

Republic of the Philippines
House of Representatives
Quezon City Metro Manila

SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

House Bill 2146

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
RECEIVED
DATE: <u>01 AUG 2016</u>
TIME: <u>12:20 pm</u>
BY: <u>[Signature]</u>
REGISTRATION UNIT BILLS AND INDEX SERVICE

Introduced by **REP. ENRICO A. PINEDA and REP. MICHAEL ODYLON L. ROMERO**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Traditionally, public schools are utilized as evacuation centers in times of disasters and other emergencies.

Schools, however, are neither designed nor equipped to accommodate displaced individuals and families. Additionally, schools may also be affected by the same calamities and disasters, making their utilization unsafe or unhygienic.

The use of schools for disaster relief also creates another problem in the long run: the education of Filipino students.

With families occupying classrooms, students are relegated to makeshift classrooms. This is especially true in the case of Typhoon Yolanda (Haiyan), where evacuees remained in schools for months after the onslaught of the typhoon on November 2013.

Such situations could adversely affect the psycho-social well-being and ultimately, the academic performance of students.

To protect the people during times of disaster without sacrificing the education of the Filipino students, this bill seeks to ensure that all of the 145 cities and 1,489 municipalities¹ in the country have a dedicated, disaster-resilient multipurpose gymnasium constructed for such purpose.

This bill also provides for the formulation of a National Multi-Purpose Gymnasium Construction Plan to lay out the parameters of the construction program, as well as to develop prioritization measures for cities and municipalities located in disaster-prone areas.

The gym can be used for civic activities, community gatherings and sports events during ordinary days but can be designated as the evacuation center when calamity strikes, making it truly multimodal.

This structure can also house the disaster-response teams of a community; the warehouse of prepositioned relief goods; and where rescue equipment can be stocked. It will serve as the nerve center of disaster-related activities.

SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS

First Regular Session

House Bill 2146

Introduced by **REP. ENRICO A. PINEDA** and **REP. MICHAEL ODYLON L. ROMERO**

AN ACT

PROVIDING FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF A MULTIPURPOSE GYMNASIUM IN EVERY MUNICIPALITY AND CITY TO SERVE AS EVACUATION CENTER DURING TIMES OF CALAMITY OR DISASTER, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

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

SECTION 1. *Short Title.* - This Act shall be known as the "National Multipurpose Gymnasium Act of 2017".

SEC. 2. *Declaration of Policy.* - It is hereby declared the policy of the State to promote the general welfare of the people. Towards this end, and in cognizance of the vulnerability of the Philippines to various meteorological, geophysical, hydrological and biological hazards, the State shall provide for the construction of disaster-resilient multi-purpose gymnasium in all municipalities and cities for the primary purpose of establishing an operations center for relief operations and aiding displaced people in times of disasters.

SEC. 3. *Construction of a Multipurpose Gymnasium.* - The Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH) shall undertake the construction of disaster-resilient multi-purpose gymnasiums in every municipality and city throughout the country, which shall serve as a civic center and as an evacuation center for residents during calamities and disasters: *Provided,* That such construction shall be based on a program prepared by the DPWH pursuant to Section 5 of this Act.

SEC. 4. *Minimum Acceptable Gymnasium Specifications.* The facilities shall, at the minimum, possess the following specifications:

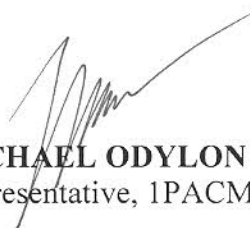
- (a) The location of the gymnasium should be accessible to evacuees and disaster relief personnel, and at a safe distance from critical areas or danger zones;
- (b) The capacity of the multi-purpose gym should be enough to accommodate at least 3% of the population of the particular municipality or city;
- (c) The structure of the multipurpose gymnasium should be able to withstand wind speeds of up to 220 kilometers per hour or earthquake magnitude of at least $M_w 7.2$;
- (d) The amenities of the multipurpose gymnasium should include the following: (i) proper ventilation; (ii) drainage and sewerage facilities; (iii) potable water and electrical facility; (iv)

With the magnitude and intensity of calamities suffered by the country, it is imperative that measures be taken to ensure the welfare of the Filipino people, especially the poor and the marginalized.

In light of the foregoing, the swift passage of this measure is earnestly sought.



ENRICO A. PINEDA
Representative, 1PACMAN Partylist



MICHAEL ODYLON L. ROMERO
Representative, 1PACMAN Partylist

widefloor area devoid of permanent fixtures; (v) shower and toilet facilities; (vi) confined area for clinic facilities

SEC. 5. *National Multipurpose Gymnasium Construction Plan.* The construction of multipurpose gym in every municipality and city shall be governed by a medium- to long-term National Multipurpose Gymnasium Construction Plan. The construction plan shall include, but not be limited to, the following:

(a) The identification of cities and areas with no evacuation facilities other than public schools;

(b) The identification of cities and municipalities situated in disaster- or flood-prone areas;

(c) The minimum acceptable gymnasium specifications as provided for in Section 4 of this Act;

(d) The timeline for the implementation of the National Multipurpose Gymnasium Construction Plan.

SEC. 6. *Construction Priorities.* – In the construction of multi-purpose gymnasium, the DPWH shall accord priority to third and sixth class municipalities especially those situated in disaster-prone areas as identified by the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council (NDRRMC), the Department of Science and Technology (DOST), the Philippine Atmospheric Geophysical and Astronomical Services Administration (PAGASA), and the Philippine Institute of Volcanology and Seismology (PHIVOLCS).

Priority shall also be extended to cities and municipalities which can provide suitable gymnasium construction sites and labor services for construction thereof.

SEC. 7. *Operations and Management of the Multipurpose Gymnasium.* – The operations and management of the multi-purpose gymnasium shall be under the Office of the Municipal or City Mayor.

SEC. 8. *Appropriations.* – The amount necessary for the immediate implementation of the provisions of this Act shall be charged against the current appropriations of the DPWH. Thereafter, such sum as may be necessary to carry out the provisions of this Act shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

SEC. 9. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.* – Within sixty (60) days from the effectivity of this Act, the DPWH shall, in coordination with the NDRRMC and the Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG), promulgate the necessary rules and regulations to effectively implement the provisions of this Act.

The LGU are hereby authorized to issue rules and regulations on the use of the facility and the imposition of fees and charges as may be required for the maintenance and minor repairs of the facility.

SEC. 10. *Separability Clause.* – If for any reason, any provision of this Act is declared unconstitutional or invalid, such parts or portions not affected thereby shall remain in full force and effect.

SEC. 11.*Repealing Clause.*— All laws, executive orders, presidential decrees, issuances, rules and regulations or parts thereof inconsistent with the provision of this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SEC. 12.*Effectivity.* — This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days following its publication in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation or in the *Official Gazette*.