

Introduced by Senator Maria Lourdes Nancy S. Binay



**RESOLUTION**  
**DIRECTING THE PROPER SENATE COMMITTEES TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY**  
**IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE REPORTS THAT THE ESTIMATED FIVE**  
**MILLION FILIPINO CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES ARE THE MOST**  
**VULNERABLE TO CALAMITIES OR EMERGENCY INCIDENTS IN THE**  
**COUNTRY**

1 WHEREAS, at the recent Emergency Preparedness Forum for Children and  
2 Youth with Disabilities Lotta Sylwander, country representative of United Nations  
3 Children's Fund (UNICEF) said that children with disabilities will be the most affected  
4 in every calamity that hits the Philippines<sup>1</sup>;

5 WHEREAS, she noted in every emergency 50 to 60 percent of those who are  
6 most affected are children because of their many limitations<sup>2</sup>;

7 WHEREAS, according to Engr. Bien Mateo, director of SM Cares' Program for  
8 Persons with Disabilities, Children with disabilities are often excluded from  
9 emergency preparedness planning at all levels of government, leaving children with  
10 disabilities especially unprepared for emergencies. DRR people commonly assume  
11 that parents will inform, warn and protect children in the event of disaster, even  
12 though children are frequently apart from their parents when in school, daycare, or  
13 with their friends<sup>3</sup>;

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<sup>1</sup>Manila Bulletin News Website, 5.1-M Filipino children with disabilities most vulnerable to calamities in PH, <https://news.mb.com.ph/2018/07/15/5-1-m-filipino-children-with-disabilities-most-vulnerable-to-calamities-in-ph/>

<sup>2</sup> Ibid.

<sup>3</sup> Ibid.

15 WHEREAS, Dr. Renato Solidum Jr., Undersecretary for Disaster Risk Reduction  
16 of the Department of Science and Technology said many of those who will perish  
17 should a 7.2 magnitude earthquake or the "Big One" hit Metro Manila and nearby  
18 provinces are children<sup>4</sup>;

19 WHEREAS, it is the duty of the Senate, by policy or by law, to protect the  
20 rights and welfare of Filipino children

21 WHEREAS, Congress, in coordination with concerned agencies, should review  
22 existing laws on disaster risk reduction;

23 BE IT RESOLVED, AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, to direct the proper Senate  
24 Committees to conduct an inquiry, in aid of legislation, on the reports that the  
25 estimated five million Filipino children with disabilities are the most vulnerable to  
26 calamities or emergency incidents in the country.

Adopted,

  
**MARIA LOURDES NANCY S. BINAY**  
Senator

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<sup>4</sup> Manila Bulletin News Website, 5.1-M Filipino children with disabilities most vulnerable to calamities in PH, <https://news.mb.com.ph/2018/07/15/5-1-m-filipino-children-with-disabilities-most-vulnerable-to-calumnities-in-ph/>