

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City, Metro Manila

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session



HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 340

Introduced by **HON. EDGAR M. CHATTO**
First District, Bohol

RESOLUTION
EXPRESSING THE SUPPORT OF THE HOUSE OF
REPRESENTATIVES TO THE FILIPINO YOUTHS' PARTICIPATION
IN THE INTERGENERATIONAL CLIMATE STRIKE ON 20-24
SEPTEMBER 2019 AND ENCOURAGING THE DEPARTMENT OF
EDUCATION, THE COMMISSION ON HIGHER EDUCATION, THE
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT, THE
LOCAL GOVERNMENTS AND CIVIL SOCIETY TO PARTICIPATE AS
WELL AS TO ACTIVELY ENGAGE IN FURTHER ACTIVITIES THAT WILL
RAISE AWARENESS AND EMBOLDEN ACTION TOWARDS CLIMATE
CHANGE MITIGATION AND CARE FOR THE ENVIRONMENT

WHEREAS, on December 12, 2015, 195 countries gathered in the French capital to conclude the first truly universal climate treaty, the Paris Agreement, aimed at preventing the worst-case scenarios of global warming. It entered into force on 4 November 2016 upon the ratification by 55 State parties. To date, 185 of 197 Parties to the Convention have ratified the same;

WHEREAS, prior to the 2015 United Nations Climate Change Conference in Paris, an independent group of students invited other students around the world to skip school on the first day of the conference. Hence, on 30 November, the first day of the conference, a "Climate Strike" was organized in over 100 countries with over 50,000 people participating. The movement focused on three demands: 100% clean energy; keeping fossil fuels in the ground, and helping climate refugees;

WHEREAS, on August 2018, a 15 year old Swedish girl, Greta Thunberg, took time off school to demonstrate outside the Swedish parliament, holding up a sign which said, "*Skolstrejk för klimatet*" ("school strike for the climate"). Soon, other students engaged in similar protests in their own communities. Together they organized a school climate strike movement, under the name *Fridays for Future*;

WHEREAS, since then, the movement has significantly and steadily grown. By the end of 2018, strikes continued at least in 270 cities in countries including Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, the Netherlands, Germany, Finland, Denmark, Japan, Switzerland, the United Kingdom, and the United States;

WHEREAS, on 15 March 2019, school strikes, urging adults to take responsibility and stop the climate change, began taking place in over 2000 cities worldwide with an estimated number of 1.4 million pupils from around the world participating in the events. This marked the first Global Climate Strike for Future;

WHEREAS, a second global climate strike was held on May 24, 2019, then an international climate strike on 21 June 2019, an international conference on 5-9 August 2019, and now, the Intergenerational Strike to happen on 20-27 September 2019. In thousands of locations around the world, millions of young people will strike against a status quo of complacency, inaction, and injustice on climate change, and join voices to demand a livable future;

WHEREAS, the Youth Strike for Climate Philippines, a national, youth-led movement aiming to empower young people to take action in addressing the effects of climate change, along with various organizations and communities, is preparing to mobilize the Filipino youth nationwide for the global climate strike happening from September 20 to 27, 2019;

WHEREAS, students and youths from Ilocos Norte to Tawi-tawi have signified intention to conduct strikes. In Bukidnon, indigenous youth, local government officials, and tribal leaders from Upper Pulangi will gather for the 2-day *Tapok* (youth summit). Schools such as the University of the Philippines and the Ateneo de Manila University will also be hosting climate strikes. At the University of the Philippines Diliman's College of Science Amphitheater, 350.org and Youth Advocates for Climate Action in the Philippines will attempt to set a world record for the largest human earth formation ever on September 20;

WHEREAS, according to the Youth Strike for Climate, aside from educating student leaders and other youth groups on the climate crisis, the simultaneous movements also hope to create a network of young environmental advocates and climate activists to "bolster collaboration and collective action for the cause;"

WHEREAS, climate change is a universal issue which affects us all. In a 2018 survey, the Philippines ranked third – just behind India and Pakistan – among countries most vulnerable to climate change;

WHEREAS, learning institutions, government agencies, local government units and civil society are important partners in ensuring that not only our youths, but all members of society, become aware of the issues of climate change and, more importantly, take action towards climate change mitigation and care for the environment;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, as it is hereby resolved by the House of Representatives, to express its support to the Filipino Youths' Participation in the Intergenerational Climate Strike on 20-24 September 2019.

RESOLVED FURTHER, that the Department of Education, the Commission on Higher Education, the Department of the Interior and Local Government, the local governments and civil society be encouraged to participate in the Intergenerational Climate Strike on 20-24 September 2019 as well as to actively engage in further activities that will raise awareness and embolden action towards climate change mitigation and care for the environment.

Adopted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Edgar M. Chatto', written over a vertical line.

EDGAR M. CHATTO