **savings** in the appropriations under the GAA may be used for the disaster relief and rehabilitation, repair, improvement and renovation of government buildings and infrastructure and other capital assets damaged by natural calamities;

WHEREAS, in view of the Supreme Court Temporary Restraining Order, waiver of some Senators to use their allocations, and present impoundment of the remaining 2013 Senate PDAF, the latter is now effectively converted into savings, hence, the President may realign the same for the repair, improvement and renovation of government buildings and infrastructure and other capital assets damaged by natural calamities;

RESOLVED, AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, that the Senate of the Philippines expresses its sense for the Executive Department to realign the remaining 2013 Senate Priority Development Assistance Fund to the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Fund for the speedy post-disaster recovery, reconstruction, and rehabilitation of the affected provinces in the aftermath of the devastating calamities that confronted the country.

Adopted,


FRANKLIN M. DRILON