Committee Report No. 860

Submitted by the Committees on Disaster Resilience and Appropriations on March 14, 2021

Re: House Bill No. 8990

Recommending its approval in substitution of House Bills Numbered 1403, 3046, 3450, 3691, 4658, 4941, 4942, 5259, 5595, 5995, 6033, 6074, 6170, 7004, 7164, 7305, 7315, 7324, 7506, 7867, 7906.

Sponsors: Representatives Lucy Torres-Gomez, Romeo S. Momo, Sr., Angelina "Helen" D.L. Tan, M.D., and Eric Go Yap

Mr. Speaker:

The Committees on Disaster Resilience and Appropriations, to which were referred

House Bill No. 1403, introduced by Rep. Alfred Vargas, entitled:

"An Act Providing For The Construction Of A Multi-Purpose Gym In All Municipalities And Cities To Serve As Evacuation Centers During Times Of Calamity Or Disaster And Appropriating Funds Therefor"

House Bill No. 3046, introduced by Rep. Angelina "Helen" D.L. Tan, M.D., entitled:

"An Act Establishing Evacuation Centers In Every City And Municipality And Appropriating Funds Therefor;"

House Bill No. 3450, introduced by Rep. Vilma Santos-Recto, entitled:

"An Act Providing For The Construction Of A Multipurpose Gym In All Municipalities And Cities As Evacuation Center During Times Of Calamity Or Disaster And Appropriating Funds Therefor;"

House Bill No. 3691 introduced by Rep. Precious Hipolito Castelo, entitled:

"An Act Mandating The Construction Of A Permanent Evacuation Center In Every Natural Disaster-Prone Locality;"
House Bill No. 4658 and 7004 introduced by Rep. Luis Raymund “Lray” F. Villafuerte, Jr., entitled:

"An Act Providing For The Construction Of Multipurpose Gym In All Municipalities And Cities To Serve As Evacuation Center During Times Of Calamity Or Disaster And Appropriating Funds Therefor,"

And

"An Act Establishing A Mandatory Evacuation Centers In All Cities, Provinces And Municipalities, Appropriating Funds Therefor,"

House Bill No. 4941 and 4942 introduced by Rep. Lucy Torres-Gomez, entitled:

"An Act Establishing A Life Center That Will Serve As A Disaster And Emergency Center In Each Of The City Of Ormoc And Municipalities Of Palompom, Albuera, Merida, Kananga And Matagob In The Province Of Leyte And Appropriating Funds Therefor,

And

An Act Establishing A Life Center That Will Serve As A Disaster And Emergency Center In The City Of Ormoc In The Province Of Leyte And Appropriating Funds Therefor,"

House Bill No. 5259 introduced by Rep. Carlos Isagani Zarate, entitled:

"An Act Establishing In Every Two To Three Contiguous Barangays A Permanent Evacuation Center (PEC) That Is Big Enough To Accommodate The Target Population, Strong Enough To Withstand Natural Calamities And Situated Away From Waters And Landslide-Prone Areas, Which Shall Likewise Serve As The Central Disaster Risk Reduction Management Institution Per Respective Communities

House Bill No. 5595 introduced by Rep. John Marvin “Yul Servo” C. Nieto entitled:

"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

House Bill No. 5995 introduced by Rep. Raneo “Ranie” Abu, entitled:

"An Act Establishing A Mandatory Evacuation Center In All Cities, Provinces And Municipalities, Appropriating Funds Therefor,"

House Bill No. 6033 introduced by Rep. Ferdinand Hernandez entitled:

"An Act Establishing A Mandatory Evacuation Center In All Cities, Provinces And Municipalities, Appropriating Funds Therefor,"
House Bill No. 6074 and 7867 introduced by Rep. Eric Olivarez, entitled:

"An Act Establishing Evacuation Centers In Every Province, City And Municipality And Appropriating Funds Therefor"

And

"An Act Establishing A Mandatory Evacuation Center In All Cities, Provinces And Municipalities And Appropriating Funds Therefor,"

