COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 729

Submitted by the Committee on Disaster Resilience on January 8, 2021

Re: House Resolution No. 1521

Recommend its approval in substitution of House Resolution No. 1354.

Sponsors: Representatives Lucy Torres-Gomez and Camille Villar

Mr. Speaker:

The Committee on Disaster Resilience to which was referred House Resolution No. 1354, authored by Rep. Camille Villar, entitled:

"RESOLUTION
EXPRESSING THE COLLECTIVE SUPPORT AND COMMENDATION TO THE MEN AND WOMEN IN UNIFORM, LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNITS, NONGOVERNMENT ORGANIZATIONS AND OTHER PRIVATE ORGANIZATIONS AND INDIVIDUALS FOR THEIR VALIANT EFFORTS IN HELPING OUR COUNTRYMEN IN THE RESCUE AND RELIEF OPERATIONS DURING THE RECENT TYPHOONS THAT HIT THE PHILIPPINES"

has considered the same and recommends that the attached House Resolution No. 1521 entitled:

"RESOLUTION
EXPRESSING COLLECTIVE SUPPORT AND COMMENDATION TO MEN AND WOMEN IN UNIFORM, LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNITS, NONGOVERNMENT ORGANIZATIONS AND OTHER PRIVATE ORGANIZATIONS AND INDIVIDUALS FOR THEIR VALIANT EFFORTS IN HELPING OUR COUNTRYMEN IN THE RESCUE AND RELIEF OPERATIONS DURING THE RECENT TYPHOONS THAT HIT THE PHILIPPINES"

be approved in substitution of House Resolution No. 1354.

Respectfully submitted:

Lucy Torres Gomez
Chairperson
Committee on Disaster Resilience

THE HONORABLE SPEAKER
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City
Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
Second Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 1621
(In substitution of House Resolution No. 1354)

Introduced by
Representatives CAMILLE A. VILLAR and LUCY TORRES-GOMEZ

RESOLUTION
EXPRESSING COLLECTIVE SUPPORT AND COMMENDATION TO MEN AND
WOMEN IN UNIFORM, LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNITS, NONGOVERNMENT
ORGANIZATIONS AND OTHER PRIVATE ORGANIZATIONS AND INDIVIDUALS FOR
THEIR VALIANT EFFORTS IN HELPING OUR COUNTRYMEN IN THE RESCUE AND
RELIEF OPERATIONS DURING THE RECENT TYPHOONS THAT HIT THE
PHILIPPINES

WHEREAS, Article II, Section 5 of the 1987 Philippine Constitution provides that "the
maintenance of peace and order, the protection of life, liberty, and property, and the
promotion of the general welfare are essential for the enjoyment by all the people of the
blessings of democracy";

WHEREAS, Article II, Section 3 of the Constitution states that, "the Armed Forces of the
Philippines is the protector of the people and the State...";

WHEREAS, Republic Act No. 6975 established the Philippine National Police to
"take all necessary steps to ensure public order and safety" among other functions;

WHEREAS, the Philippine Coast Guard was created as an armed and uniformed service
attached to the Department of Transportation under RA No. 9993 or the PCG Law of
2009 to "render air to persons... in distress" and "grant" requests for assistance of other
government agencies in the performance of their functions;

WHEREAS, the Philippines is located along the Western North Pacific Basin, considered
the most active tropical cyclone area, and is visited by an average of 20 typhoons every
year, with about nine making landfall in the country;
WHEREAS, 21 tropical cyclones have so far entered the Philippines, with the most destructive typhoons being experienced in the during the last quarter of 2020 and almost weekly weather disturbances since October;

- Tropical depression “Ofel” (Oct. 14)
- Typhoon “Pepito” (Oct. 20)
- Typhoon “Quinta” (Oct. 25)
- Super Typhoon “Rolly” (Nov. 1)
- Severe tropical storm “Siony” (Nov. 6)
- Tropical depression “Tonyo” (Nov. 7)
- Typhoon “Ulysses” (Nov. 11)

WHEREAS, Super Typhoon Rolly was considered the strongest landfalling tropical cyclone on record and the most powerful typhoon seen in the country in seven years since “Yolanda” that pummeled the Bicol region and nearby provinces, while Typhoon Ulysses caused massive damage to infrastructure and crops and record flooding in Cagayan and Isabela, and the capital Manila;

WHEREAS, our men in uniform showed heroic deeds amid the challenges and obvious high risk to their lives in rescuing families in their houses at the height of the onslaught of the past typhoons;

WHEREAS, despite limitations in water and air assets and sophisticated equipment side-by-side with the magnitude of damage and hundreds of thousands of people affected;

WHEREAS, local government units were at the forefront in rescue and relief efforts despite lack of funds and they need all the assistance they can get as they have already stretched their resources on the back of the response to the pandemic and back-to-back calamities;

WHEREAS, the active participation, assistance and support of the Philippine Red Cross, nongovernment organizations, international humanitarian missions, and private individuals are invaluable and must be recognized accordingly as they selflessly put themselves in harm’s way;

WHEREAS, the AFP, PNP and PCG officers, as well as other emergency workers, civilian authorities, national agencies and local government units, have taken active roles during calamities, and their loyal and heroic service to humanity is worthy of recognition and commendation. Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives, as it is hereby resolved, that the House of Representatives express its collective support and commendation to the men and women in uniform, local government units, nongovernment organizations and other private organizations and individuals for their valiant efforts in helping our countrymen in the rescue and relief operations during the recent typhoons that hit the Philippines.

Adopted,

CAMILLE A. VILLAR

LUCY TORRES- GOMEZ