| EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE<br>REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES<br>First Regular Session | ) |
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## HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

H. R. No. 655

Introduced by Batangas Representatives
Rep. Vilma Santos-Recto, Rep. Elenita Milagros Ermita-Buhain, Rep. Raneo E. Abu,
Rep. Ma. Theresa V. Collantes, Rep. Lianda B. Bolilia and Rep. Mario Vittorio A. Mariño

## RESOLUTION

URGING THE IMMEDIATE RELEASE OF FUNDS FOR THE AID, RELIEF, RESETTLEMENT, REHABILITATION, LIVELIHOOD, DEVELOPMENT AND SOCIAL PROGRAMS AND SERVICES TO COMMUNITIES ADVERSELY AFFECTED BY THE TAAL VOLCANO ERUPTION, AND DIRECTING THE APPROPRIATE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES COMMITTEE TO IMMEDIATELY CALL THE NATIONAL DISASTER RISK REDUCTION AND MANAGEMENT COUNCIL (NDRRMC) FOR A HOUSE COMMITTEE BRIEFING TO ASSESS THE SITUATION AND DETERMINE THE NEEDS OF THE AFFECTED LOCALITIES AND THE TOTAL BUDGET REQUIREMENTS TO ADDRESS THE CALAMITY

- WHEREAS, on January 12, 2020, the Taal Volcano began erupting and has continued to be on Alert Level 4 to date;
- WHEREAS, the recent update from the NDRRMC reported that the said eruption has already affected 50,599 families or 203,763 individuals;
  - WHEREAS, at least half of the affected families or individuals are now residing in temporary shelters and evacuation centers in the provinces of Batangas, Cavite, Laguna and Quezon;
- WHEREAS, full and partial lockdowns were also implemented and have physically displaced roughly half a million individuals in the 11 municipalities and 2 cities of Batangas;
- WHEREAS, damages to both public and private properties and infrastructure, as well as the livelihood and the local tourism and agriculture sectors, among others, have already reached billions of pesos;
- WHEREAS, the said damages may still increase as PHIVOLCS alert on an imminent hazardous eruption has remained and no final damage assessment has been done to date;

WHEREAS, even as the threats and uncertainties of the Taal volcanic eruption continue, the national government should hasten the release of funds intended for development and social programs and services to assist the affected individuals or families and the localities in returning to normalcy;

WHEREAS, these funds appropriated under the FY 2020 General Appropriations Act include the Calamity Fund or the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Fund and the appropriations for development and social programs and services of various national government such as the Department of Social Welfare and Development, Department of Health, Department of Agriculture, Department of Tourism, Department of Labor and Employment, Department of Trade and Industry, among others: Now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, as it is hereby resolved, to urge the immediate release of funds for the aid, relief, resettlement, rehabilitation, livelihood, development and social programs and services to communities adversely affected by the Taal volcano eruption, and directing the appropriate House of Representatives Committee to immediately call the NDRRMC for a House briefing to assess the situation and determine the needs of the affected localities and the total budget requirements in addressing the calamity.

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Batangas, 6<sup>th</sup> District

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REP. RANEO E. ABU Batangas, 2<sup>nd</sup> District

REP. MA. THERESA V. COLLANTES

Batangas, 3<sup>rd</sup> District

REF. MARIO VÍTTORIO A. MARIÑO
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