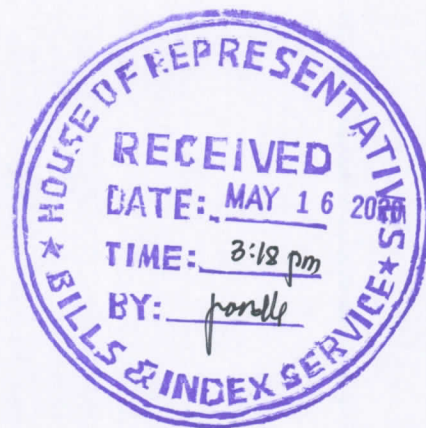


Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City, Metro Manila



EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

House Resolution No. 874

Introduced by Representative Ron P. Salo

RESOLUTION

URGING THE SECRETARY OF THE DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT, AS THE VICE CHAIRMAN FOR PREPAREDNESS OF THE NATIONAL DISASTER RISK REDUCTION AND MANAGEMENT COUNCIL, TO DIRECT ALL LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNITS TO PREPARE THEIR EVACUATION CENTERS CONSISTENT WITH THE PERTINENT DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH COVID-19 GUIDELINES

WHEREAS, the Philippines is highly vulnerable to natural and man-made disasters;

WHEREAS, the World Risk Report 2018 ranked the Philippines third among all of the countries with the highest risks worldwide where at least 60% of the country's total land area is exposed to multiple hazards while 74% of the population is susceptible to their impact;

WHEREAS, due to its geographical location, the Philippines is annually ravaged by an average of 20 typhoons, which oftentimes result to floods, landslides, storm surges, and rising sea levels;

WHEREAS, these hydro-meteorological events including typhoons and floods, accounted for over 80% of the natural disasters in the country during the last half-century;

WHEREAS, as the Philippine archipelago is located within the "Ring of Fire" between the Eurasian and Pacific tectonic plates, earthquakes and volcanic eruptions are also constantly posing serious risks to the safety of its people;

WHEREAS, aside from natural disasters, the country also experiences man-made disasters, including fires and armed conflicts;

WHEREAS, all these disasters cause serious and massive displacement of many forcing them to temporarily seek shelter in evacuation centers;

WHEREAS, against the backdrop of natural and man-made disasters, the country continues to face the COVID-19 pandemic; and

WHEREAS, the government must ensure that all evacuation centers are prepared to address the dual challenge of providing comfort for the evacuees while observing the minimum health requirements set by the Department of Health to lessen the risk of evacuees getting infected with COVID-19 virus.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, that the House of Representatives urge the Secretary of the Department of the Interior and Local Government, serving as the Vice Chairperson for Disaster Preparedness of the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council, to immediately adopt measures that will lessen the risk of evacuees from getting infected with the COVID-19 virus, and to direct all local government units to conduct an immediate assessment of their evacuation centers to ensure that the following measures, among others, will be instituted:

- a) Optimize the capacity of evacuation centers following appropriate Department of Health (DOH) guidelines, including social distancing;
- b) Ensure the provision of adequate food supply and equipment during the duration of evacuation;
- c) Ensure the provision of clean toilet, handwashing facilities, and potable water supply, among others;
- d) Undertake regular disinfection and proper waste collection and management in the premises;
- e) Ensure the presence of properly equipped medical personnel in evacuation areas to regularly check the evacuees for possible symptoms of COVID-19 and other diseases;
- f) Ensure the provision of personal protective equipment to the responders and health personnel;
- g) Adopt appropriate entrance and exit scheme to control the movement of people; and
- h) Arrange contactless distribution of food packs, hygiene kits and other essential goods.

Adopted.


RON P. SALO
KABAYAN Partylist