

Republic of the Philippines  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
Quezon City

SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS  
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. **3822**



**Introduced by HONORABLE STRIKE B. REVILLA**

**EXPLANATORY NOTE**

The Philippines is prone to dangerous typhoons, earthquakes, volcanic eruptions and other natural disasters. This is because its location is along the Pacific Ring of Fire.

Last November 2013, the country was hit by a destructive natural disaster – Typhoon Yolanda (Haiyan). Based on the latest report of the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council (NDRRMC) dated April 17, 2014, the destruction caused by Yolanda was reportedly 6,300 deaths, 1,061 people remain missing while 28,689 others were injured. Also, last October 2013 we experienced the ferocity of the 7.2 magnitude earthquake in Bohol that caused an unimaginable damage of 222 deaths. These experiences have been too difficult for the Filipino people. Such incidents show that we are in dire need of a systematic disaster risk reduction and response mechanism which in our case is a decentralized one. Being a decentralized system, a local disaster officer is required to lead, organize, and manage permanent support in every Local Government Unit, especially it times of emergencies.

Republic Act 10121, otherwise known as the Philippine Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Act of 2010 states in section 3 that the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Framework (NDRRMF) shall provide community-based disaster risk reduction and management, a process of disaster risk reduction and management in which at risk communities are actively engaged in the identification, analysis, treatment, monitoring and evaluation of disaster risks in order to reduce their vulnerabilities, and enhance their capacities. It also puts the people at the heart of decision-making and implementation of disaster risk reduction and management activities; and provide for comprehensive, all hazards, multi-sectoral, inter-agency and community-based approach to disaster risk reduction and management. In this light, it is significant that each local government shall assign a disaster risk officer with a permanent status and be required to establish an office that is exclusively for disaster risk operations. With this, it will be easier to satisfy the purpose in providing assistance in their respective communities in times of devastation, and for those affected people to easily move forward and go back to their normal life.

This bill seeks to assign a permanent Disaster Risk Officer in each Local Government Unit. With this, every local government unit's organizational structure will be more dynamic, efficient and each will have an operating mechanism that will meet the needs and service requirements of every community.

In this regard, passage of this bill is earnestly sought.

  
**REP. STRIKE B. REVILLA**  
2nd District of Cavite

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**AN ACT**  
**AMENDING TITLE V – BOOK III OR REPUBLIC ACT 7160, OTHERWISE KNOWN**  
**AS THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT CODE OF 1999, PROPOSING A PERMANENT**  
**ITEM FOR A DISASTER OFFICER IN EVERY LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNIT**

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

1       **SECTION 1.** a new article after Article XX of Republic Act 7160 is hereby  
2 inserted to read as follows:

3  
4               **ARTICLE XXI – DISASTER RISK OFFICER.**

5  
6               **SECTION 491: QUALIFICATIONS, RESPONSIBILITIES AND POWERS:**  
7               **AN APPOINTED PERSON MUST BE A FILIPINO CITIZEN, A**  
8               **RESIDENT OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNIT CONCERNED AND HAS**  
9               **GOOD MORAL CHARCATER.**

10              **(1) EDUCATION: MUST BE A GRADUATE OF BACHELOR DEGREE**  
11              **ON SOCIAL SCIENCE, HUMANITIES, PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION,**  
12              **AGRICULTURE OR OTHER RELATED FIELDS, AND ELIGIBLE ON**  
13              **CIVILI SERVICE.**

14              **(2) SKILLS AND KNOWLEDGE**

15              **(A) KNOWLEDGE IN DISASTER RISK MANAGEMENT (DISASTER**  
16              **RESPONSE AND IMPROVEMENT, REHABILITATION AND RISK**  
17              **REDUCTION AGENDA),**

18              **(B) ABILITY TO DEVELOP PROJECT PROPOSAL, WORK PLAN,**  
19              **MONITOR AND EVALUATE THE PROJECT ACTIVITIES,**

20              **(C) GOOD ANALYTICAL SKILLS AND THE ABILITY TO ASSESS**  
21              **INFORMATION ON HUMANITARIAN ISSUES,**

22              **(D)GOOD ORGANIZATIONL AND FACILITATION SKILLS,**

1 ABILITY TO WORK WITH DIVERSE TEAMS OFTEN IN DIFFICULT  
2 SITUATIONS

3 (E) KNOWLEDGEABLE ON PARTICIPATORY PLANNING,  
4 MONITORING, IMPLEMENTATION, EVALUATION AND  
5 BUDGETING,

6 (G) GOOD COMMUNICATION, FACILITATION AND NEGOTIATION  
7 SKILLS.

8 3. EXPERIENCE (AT LEAST THREE YEARS)

9 (A) WORKING IN EMERGENCY REHABILITATION, EMERGENCY  
10 RESPONSE AND RECOVERY

11 (B) WORKING WITH COMMUNITY GROUPS, COMMUNE  
12 COUNCILS, DISTRICT AND PROVINCIAL COMMITTEES OR  
13 DISASTER MANAGEMENT

14 (C) EXPERIENCE OF DEVELOPING AND DELIVERING PROJECT  
15 OUTLINES AND REPORTS FROM BEGINNING TO COMPLETION  
16 OF PROJECT.

17 4. RESPONSIBILITIES (PURSUANT TO RA 10121)

18 (A) ADOPT A DISASTER RISK REDUCTION AND MANAGEMENT  
19 APPROACH THAT IS HOLISTIC, COMPREHENSIVE,  
20 INTEGRATED, AND PROACTIVE IN LESSENING THE  
21 SOCIOECONOMIC AND ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS OF  
22 DISASTERS INCLUDING CLIMATE CHANGE, AND PROMOTE THE  
23 INVOLVEMENT AND PARTICIPATION OF ALL SECTORS AND ALL  
24 STAKEHOLDERS CONCERNED, AT ALL LEVELS, ESPECIALLY  
25 THE LOCAL COMMUNITY;

26 (B) INSTITUTIONALIZE THE POLICIES, STRUCTURES,  
27 COORDINATION MECHANISMS AND PROGRAMS WITH  
28 CONTINUING BUDGET APPROPRIATION ON DISASTER RISK  
29 REDUCTION FROM NATIONAL DOWN TO LOCAL LEVELS  
30 TOWARDS BUILDING A DISASTER-RESILIENT NATION AND  
31 COMMUNITIES;

32 (C) RECOGNIZE THE LOCAL RISK PATTERNS ACROSS THE  
33 COUNTRY AND STRENGTHEN THE CAPACITY OF LGUS FOR  
34 DISASTER RISK REDUCTION AND MANAGEMENT THROUGH  
35 DECENTRALIZED POWERS, RESPONSIBILITIES, AND  
36 RESOURCES AT THE REGIONAL AND LOCAL LEVELS;

37 (D) RECOGNIZE AND STRENGTHEN THE CAPACITIES OF LGUS  
38 AND COMMUNITIES IN MITIGATING AND PREPARING FOR,

1                   **RESPONDING TO, AND RECOVERING FROM THE IMPACT OF**  
2                   **DISASTERS;**

3  
4           **SECTION 2.** Any law, presidential decree or issuance, executive order, letter of  
5 instruction, administrative order, rule or regulation contrary to, or inconsistent with the  
6 provisions of this Act is hereby repealed, modified or amended accordingly.  
7

8           **SECTION 3.** This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the  
9 Official Gazette or in two (2) newspapers of general circulation.  
10

11           **SECTION 4.** This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in at  
12 least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

***Approved,***