

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



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Introduced by Representative Rufus B. Rodriguez

House Bill No. **2795**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

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 constantly remind us of what the wrath of Mother Nature can do and to remember both the victims and those involved in rescue, memorial gardens are needed to be built in the areas that were most damaged and where many of the deaths occurred which are now declared "no build zones". These gardens shall be a constant reminder that we should always take care of our environment. It will also serve as a place where kids can play and people and families can gather and spend quality time together.

In view of the foregoing, immediate passage of this bill is earnestly requested.


RUFUS B. RODRIGUEZ

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Introduced by Representative Rufus B. Rodriguez

House Bill No. **2795**

AN ACT

ESTABLISHING FIVE MEMORIAL ECO-PARKS AND SHRINES TO BE KNOWN AS "CDO SENDONG MEMORIALS" IN DIFFERENT AREAS IN CAGAYAN DE ORO TO SERVE AS A FINAL RESTING PLACE FOR THE DEAD AND MISSING CAUSED BY TYPHOON SENDONG LAST DECEMBER 16, 2011 AND AS A CONSTANT REMINDER THAT WE ALL HAVE TO PROTECT OUR ENVIRONMENT TO PREVENT CALAMITIES AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

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

SECTION 1 There shall be established five memorial eco-parks and shrines in Cagayan de Oro City in Sitio KalaKala, Barangay Macasandig; in Isla de Oro, Barangay 13 and Barangay 15; in Isla Delta, Isla Bugnaw and in Isla Baksan, all in Barangay Consolacion.

SEC 2. These memorial gardens shall be planted with trees and grasses and shall have an obelisk tower in the center to serve as a symbol and reminder of the people who lost their lives, are missing and injured. Further, river walls/retaining walls shall also be constructed to stabilize the slopes along the parks.

SEC 3. An Inter-agency Council is hereby created to manage and maintain these memorial gardens. Said inter-agency council shall be composed of the Secretary of Department of Environment and Natural Resources, as chairman, and one representative each from the National Disaster Risk Reduction Management Council, the Department of Tourism, the Department of Public Works and Highways, the Office of the Representative of the 2nd District of Cagayan de Oro City and the City Government of Cagayan de Oro City as members.

SEC 4. Appropriations – The total sum of One Hundred Million Pesos is hereby appropriated for the landscaping, planting of trees and grass and the building of the obelisk towers.

The appropriations for dredging of the river, the construction of river walls and the elevation of the parks shall be included in the annual appropriations of the Department of Public Works and Highways.

SEC 5. Implementing Rules and Regulations – The Department of Environment and Natural Resources shall promulgate the Rules and Regulations necessary for the effective implementation of this Act.

SEC 6. *Separability Clause* – Should any of the provisions of this Act or any part thereof be declared invalid, the other provisions, so far as they are separable from the invalid ones, shall remain in full force and effect.

SEC 7. *Repealing Clause* – All laws, presidential decrees and issuances, executive orders, rules and regulations or parts thereof inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SEC 8. *Effectivity* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved.