



SENATE
P.S. Res. No. 881

'18 SEP -6 P3:15

Introduced by Senator Poe

RESOLUTION

URGING THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON SOCIAL JUSTICE, WELFARE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT, AND OTHER APPROPRIATE COMMITTEES TO CONDUCT A COMPENDIOUS INQUIRY AND REVIEW, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE IMPLEMENTATION AND REALIZATION OF THE ENTIRE GOVERNMENT EFFORTS ON THE 1991 MT. PINATUBO ERUPTION CITING THAT 27-YEARS AFTER THERE ARE STILL AFFECTED COMMUNITIES, IN PARTICULAR, THE INDIGENOUS PEOPLES STRUGGLING IN EXTREMELY DIFFICULT CIRCUMSTANCES AFTER THE DEVASTATION

1 WHEREAS, Section 22, Article II of the 1987 Constitution provides: "The State
2 recognizes and promotes the rights of indigenous cultural communities within the
3 framework of national unity and development";

4 WHEREAS, Republic Act No. 7637 creating the Mt. Pinatubo Assistance,
5 Resettlement And Development Commission (MPC) declared it a state policy to assist
6 the victims in the communities damaged or destroyed or adversely affected by the
7 eruption of Mt. Pinatubo and its aftereffects by extending to them aid, relief,
8 resettlement, rehabilitation or repair and reconstruction of infrastructure to the end
9 that life may return to normalcy at the earliest possible time and the development of
10 Central Luzon may be accelerated;

11 WHEREAS, R.A. 7637 further declared it a policy of the State to restore the
12 living conditions of the Aetas and other members of the cultural communities in the
13 area to their productive pre-eruption conditions, with the settlement being chosen
14 according to its suitability as permanent upland abodes thereby ensuring the
15 improvement of these communities;

16 WHEREAS, the existence of the MPC originally expired on 31 December 2000,
17 and its functions were transferred to successor agencies Housing and Urban

1 Development Coordinating Council (HUDCC) and Local Government Units (LGUs) for
2 the resettlement sites and Technology Livelihood Resource Center (TLRC) for the
3 livelihood component¹;

4 WHEREAS, a Task Force was also created to wind up the activities of the MPC
5 but only until 30 June 2001;²

6 WHEREAS, 27 years and several billions later, the communities devastated by
7 the eruption, particularly the Aetas, are still trying to rebuild their lives;³

8 WHEREAS, the rebuilding process has been delayed by the absence of
9 livelihood and farmlands in resettlement areas and little help from government;⁴

10 WHEREAS, the eruption also stalled the agrarian reform program and the
11 assignment of ancestral domain in the affected communities;

12 WHEREAS, the records of Department of Environment and Natural Resources
13 also show that the government had no National Greening Projects in the indigenous
14 communities around Mt. Pinatubo;⁵

15 WHEREAS, the government has not tasked any agency or created anybody to
16 take stock of successes or limitations, of lessons learned, or to measure accountability
17 or decide future actions as regards the rehabilitation efforts for Mt. Pinatubo-affected
18 communities;⁶

19 NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, as it is hereby resolved by the Senate,
20 urging the Senate Committee on Social Justice, Welfare and Rural Development, and
21 other appropriate committees to conduct a compendious inquiry and review, in aid of
22 legislation, on the implementation and realization of the entire government efforts on
23 the 1991 Mt. Pinatubo eruption citing that 27-years after there are still affected

¹ Executive Order No. 5, s. 2001. *Authorizing The Transfer Of The Administration Of Upland Pinatubo Resettlement Communities From The Mt. Pinatubo Commission To The Concerned Local Government Units*, and Executive Order No. 6 , s. 2001 *Approving The Transfer Of Resettlement Functions And Responsibilities Over The Mt. Pinatubo Lowland Communities From The Mt. Pinatubo Commission To The (HUDCC)*.

² Executive Order No. 17, s. 2011. *Providing For The Extension Of The Term Of The Task Force To Complete The Wind-Up Of Activities Of The Mt. Pinatubo Assistance, Rehabilitation And Development Commission*.

³ <http://newsinfo.inquirer.net/1001478/pinatubos-ashes-continue-to-test-aeta-resilience#ixzz5JbJodxu5>

⁴ <http://newsinfo.inquirer.net/14970/pinatubo-at-20-rebuilding-still-unfinished>.

⁵ <http://newsinfo.inquirer.net/1001478/pinatubos-ashes-continue-to-test-aeta-resilience#ixzz5JbJodxu5>.

⁶ <http://newsinfo.inquirer.net/14970/pinatubo-at-20-rebuilding-still-unfinished>.

1 communities, in particular, the indigenous peoples struggling in extremely difficult
2 circumstances after the devastation.

3 *Adopted,*


GRACE POE