



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Environment and Natural Resources
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02 October 2020

MEMORANDUM

TO : All Bureau Directors

The Directors
Legal Affairs Service
Policy and Planning Service

FROM : The Assistant Secretary
Field Operations-Mindanao and Legal Affairs

SUBJECT : **REQUEST FOR COMMENTS ON HOUSE BILL NO. 7305 ENTITLED, "AN ACT ESTABLISHING MANDATORY EVACUATION AND QUARANTINE CENTERS IN ALL CITIES, PROVINCES, AND MUNICIPALITIES, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR"**

This pertains to the memorandum dated 14 September 2020, from Undersecretary Jacinto V. Paras, Presidential Assistant and Head, PLLO- House of Representatives, requesting comments/recommendations on House Bill No. 7305, entitled, "An Act Establishing Mandatory Evacuation and Quarantine Centers in All Cities, Provinces, and Municipalities, Appropriating Funds Therefor".

Kindly submit comments and/or position paper in hard and soft copy not later than October 9, 2020 at the Legislative Liaison Office at telephone number 8920-1761 and e-mail address denrlegislative@yahoo.com for consolidation.

Thank you and your preferential attention on the subject matter is hereby enjoined.


JOAN A. LAGUNDA, DM, DPA



Republic of the Philippines
Office of the President
PRESIDENTIAL LEGISLATIVE LIAISON OFFICE

MEMORANDUM

FOR : **SECRETARY ROY A. CIMATU**
Department of Environment and Natural Resources

THRU : **ASEC. JOAN A. LAGUNDA**
Department Legislative Liaison Officer

FROM : **USEC. JACINTO V. PARAS**
Presidential Assistant and Head
PLLO – House of Representatives

SUBJECT : **Evacuation Center Bill**

DATE : **September 14, 2020**

May we respectfully bring to your attention the legislative measure that may impinge on the jurisdiction of your department, filed in the House of Representatives and referred to the concerned committee as indicated.

In preparation for the upcoming public hearings to be conducted by the concerned Committees, it behooves the Department Legislative Liaison Officers (DLLOs) to facilitate review and the preparation of official position papers relative thereto. Hard copies are available at the House Bills and Index Service or you may download them from the official website of the House of Representatives (www.congress.gov.ph/legisdocs/?v=bills).

Kindly keep the PLLO updated on the following bills, especially if you find serious objections on any provision or measure thereto, for immediate and appropriate intervention by the PLLO and the concerned department/agency. We will appreciate receiving early comments or feedback from your good office. You may also send your reply through our email address pllo_hrep@pllo.gov.ph.

Thank you and warmest regards.

COMMITTEE ON DISASTER RESILIENCE

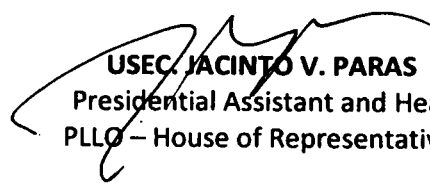
HB07305

FULL TITLE: AN ACT ESTABLISHING MANDATORY EVACUATION AND QUARANTINE CENTERS IN ALL CITIES, PROVINCES AND MUNICIPALITIES, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR
PRINCIPAL AUTHOR/S : TAMBUNTING, JOY MYRA S.

HB07506

FULL TITLE : AN ACT ESTABLISHING A MANDATORY EVACUATION CENTER IN ALL CITIES AND MUNICIPALITIES, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

PRINCIPAL AUTHOR/S : BOLILIA, LIANDA B.

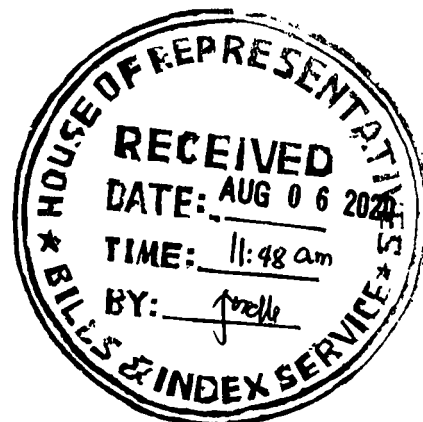


USEC. JACINTO V. PARAS
Presidential Assistant and Head
PLLO – House of Representatives

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
Second Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 7305



Introduced by **HON. JOY MYRA S. TAMBUNTING**

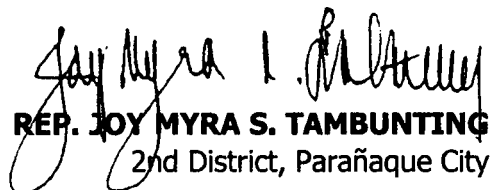
EXPLANATORY NOTE

Philippines has always been a hotbed for typhoons, earthquakes, and other natural and man-made disasters geographic position in Southeast Asia. Just for the year 2020, even before the COVID-19 pandemic hit the country, the country has been devastated by the eruption of Taal Volcano early this year which has led to 39 deaths ¹, economic loss of around Php 6.7 billion in agriculture, services, and industrial sector ², and thousands of people being displaced from their homes.