House Bill No. 6170 introduced by Rep. Janice Salimbangon, entitled:

"An Act Establishing Permanent Evacuation Centers In Northern Cebu In Daanbantayan And The Islands Of Bantayan, Malapascua, Kinatarcan, And Carnaza In Cebu Province,"

House Bill No. 7164 introduced by Rep. Deogracias Victor “DV” Savellano, entitled:

"An Act Establishing Emergency Evacuation Centers In All Provinces And Appropriating Funds Therefor"

House Bill No. 7305 introduced by Rep. Joy Myra Tambunting, entitled:

"An Act Establishing Mandatory Evacuation And Quarantine Centers In All Cities, Provinces And Municipalities, Appropriating Funds Therefor,"

House Bill No. 7315 introduced by Rep. Rufus Rodriguez, entitled:

"An Act Establishing Emergency Evacuation Centers In All Provinces And Appropriating Funds Therefor,"

House Bill No. 7324 introduced by Rep. Alfred Delos Santos entitled:

"An Act Mandating The Establishment Of Community based Permanent Evacuation Centers"

House Bill No. 7506 introduced by Rep. Lianda Bolilia entitled:

"An Act Establishing A Mandatory Evacuation Center In All Cities And Municipalities, Appropriating Funds Therefor"

House Bill No. 7906 introduced by Rep. Manuel Cabochan III entitled:

"An Act Establishing A Mandatory Evacuation Center In All Cities, Provinces And Municipalities, Appropriating Funds Therefor,"

have considered the same and recommend that the attached House Bill No. 8999, entitled:
AN ACT
ESTABLISHING EVACUATION CENTERS IN EVERY CITY AND MUNICIPALITY AND
APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

be approved in substitution of House Bills Numbered 1403, 3046, 3450, 3691, 4658, 4941, 4942,
5259, 5585, 5995, 6033, 6074, 6170, 7004, 7164, 7305, 7315, 7324, 7506, 7867, & 7906 with
Representatives Angelina "Helen" D.L. Tan, M.D., Lucy Torres-Gomez, Romeo S. Momo, Sr.,
Eric Go Yap, Alfred Vargas, Kristine Singson – Meenan, Jose Christopher Y. Belmonte,
Henry R. Villarica, Vilma Santos-Recto, John Reynald M. Tiangco, Manuel Jose "Mannix" M. Dalipe,
Precious Hipolito Castelo, Jose Antonio "Kuya" R. Sy- Alvarado Luis Raymund "Lray" F.
Villafuerte, Jr., Marisol C. Panotes, Carlos Isagani Zarate, Ferdinand R. Gaite, Eufemia "Ka
Femia" C. Cullamat, Arlene D. Brosas, John Marvin "Yul Servo" Nieto, Raneo "Ranie" Abu, Jose
"Bong" J. Teves, Jr., Ferdinand Hernandez, Princess Rihan M. Sakaluran, Francisco Jose Il
"Bingo" F. Matugas, Eric Olivarez, Janice Z. Salimbangon, Angelo Marcos Barba, Joseph "Jojo"
L. Lara, Michael B. Gorriceta, Deogracias Victor "DV" Savellano, Joy Myra Tambunting, Rufus
Rodriguez, Elias C. Bulat Jr., Alfred Delos Santos, Lianda Bolilia, Gabriel H. Bordado, Jr.,
Manuel Cabochoan III, Lorenz R. Defensor, Amihilda Sangcopan, Leonardo L. Babasa, Jr.,
Angelica Natasha Co, Presley De Jesus, Ruwel Peter Gonzaga, Evelina G. Escudero, Rose
Marie "Baby" J. Arenas, Henry S. Omalal, Pablo John F. Garcia, Strike B. Revilla, Christopher
V. P. De Venecia, Stella Luz A. Quimbo, Rozzano Rufino B. Biazon, Peter John D. Calderon,
Luis N. Campos, Junie E. Cua, Luisa Lloren Cuaresma, Paul Ruiz Daza, Michael John R.
Duavit, Vincent Franco "Duke" D. Frasco, Greg G. Gasataya, Teodoro Haresco, Jr., Manuel T.
Sagarbarria, Jose "Pingping" I. Tejada, Micaela S. Violago, Antonio "Tonypet" T. Albano,
Yasser Alonto Balindong, Alfel M. Bascug, Jose Francisco "Kiko" B. Benitez, Ph.D., Argel
Joseph T. Cabatbat, Wilfredo "Willy" S. Caminero, Carl Nicolas C. Cari, Sergio C. Dagoc,
Cheryl P. Deloso-Montalla, Abdullah D. Dimaporo, Mohammad Khalid Q. Dimaporo, Alan R.
Dujali, Faustino "Inno" A. Dy, Faustino Michael Carlos T. Dyz III, Ian Paul L. Dy, Eduardo "Eddie"
R. Gullas, Godofredo N. Guya, Glona G. Labadlabad, Edward Vera Perez Maceda, Maricel G.
Natividad-Nagaño, Jose "Jun" L. Ong, Jr., Pablo C. Ortega, Allan Benedict S. Reyes, Geraldine
B. Roman, Alyssa Sheena P. Tan, Kristine Alexie B. Tutor, Samantha Louise Vargas Alfonso,
Rosanna "Ria" V. Vergara, Wilfrido Mark M. Enverga, Jonathan Keith T. Flores, Mark O. Go,
Dahlia A. Loyola, Florida "Rida" P. Robles, Irene Gay F. Saulog, and Mercedes "Didi" C. Cagas.

