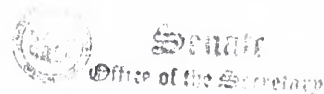



NINETEENTH CONGRESS OF THE)
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
First Regular Session)



'22 AUG -8 P2:25

SENATE
S. No. 1093

RECEIVED BY: 

Introduced by SENATOR RAMON BONG REVILLA, JR.

**AN ACT
PROVIDING FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF A MULTIPURPOSE GYM IN ALL
MUNICIPALITIES AND CITIES TO SERVE AS EVACUATION CENTER
DURING TIMES OF CALAMITY OR DISASTER AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS
THEREFOR**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The Philippines has witnessed a great number of calamities and disasters all throughout its distant and recent history. As emphasized in the study, "Perceptions of Disaster Resilience and Preparedness in the Philippines" published by the Harvard Humanitarian Initiative, "The Philippines is one of the world's most disaster-prone countries. Located along the boundary of major tectonic plates and at the center of a typhoon belt, its islands are regularly impacted by floods, typhoons, landslides, earthquakes, volcanoes, and droughts. The Philippines also ranks among the top three countries in the world for population exposure and vulnerability to hazards. The Philippine government has developed strong coping mechanisms over their long history of experience with disasters. Yet, significant gaps remain in disaster management capacities across different regions of the Philippines and surprisingly little data are available referencing local levels of disaster resilience and preparedness."

Undoubtedly, disaster preparedness and response requires a comprehensive approach. However, the most immediate concern is to save the lives of the people by securing their safety and protecting them from any harm or further danger. In

this light, it is of prime importance to have an evacuation center that is readily available at all times. Here in the Philippines, multipurpose gyms are used as evacuation centers but since not all local government units have one, public schools are the most common resort for the evacuees. Consequently, classes are disrupted when displaced families continue to occupy their space because of continuing danger or inability to return to their communities.

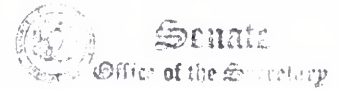
The "*Multipurpose Gym in all Municipalities and Cities Act of 2022*" seeks to mandate the construction of a multipurpose gym in every municipality and city to serve as refuge for displaced families in times of calamities and disasters. It specifies the location, structural capacity and amenities that should be complied with in the construction of the said infrastructure.

This measure was filed by Senator Ralph G. Recto in the 18th Congress.

In this light, the immediate passage of this bill is highly recommended.


RAMON BONG REVILLA, JR.

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PROVIDING FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF A MULTIPURPOSE GYM IN ALL MUNICIPALITIES AND CITIES TO SERVE AS EVACUATION CENTER DURING TIMES OF CALAMITY OR DISASTER AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Philippines in Congress assembled:

1 Section 1. *Short Title.* - This Act shall be known as the "*Multipurpose Gym in*
2 *All Municipalities and Cities Act of 2022*".

3 Sec. 2. *Declaration of Policy.* - It shall be the policy of the State to protect the
4 people's right to life and property, and to promote their general welfare. Towards this
5 end, the State, in cognizance of the vulnerability of the Philippines to calamities and
6 disasters, shall provide for the construction of a multi-purpose gym in every
7 municipality and city to serve primarily as a refuge for displaced families in times of
8 calamities and disasters.

9 Sec. 3. *Construction of a Multipurpose Gym.* - The Department of Public Works
10 and Highways (DPWH) shall undertake the construction of a multipurpose gym in
11 every municipality and city throughout the country which shall serve as a civic center
12 and as an evacuation center for residents during calamities and disasters: *Provided,*
13 *That any such construction is based on a program prepared by DPWH in coordination*
14 *with a representative of the municipality and city concerned: Provided, further,* *That*
15 *the municipal or city mayor shall be furnished with the pertinent documents, data and*
16 *information before any construction shall commence: Provided, finally,* *That Local*

1 Government Units (LGUs) may include in their respective local infrastructure program
2 the construction of a multipurpose gym.

3 Sec. 4. *Construction Priority.* – The DPWH shall give construction priority to
4 third to sixth class municipalities, especially those located in disaster-prone areas. The
5 DPWH shall coordinate with the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management
6 Council and the LGUs concerned to determine which disaster-prone areas to prioritize
7 in the construction of the facility.

8 Priority should also be given to municipalities whose residents shall render
9 volunteer labor services for the construction of the multipurpose gym and for this
10 purpose, the DPWH shall issue the necessary guidelines.

11 Sec. 5. *Multipurpose Gym Requirements.* – The facilities shall, at the minimum,
12 have the following requirements:

13 (a) *Location* – The multipurpose gym should be easily accessible to
14 evacuees and to emergency rescue personnel. It should be kept at a
15 safe distance from danger areas or hazards. LGUs concerned shall
16 coordinate with the Department of Environment and Natural Resources
17 to identify the appropriate location of the multipurpose gym.

18 (b) *Structural Capacity* - The multipurpose gyms must be able to withstand
19 wind speeds of at least 155 miles per hour and seismic activity of at least
20 7.0 magnitude. The DPWH shall formulate the building specifications for
21 the multipurpose gyms and shall ensure the compliance with these
22 specifications during the construction of the facilities. DPWH shall
23 periodically review, and if necessary, revised herein stated specifications
24 as needed.

25 (c) *Amenities* - The multipurpose gym must be well-ventilated and can
26 accommodate large numbers of evacuees. It shall have, at the minimum,
27 the following amenities:

- 28 1) Floor area devoid of permanent fixtures to be used flexibly for
29 assemblies, sports events, and as sleeping quarters for evacuees;
30 2) Shower and toilet facilities; and,
31 3) Isolated area that can be used as a clinic in times of evacuations.

1 Sec. 6. *Operation and Management of the Multipurpose Gym.* – The Operation
2 and management of the multipurpose gym shall be under the office of the municipal
3 or city mayor. For the purposes of this Act, LGUs concerned are hereby authorized to
4 issue rules and regulations on the use of the facility and to impose minimal charges
5 as may be necessary for the maintenance and minimal repairs of the facility.

6 Sec. 7. *Appropriations.* – The Amount necessary for the immediate
7 implementation of the provisions of this Act shall be charged against the current
8 appropriations of the DPWH. Thereafter, such sums as may be necessary to carry out
9 the provisions of this Act shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

10 The LGUs are authorized to utilize local funds as may be provided in their
11 respective appropriation ordinances for the implementation of this Act.

12 Sec. 8. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.* – Within thirty (30) days from
13 the approval of this Act, the DPWH shall promulgate the rules and regulations for the
14 effective implementation of the provisions of this Act. The implementing rules and
15 regulations issued pursuant to this Act shall take effect thirty (30) days after its
16 publication in two (2) national newspapers of general circulation.

17 Sec. 9. *Separability Clause.* – If any provision or part hereof is held invalid or
18 unconstitutional, the remainder of the law or the provision or part not otherwise
19 affected shall remain valid and subsisting.

20 Sec. 10. *Repealing Clause.* – Any law, presidential decree or issuance,
21 executive order, letter of instruction, administrative order, rule, or regulation contrary
22 to or inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed, modified, or
23 amended accordingly.

24 Sec. 11. *Effectivity.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its
25 publication in the *Official Gazette* or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,