SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES

Third Regular Session

SENATE

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P. S. Res No. 892



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Introduced by Senator Maria Lourdes Nancy S. Binay

RESOLUTION

DIRECTING THE PROPER SENATE COMMITTEES TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE STATUS OF THE FLOOD MANAGEMENT MASTER PLAN, WITH THE END IN VIEW OF PROVIDING RELIEF TO HIGHLY FLOODED AREAS AND MAJOR THOROUGHFARES OF THE CAPITAL AFFECTED BY FLOODS

1 WHEREAS, Article II, Section 9 of the 1987 Philippine Constitution provides 2 the State shall promote a just and dynamic social order that will ensure the 3 prosperity and independence of the nation and free the people from poverty through 4 policies that provide adequate social services, promote full employment, a rising 5 standard of living, and an improved quality of life for all;

6 WHEREAS, Title V, Chapter 1, Section 1 of Executive Order No. 292, 7 otherwise known as the Administrative Code of 1987, provides the State shall 8 maintain an engineering and construction arm responsible for the planning, design, 9 construction and maintenance of infrastructure facilities, especially national 10 highways, flood control and water resources development systems, and other public 11 works in accordance with national development objectives;

WHEREAS, the Flood Management Master Plan for Metro Manila and Surrounding Areas is the holistic approach of the Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH) to address flood risks in Metro Manila and its vicinity;

WHEREAS, the Flood Management Master Plan, approved by the Board of the National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA) on September 4, 2012, provides policy directions and guides the design for a set of specific flood management projects that may be considered for implementation until 2035; WHEREAS, the rainy season, from June to November yearly, is often comprised of an average of 20 typhoons per year that causes floods which result in unpassable major roadways and intersections;

22 WHEREAS, an article from the Manila Standard, dated August 12, 2018, 23 reported on floods in major thoroughfares in Metro Manila that was caused by heavy 24 downpour after Tropical Storm "Karding" left the Philippine Area of Responsibility 25 (PAR) that resulted in to congestions, particularly during the rush hour periods;

WHEREAS, the article from the Manila Standard further reported that areas of the Epifanio de los Santos Avenue (EDSA) were declared as "not passable to light vehicles" while areas of Araneta Avenue and E. Rodriguez Avenue was "not passable to all types of vehicles" due to knee-deep floods;

WHEREAS, there have been reported incidents of flood afflicted areas where the flood water takes more time to subside due to lack of flood control infrastructures;

WHEREAS, an article from GMA News Online, dated July 18, 2018, reported on residents of Hagonoy, Bulacan whose homes have been flooded for several days while others have been flooded for several weeks;

WHEREAS, the article from GMA News Online further reported that the residents have requested to have the nearby river dredged. However, the local government did not view the dredging as an effective way to solve flooding and a flood control project was already being constructed but encountered budget problems due to "phase by phase" funding;

WHEREAS, an article from the Philippine Daily Inquirer, dated on August 14, 2018, reported on the limited funding for the DPWH's flood control program which caused the DPWH to choose priority projects they intends to implement and include in their annual budget; 45 WHEREAS, the article from the Philippine Daily Inquirer further reported that 46 the DPWH also encounters difficulty in undertaking flood control activities, such as 47 fixing drainages systems, because of the potential traffic congestion the projects 48 may cause;

WHEREAS, a Senate inquiry on the matter is necessary in order to review the Flood Management Master Plan for the purpose of ensuring that the flood control program of the government is feasible and effective with the end in view of relieving the people of the hardships caused by floods;

53 WHEREAS, a Senate inquiry on the matter is also necessary to ensure that 54 flood control activities are conducted at the opportune times in order to avoid major 55 traffic congestions at major thoroughfares in the country;

56 BE IT RESOLVED, AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, to direct the proper Senate 57 Committees to conduct an inquiry, in aid of legislation, on the status of the Flood 58 Management Master Plan, with the end in view of providing relief to highly flooded 59 areas and major thoroughfares of the capital affected by floods.

Adopted,

MARIA LOURDES NANCY S. BINAY Senator