Respectfully submitted:

ERIC GO YAP
Chairperson
Committee on Appropriations

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 BILL NO. 8999

(In substitution of House Bills Numbered 1403, 3046, 3450, 3691. 4658, 4941,
4942, 5259, 5595, 5999, 6033, 6074, 6170, 7004, 7164, 7305, 7315, 7324, 7506,
7867, & 7906)

AN ACT
ESTABLISHING EVACUATION CENTERS IN EVERY CITY AND MUNICIPALITY,
AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

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

SEC. 1. Declaration of Policy. – It shall be the policy of the State to uphold
the constitutional right of the people for the protection of their life and property and the
promotion of the general welfare. Towards this end, the State, shall establish and
maintain a fully-equipped and fully-operational evacuation center, responsive to
environmental or climatic events, in recognition of the vulnerability of the Philippines
to climate change, the occurrence of severe floods, typhoons, and other natural or
human-induced disasters, illnesses, diseases and other factors that affect the
environment.

SEC. 2. Establishment of Evacuation Centers. – There shall be established
an evacuation center in every city and municipality in the country which shall provide
immediate and temporary accommodation for people who have been evacuated or
displaced from their homes due to emergency events such as typhoons, floods, storm
surges, drought and other severe climate disturbances, as well as fire, and the
outbreak of illnesses and diseases that present imminent danger to life and property.

Existing structures that would meet the minimum requirements or could be
upgraded to effectively serve as evacuation centers could be designated as such in
compliance with the local government unit concerned.

SEC. 3. Requirements. – The following shall be the minimum requirements for
every evacuation center that will be established under this Act:
a. **Location Designation** - Each location for every evacuation center shall be determined by the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), in close coordination with the LGUs concerned.

The location shall be determined based on the following criteria:

1. It must be centrally located in the community;
2. It must be of a safe distance from large trees, structures where hazardous materials are used and stored, or high-voltage power lines;
3. It must be near a health facility;
4. It must be located on geotechnically stable land to avoid risk of landslides or exposure to potential landslide of adjacent lands;
5. It must not be located near military base camps, camps of insurgent groups, power plants, factories, and other areas where the occurrence of human-induced disasters are very high.

b. **Structural and Building Capacity** – The evacuation centers shall be constructed and designed to withstand super typhoons or wind speeds of at least three hundred kilometers per hour (300 kph) and seismic activity of at least 8.0 magnitude. The structure must be calamity-resilient, built with sturdy materials, and in accordance with the specifications of Republic Act No. 6541, otherwise known as the “National Building Code of the Philippines” or shall be at par with the standards set by the International Building Code.

The Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH) shall be in charge of the construction of evacuation centers, including the formulation of building specifications and shall ensure that the same are based on standards, issuances, and other guidelines set by the DPWH, and are compliant with the provisions of the National Building Code. The DPWH shall also ensure that the construction of such
evacuation centers is in accordance with the abovementioned requirements during its construction phase.

The specifications of the evacuation centers shall be periodically reviewed and, if necessary, revised by the DPWH every three (3) years.

The evacuation center must at least meet the following parameters:

1. The structure must be elevated, in such a manner that is safely above the reach of a high tide storm surge level of at least ten (10) meters;

2. The structure must be a minimum of one (1) meter above the average flood level in the area where the same shall be built; and

3. The structure shall not be less than nine (9) meters in height and shall be designed in accordance with earthquake load standards.

c. **Amenities and Accessibility.** – The evacuation centers shall be well-ventilated and shall have the capacity to accommodate a large number of evacuees.

The evacuation center shall have the following minimum amenities:

1. Sleeping quarters for the evacuees;

2. Separate shower and toilet facilities designated for males and females, with one (1) facility for every twenty (20) persons;

3. Amenities to enable access thereto by persons with disabilities;

4. Emergency exit doors;

5. Food preparation areas with adequate ventilation;

6. Trash and waste segregation and collection areas;

7. Health care areas which shall include an isolation or quarantine area for potentially infectious persons;

8. Rainwater harvesting and collection facilities; and

9. Other facilities as may be prescribed by the appropriate authorities.
SEC. 4. Operation and Management. - The LGUs concerned shall be primarily responsible for the operation, supervision, and management of evacuation centers established under this Act. They are also hereby authorized to issue rules and regulations on their proper use and maintenance.

The local sanggunian shall promulgate guidelines and procedures for the use and operation of the evacuation center under its jurisdiction. The guidelines shall prescribe rules on the utilization of the evacuation center when it is not used as such: Provided, That the evacuation center may only be used for such other activities or purposes that involve the use of collapsible amenities only and those that shall not in any way compromise the serviceability of the evacuation center or impede the use thereof when a disaster occurs: Provided further, That the LGU shall impose such penalties as may be deemed proper on the organizers of authorized activities when the evacuation center suffers any damage, defacement, or loss during or as a result of such activities.

The mandatory audit of infrastructures used as evacuation centers shall be conducted by the City or Municipality at least once every year and immediately after the occurrence of a hazard or disaster.

SEC. 5. Role of the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council (NDRRMC). – The National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council (NDRRMC) shall be the lead implementing agency of this Act. It shall give utmost priority to those areas of the country that (a) are identified as disaster prone; (b) are financially incapable to establish their own evacuation centers; and (c) do not have existing evacuation centers of their own.

It shall enter into memoranda of agreement (MOA) with the concerned LGUs for the maintenance, operation, and management of a permanent evacuation center
in their respective areas of jurisdiction. It shall provide technical assistance and support services to these LGUs in the management of the facility.

Local chief executives concerned shall evaluate and provide suitable sites for evacuation centers to determine their geographical stability, and public accessibility in times of disasters. They shall provide for the maintenance, operation, and management of the facility taking into consideration the goal of life preservation and meeting the basic subsistence needs of affected population based on acceptable standards during or immediately after a disaster.

**SEC. 6. Coordination Among Agencies.** – The NDRRMC shall coordinate with the DPWH and the Department of Science and Technology (DOST) with regard to the design specifications, cost estimates, and construction details of the evacuation centers that will be constructed pursuant to this Act.

Concerned government agencies and instrumentalities, when necessary, shall provide assistance to the NDRRMC to ensure the effective and efficient implementation of this Act.

