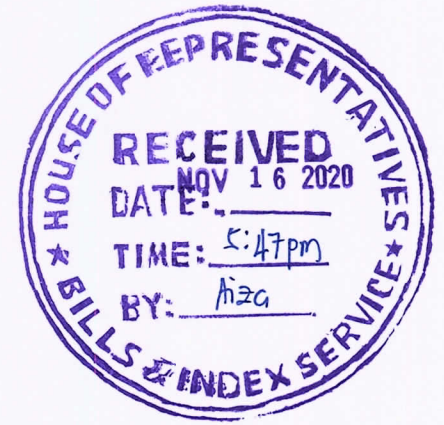


Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
Second Regular Session

House Resolution No. 1349



Introduced by the Honorable Precious Hipolito Castelo

A RESOLUTION

URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION (DEPED) TO POSTPONE CLASSES IN TYPHOON-RAVAGED AREAS IN THE COUNTRY

WHEREAS, in a span of two weeks, the country was ravaged by two Super Typhoons which caused widespread flooding in the National Capital Region (NCR) and Luzon;

WHEREAS, although Typhoon Rolly and Typhoon Ulysses have left the Philippine Area of Responsibility (PAR) already, the economic and health impacts of these typhoons will still be felt;

WHEREAS, according to the Philippine Atmospheric Geophysical and Astronomical Services Administration (PAGASA), at least three (3) more tropical cyclones are expected to enter the Philippine Area of Responsibility (PAR) before the end of the year¹;

WHEREAS, Super Typhoon Rolly and Ulysses have caused major damage to vital road and communications infrastructure, amounting to at least 8.4 Billion Pesos² and 4.254 Billion Pesos³, respectively;

WHEREAS, many students have little to no access to electricity and internet connection after the typhoons hit parts of the country only a week apart from each other;

WHEREAS, thousands of Filipinos were also displaced due to widespread flooding caused by the typhoons;

WHEREAS, damage was extremely serious and disheartening in areas such as Bicol, Cagayan Valley, Marikina, and parts of Bulacan and Pampanga where some houses are still submerged in flood-water even after the typhoons' departure in the PAR;

WHEREAS, it is within the mandate of the DepEd to give its regional, provincial, city, and municipal officials the discretion to determine areas in Bicol, Cagayan Valley and Metro Manila where online learning could be suspended for a specific duration;

¹ Neil Arwin Mercado, "Pagasa sees at least 3 more storms in PH before yearend," *Inquirer.net*. November 12, 2020, <https://newsinfo.inquirer.net/1359917/pagasa-expects-at-least-three-more-storms-in-ph-before-yearend> (Accessed November 16, 2020)

² Catherine Gonzales, "Damage to infrastructure, agriculture due to typhoon Rolly rises to P11B," *Inquirer.net*. November 5, 2020, <https://newsinfo.inquirer.net/1356870/damage-to-infrastructure-agriculture-due-to-typhoon-rolly-rises-to-p11b> (Accessed November 16, 2020)

³ "Damage to agriculture may reach ₱1.5B; Ulysses leaves over ₱5B damage to agri and infra," *CNN Philippines*. November 13, 2020, <https://www.cnnphilippines.com/news/2020/11/13/Ulysses-initial-damage-to-agriculture-infrastructure.html> (Accessed November 16, 2020)

WHEREAS, it is only humane and compassionate to allow students to recover physically and mentally for at least a few days or weeks, depending on the situation in their areas;

WHEREAS, students should not be further burdened by academic requirements during these difficult times;

WHEREAS, DepEd should also provide for replacement learning modules to students whose modules were either missing or damaged by flood;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives to urge the DepEd to postpone classes in typhoon-ravaged areas in the country.

APPROVED,


PRECIOUS HIPOLITO CASTELO