

Republic of the Philippines  
**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**  
Quezon City



**EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS**  
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 2588

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**Introduced by Representative Michael L. Romero**

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**EXPLANATORY NOTE**

The state recognizes that small and medium-sized disasters often occur in silence throughout the whole year, without the attention of the mainstream media. Without visibility or awareness beyond the local region in which they occur, these silent disasters often do not receive the entry of financial support that can follow large-scale emergencies or disasters.

To support these emergencies or disasters and to provide initial funding before such emergency appeals are launched for large-scale disasters, it is imperative that the national government allocates grants from its **Disaster Resilience Funding**.

This House Bill seeks to provide immediate financial support, enabling all concerned and affected personnel, organizations to carry out their unique role after a disaster.

Thus, the early passage of this bill is earnestly requested.



**MICHAEL L. ROMERO Ph.D.**

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AN ACT

PROVIDING FOR A **NATIONAL DISASTER RESILIENCE FUND**, TO MAINTAIN THE NECESSARY BALANCE OF FUNDING, TO MEET THE REQUESTS AND DEMANDS FOR SUPPORT, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

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

**SECTION 1. DECLARATION OF POLICY** – It is hereby a declared policy of the state to:

- Provide Start-up funding for Societies to respond to large-scale disasters, **loan facility**.
- Create funding for National Society responses to small and medium scale disasters and health emergencies, **grant facility**.

**SECTION 2. NATIONAL DISASTER RESILIENCE FUND** – The State shall hereby provide an initial amount of Five hundred Million pesos (**₱500,000,000.00**) to promote urgent Disaster Resiliency concerned measures.

The State is hereby authorized to re-align its appropriations, along with its supplemental and additional funding in the current year of the date of the effectivity of this Act to conform with its mandate and requirements.

Thereafter, such sum as may be needed for the continued implementation of this Act shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act (**GAA**).

**SECTION 3. DETERMINING FACTORS AND CONDITIONS** – Factors that may influence the size of the grant/funding can be:

- A. Ecological and environmental extent of the damage;
- B. Preliminary estimate of death, injuries, and displaced persons;
- C. The reaction response capacity of key agencies; and
- D. The date and magnitude of the last disaster that affected the country (*taking into account the cumulative effect of disasters on ability to respond*).

Each nationally-declared disaster will be regarded as a separate event and hence be eligible for assistance, irrespective of whether it is issued for the same disaster-affected or in the same calendar year.

**SECTION 4. TRANSITORY PROVISION** – Existing industries, businesses and offices affected by the implementation of this Act shall be given six (**6**) months transitory period from the effectivity of the IRR or such other period as may be determined, to comply with the requirements of this Act.

**SECTION 5. IMPLEMENTING RULES AND REGULATIONS.** – The departments and agencies charged with carrying out the provisions of this Act shall, within sixty (**60**) days after the effectivity of this Act, formulate the necessary rules and regulations for its effective implementation.

**SECTION 6. REPEALING CLAUSE.** – All laws, decrees, executive orders, rules and regulations, or parts thereof inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

**SECTION 7. SEPARABILITY CLAUSE.** – If, for any reason, any section or provision of this Act is held unconstitutional or invalid, the other sections or provisions hereof shall not be affected thereby.

**SECTION 8. EFFECTIVITY CLAUSE.** – This Act shall take effect after fifteen (15) days from its publication in the Official Gazette or in at least two (2) national newspapers of general circulation whichever comes earlier.

Approved,