

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 6056



Introduced by Representative MANUEL F. ZUBIRI

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The natural calamities that struck the Philippines these past few years—including the current situation with the Taal Volcano—keep on testing the resiliency of the Filipino. While Republic Act 10121 otherwise known as the Philippine Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Act of 2010 have institutionalized the coordination and enrichment of the Filipino's knowledge in terms of preparing, dealing with and mitigating the effects of disasters, our own experience has shown that much needed supplies as well as quick response teams in the barangay level are needed to be further prepare us for such events.

It is thus the intention of this bill to further enable the citizenry in dealing and mitigating the after-effects of disasters. By making quick response units part of the barangay personnel, this measure will see to it that no one is left behind and all areas are monitored before and when disaster strikes. The provision of equipment and supplies specific to the calamity or disaster that a certain barangay or area faces in a cycle will not only allow the barangay quick response units to better respond to disasters and calamities as well as mitigating its after-effects.

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

MANUEL F. ZUBIRI
Representative
Third District, Bukidnon

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HOUSE BILL NO. 6058

Introduced by Representative MANUEL F. ZUBIRI

AN ACT
CREATING BARANGAY QUICK RESPONSE UNITS IN EVERY BARANGAY
THEREBY AMENDING REPUBLIC ACT 7160 OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE
LOCAL GOVERNMENT CODE OF 1991 AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

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

Section 1. Insertion of a New Provision. - There is hereby inserted a Section 396 in Book III, Title I, Chapter V of Republic Act 7160 to read as follows:

" Section 396. Barangay Quick Response Unit Officer: Appointment, Qualification, Powers and Duties.

a) There shall be a barangay quick response unit officer in every barangay to be appointed by the punong barangay with the concurrence of the majority of all the sangguniang barangay members.

b) The barangay quick response unit officer shall be knowledgeable in the territory of the barangay and shall be chosen from among the members of the Barangay Development Councils serving as the Local Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council under Republic Act 10121.

c) The chosen officer in this section shall show his/her capability and knowledge in training personnel which will comprise the Quick Response Unit of the barangay as well as his/her capability in deploying such team to avoid disaster/s striking the area as well as mitigating effects in the event of one.

d) The barangay quick response unit officer shall recommend the number of personnel he/she needs in order to have a capable quick response unit in relation to the size of the barangay and its population to the punong barangay and the sangguniang barangay so that the same may be formed and funded by the barangay.

e) The barangay quick response unit officer shall only recommend as part of his/her quick response unit persons who have undergone proper disaster risk reduction training from the provincial, city or municipal disaster risk reduction management council's programs.

f) The barangay quick response unit officer shall:

1. Keep custody of barangay fund relating to disaster risk reduction and management.

2. Keep custody of medical supplies and life-saving apparatus relating to disaster risk reduction and management.

3. Disburse funds in accordance with the financial procedure provided in this Code.

4. Submit to the punong barangay a statement covering the actual expenditures of barangay fund relating to disaster risk reduction and management.

5. Submit to the punong barangay a statement covering the actual usage of medical supplies and life-saving apparatus relating to disaster risk reduction and management.

6. Turn over to the city or municipal mayor unused medical supplies and life-saving apparatus nearing the expiration of their shelf-life to be used at once with other social programs of the city or municipality.

7. Keep an inventory of all medical supplies and life-saving apparatus.

8. Actually use and give out such medical supplies and life-saving apparatus in the event of a disaster on all who may need the same.

9. Exercise such other powers and perform such other duties and functions as may be prescribed by law or ordinance.

Section 396-A. Equipment; Facilities. – The Barangay Quick Response Unit shall have their own facility and equipment to be funded by the Local Government to which the said barangay belongs.

The Barangay Quick Response Unit Officer shall prioritize in his recommendation for funding to the Local Government Unit funding the Barangay Quick Response Unit's equipment and facilities that will serve their functions and purpose for the specific calamity or disaster usually taking place in the said area of the Barangay Quick Response Unit. The Local Government shall thereby fund the equipment needed as recommended by the Barangay Quick Response Unit Officer. However, nothing in this section prohibits the Local Government from augmenting or delivering additional generic equipment and supplies which are usually needed in times of disasters and calamities."

Section 2. Renumbering. - Section 396 in Book III, Title I, Chapter V of Republic Act 7160 is hereby renumbered as Section 397.

Section 3. Repealing Clause. – All laws, decrees, executive orders, proclamations and other executive issuances which are inconsistent with or contrary to the provisions of this Act are hereby amended or repealed accordingly.

Section 4. Separability Clause. – If any provision of this Act shall be held unconstitutional or invalid, the other provisions not otherwise affected shall remain in full force and effect.

Section 5. Effectivity Clause. – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days following its complete publication in the *Official Gazette* or in two (2) national newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,