

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Constitution Hills, Quezon City

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 883



Introduced by Representative FAUSTINO 'INNO' A. DY V

**RESOLUTION URGING THE SECRETARY OF THE DEPARTMENT OF THE
INTERIOR AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT, AS THE VICE CHAIRPERSON FOR
PREPAREDNESS OF THE NATIONAL DISASTER RISK REDUCTION AND
MANAGEMENT COUNCIL, TO DIRECT ALL LOCAL GOVERNMENTS UNITS
TO PREPARE THEIR EVACUATION CENTERS IN VIEW OF COVID-19**

Whereas, The Philippines has a high vulnerability to natural hazards which are attributed to the nation's geographic position in Southeast Asia;

Whereas, due to its location and geographical context the risk involving coastal hazards such as typhoons, storm surges, and rising sea levels is high;

Whereas, as the Philippine archipelago is located within the "Ring of Fire" between the Eurasian and Pacific tectonic plates, earthquakes and volcanic eruptions are constantly posing serious risks to the safety of the populace;

Whereas, flooding, landslides, droughts, and storm surges further contribute to the exposure to natural hazards. Of these, hydro-meteorological events including typhoons and floods, accounted for over 80% of the natural disasters in the country during the last half-century;

Whereas, in terms of disaster risk, the World Risk Report 2018 ranked the Philippines third among all of the countries with the highest risks worldwide where at least 60% of the country's total land area is exposed to multiple hazards while 74% of the population is susceptible to their impact;

Whereas, aside from natural causes, the country also experiences human-induced disasters to include armed conflicts;

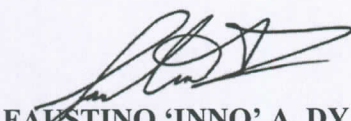
Whereas, all these disasters cause serious and massive displacement of many forcing them to temporarily seek shelter in evacuation centers;

Whereas, as the country continue to face the COVID-19 pandemic, the government must ensure that all evacuation centers are prepared to address the dual challenge of providing comfort for the evacuees while observing the minimum health requirements set by the Department of Health;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, that the House of Representatives urge the Secretary of the Department of the Interior and Local Government, serving as the Vice Chairperson for Disaster Preparedness of the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council, to direct all local governments to conduct an immediate assessment of their evacuation centers and to ensure that the following standards, among others, will be met:

1. Limit the capacity of evacuation centers in view of social distancing;
2. One-way entrance and exit scheme must be in place to control the movement of people;
3. Provision of clean toilet, handwashing facilities, and sufficient water supply among others;
4. Regular disinfection in the premises must be conducted;
5. Waste collection and management must be ensured;
6. Ensure the presence of medical personnel in evacuation areas to regularly check the evacuees for possible symptoms of COVID-19;
7. Provision of personal protective equipment to evacuees and responders;
8. Arrange contactless distribution of food packs and hygiene kits, among others; and
9. Considering the supply gaps due to community quarantine, start to update their directory of local suppliers for emergency procurement of supplies and equipment.

Adopted,


FAUSTINO 'INNO' A. DY V