**SEC. 7. Implementing Rules and Regulations.** – Within sixty (60) days from the effectivity of this Act, the NDRRMC shall, in consultation with the DPWH, DOST, League of Cities of the Philippines, League of Municipalities of the Philippines, and other concerned government and private agencies, promulgate the necessary rules and regulations to carry out the provisions of this Act.

**SEC. 8. Appropriations.** – The amount necessary for the initial implementation to fund the construction and maintenance of multi-purpose gyms to serve as evacuation centers shall be charged against the budget provided for this purpose under the DPWH. Thereafter, such amounts necessary for the construction of multipurpose gyms as evacuation centers shall be included in the annual General
Appropriations Act. The LGU concerned shall provide the continued maintenance, operation and management of the facility.

SEC. 9. Separability Clause. – If any provision or part thereof, is held invalid or unconstitutional, the remainder of the law or the provisions not otherwise affected shall remain valid and subsisting.

SEC. 10. Repealing Clause. – Any law, presidential decree or issuance, executive order, letter of instruction, administrative order, rule or regulation contrary to, or inconsistent with the provisions of this Act is hereby repealed or amended accordingly.

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

Approved
FACT SHEET

HOUSE BILL NO. 8990

(In substitution on House Bills Numbered 1403, 3046, 3450, 3691, 4658, 4941, 4942, 5259, 5595, 5995, 6033, 6074, 6170, 7004, 7164, 7305, 7315, 7324, 7506, 7867 & 7906)

(Approved by the Committee on Disaster Resilience on 24 November 2020 and by the Committee on Appropriations on 03 February 2021)

ESTABLISHING EVACUATION CENTERS IN EVERY CITY AND MUNICIPALITY

OBJECTIVES:

- To ensure the safety of the citizenry especially during emergencies and disasters through the establishment and maintenance of fully-equipped and fully-operational evacuation centers
- To establish and maintain standard-based relief shelters and sites throughout the country with the end in view of decongesting temporary evacuation centers in public schools and private facilities
- To address the need to prioritize vulnerable individuals and groups since senior citizens, the disabled, children and pregnant women are more vulnerable to diseases in congested evacuation centers
- To minimize the loss of lives by bringing the evacuation centers nearer to the populace at the most accessible and safe areas

KEY PROVISIONS:

- Mandates the construction of evacuation centers in all cities and municipalities to serve as immediate and temporary shelter for people who have been evacuated or displaced from their homes due to emergencies such as severe climate disturbances;
- Mandates the Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH) to be in charge of the construction of evacuation center and to formulate the building specifications based on standards, issuances, and other guidelines set by the DPWH and the National Building Code;
- Directs Cities and Municipalities to be primarily responsible for the operation, supervision, management and maintenance of evacuation center and to issue rules and regulations on the proper use and maintenance of the facility;
- Mandates the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council (NDRRMC) to be the lead agency in the implementation of the Act. It shall give utmost priority to the areas of the country that are (a) identified as disaster prone; (b) financially incapable to establish their own evacuation center; and (c) do not have an existing evacuation center of their own;
• Mandates the NDRRMC to enter into a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with the concerned LGU for the maintenance, operation and management of their respective evacuation centers. It shall provide technical assistance and support services to these LGUs in the management of the facility;

• Directs the NDRRMC to coordinate with the DPWH and the Department of Science and Technology (DOST) on the design specifications, cost estimates and construction details of evacuation center that shall be constructed pursuant to the Act.

• Provides that the construction and maintenance of evacuation centers shall be charged against the budget of the DPWH. Thereafter, such amounts necessary for the construction of evacuation centers shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

RELATED LAW:

RA10121 – An Act Strengthening The Philippine Disaster Risk Reduction And Management System, Providing For The National Disaster Risk Reduction And Management Framework And Institutionalizing The National Disaster Risk Reduction And Management Plan, Appropriating Funds Therefore And For Other Purposes (01 Feb 2010)