

SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS )  
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES )  
First Regular Session )

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Introduced by Representative Maximo B. Rodriguez

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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House Bill No. 2580

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill was originally introduced as House Bill No. 5955 during the 15<sup>th</sup> Congress where it was approved by the Committee on Revision of Laws. It was subsequently approved on 2<sup>nd</sup> reading, approved on 3<sup>rd</sup> reading and was transmitted to the Senate where it was not acted upon. It was again re-filed during the 16<sup>th</sup> Congress.

Typhoon Sendong entered the country late night of December 16, 2011 and hit Cagayan de Oro and Iligan City during the wee hours of December 17, 2011. Sendong caused tremendous damage including loss of lives and destruction of property which led President Benigno Aquino to issue Proclamation No. 303 declaring a state of National Calamity.

According to the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council (NDRRMC), typhoon Sendong affected at least 92,964 families or 641,098 persons. Also, there are a reported at least 1,010 dead and at least another 200 persons still missing with these number projected to increase as the debris are cleared and more search and rescue operations are conducted.

In order to mainstream adaptations and disaster reduction in all national and local development and to constantly remind us of what the wrath of Mother Nature can do and to remember both the victims and those involved in rescue, a day of remembrance should be held every year in Cagayan de Oro City and Iligan City wherein exhibits and forums on disaster awareness, disaster readiness are conducted along with other activities which would remind us of the damage that mother nature can bring if we do not take care of our environment.

In view of the foregoing, early passage of this bill is earnestly sought.



MAXIMO B. RODRIGUEZ, JR.

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AN ACT

DECLARING DECEMBER 16 OF EVERY YEAR AS THE SENDONG MEMORIAL AND  
DISASTER PREPAREDNESS DAY IN CAGAYAN DE ORO CITY AND ILIGAN CITY

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

**SECTION 1.** December 16 of every year is hereby declared as the "Sendong  
Memorial and Disaster Preparedness Day" in Cagayan de Oro City and Iligan City.

**SEC. 2.** The following activities shall be undertaken in observance of this  
occasion:

- (a) The Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) shall  
conduct tree planting/reforestation activities;
- (b) The National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council  
(NDRRMC) shall conduct forums on disaster and risk reduction in  
Cagayan de Oro City;
- (c) The Climate Change Commission (CCC) shall conduct forums on climate  
change adaptation;
- (d) The Local Government Units (LGUs) of Cagayan de Oro and Iligan cities  
shall convene their respective Local Disaster Risk Reduction and  
Management Councils (LDRRMCs) and undertake seminars to implement  
disaster risk reduction measures;
- (e) Non-government organizations shall organize information  
drives/campaigns to increase awareness on disaster awareness, climate  
change, the effects of abusing the environment, disaster preparedness  
and disaster readiness; and
- (f) Other activities that would raise awareness, fun runs and photo exhibits.

**SEC. 3.** This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the  
*Official Gazette* or in a newspaper of general circulation.

*Approved,*