

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

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SENATE
P. S. R. No. 405



RECEIVED BY: _____

Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

RESOLUTION
DIRECTING THE PROPER SENATE COMMITTEE TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY,
IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE FLASH FLOOD THAT DISPLACED 1,500
BARANGAY BAGONG SILANGAN RESIDENTS

WHEREAS, the Constitution, Article 2, Section 9, provides that, "The State shall promote a just and dynamic social order that will ensure the prosperity and independence of the nation and free the people from poverty through policies that provide adequate social services, promote full employment, a rising standard of living, and an improved quality of life for all";

WHEREAS, the *Philippine Daily Inquirer* in its 14 May 2008 news article reported that shoulder-high waters flooded Barangay Bagong Silangan, an impoverished community in Quezon City, forcing more than 1,500 people out of their houses;

WHEREAS, according to residents, the water level suddenly rose in their barangay during a heavy downpour at around 4:30 PM of 12 May 2008;

WHEREAS, residents claimed that the water came from an embankment that gave way when a nearby creek overflowed;

WHEREAS, Superintendent Constante Agpoa , commander of the Quezon City Police District Station 6, countered the residents' claim, stating that the affected community is located in a low-lying area, and as a result, water coming from higher places naturally flow in that direction;

WHEREAS, most of the residents affected by the flood lost their personal belongings and at least 500 houses, including 55 new houses just completed by volunteers from Gawad Kalinga, were damaged;

WHEREAS, some of the 500 families who were forced out of their houses sought shelter in the barangay hall and covered court;

WHEREAS, some residents were able to return to their homes to clear these of mud and mounds of garbage that came with the flood;

WHEREAS, according to the news article, there was a need for the speedy distribution of relief goods, medicine, water and clothing for the victims;

WHEREAS, the State should conduct a study on areas that are prone to disasters to address the concerns of these areas even before disaster strikes;


WHEREAS, it is imperative that the government address the need of its people in distress due to natural disasters;

WHEREAS, there is a need to create disaster relief centers in areas prone to natural disasters;

WHEREAS, pumping units could be installed in areas prone to floods, such as what has been done in the city of Navotas;

WHEREFORE, be it hereby resolved by the Philippine Senate, to direct the proper Senate Committee to conduct an inquiry in aid of legislation, on the flash flood that displaced 1,500 barangay Bagong Silangan residents.

Adopted,


MIRIAM DEFENSOR SANTIAGO
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