Whilst the long-term goal is to reduce the country's vulnerability to disasters by investing in disaster risk reduction, ecosystem management, land-use planning, supply change management and the like, there remains the need to cope with the problem of internal displacement due to calamities. With several disasters hitting the county every year, local government units need to strategically plan and dedicate temporary shelter facilities compliant to basic safety and security guidelines for families affected by calamities. Corresponding support programs must also be provided to these affected families for them to cope and recover from these unfortunate events.

This proposed measure seeks to establish mandatory evacuation and quarantine centers in every city, province and municipality throughout the country which shall provide shelter, basic needs and assistance to all evacuees. This bill also sets minimum requirements for the establishment of these evacuation centers to ensure the safety and wellbeing of the evacuees. It will also be a structure ready in the event of a possible pandemic in which persons will need to be quarantined.

On behalf of the people of Parañaque City's Second District, and for the common good of the Filipino people, the approval of the said measure is earnestly sought.


REP. JOY MYRA S. TAMBUNTING
2nd District, Parañaque City

¹ <https://mb.com.ph/2020/02/01/39-deaths-recorded-during-taal-volcanos-eruption/>

² <https://business.inquirer.net/289357/taal-volcano-seen-to-cost-calabarzon-economy-p6-7b-but-economic-impact-on-rest-of-ph-minimal-says-bsp>

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
Second Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 7305

Introduced by **HON. JOY MYRA S. TAMBUNTING**

AN ACT
ESTABLISHING MANDATORY EVACUATION AND QUARANTINE CENTERS IN ALL CITIES
PROVINCES AND MUNICIPALITIES APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

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

Sec. 1. Short Title. – This Act shall be known as the "Mandatory Evacuation and Quarantine Center Act".

Sec. 2. Declaration of Policy. – It is hereby declared the policy of the State to protect the people's right to life and property that is rooted and embedded in our Constitution, and to promote their general welfare. It is for this reason that the establishment of an evacuation center shall be undertaken in all cities, provinces, and municipalities to address the vulnerability of the Philippines to the impacts of climate change and other human-made disasters. This is also to strengthen the country's institutional capacity for building the resilience of local communities to adhere and adopt the universal standards of humanitarian assistance.

Sec. 3. Establishment/Construction of Evacuation Centers. – There shall be an established evacuation center in every city, province and municipality throughout the country which shall provide basic needs and assistance to all evacuees, and shall serve as their temporary shelter that will guarantee the safety and wellbeing of all who have become victims of natural calamities or any other hazards/emergency events such as, typhoons, floods, fire, storm surges, weather disturbances and outbreak of illnesses/diseases that may cause imminent danger to their life and property.

Sec. 4 Evacuation Center Requirements. – The following shall be the minimum requirements for every evacuation center that will be established under this Act:

Location/Designation – each location for every evacuation center shall be determined by the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) in close coordination with the LGUs concerned.

The location shall be determined based on the following criteria:

- a. It must be centrally located in the community;
- b. It must be of a safe distance from large trees, structures where hazardous materials are used and/or stored, or high-voltage power lines;
- c. It must be near a health facility;
- d. It must be located on geotechnical stable land to avoid risk of landslides and/or exposure to potential landslide of adjacent lands;
- e. It must not be located near military base camps, camps of insurgent groups, power plants, factories, and other areas where the occurrence of human-induced disasters are very high.

Structural/Building Capacity – The evacuation centers shall be constructed and designed to withstand super typhoons or wind speeds of at least three hundred (300) kilometers per hour and seismic activity of at least 8.0 magnitude. Evacuation centers should be calamity-resilient, be built with sturdy materials, and be built in accordance with the specifications of Republic Act No. 6541, otherwise known as the "National Building Code of the Philippines" and should be at par with the standards set by the International Building Code.

The Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH) shall be in charge of the construction of evacuation centers and formulating the building specifications therefor based on standards, issuances, and other guidelines set by the DPWH.

The DPWH shall also ensure that the construction of such evacuation centers is in accordance with the abovementioned requirements during its construction phase.

The specifications of the evacuation centers shall be periodically reviewed. The specifications of the evacuation centers shall be periodically reviewed and, if necessary, revised by the DPWH every three years.

The structural capacity should at least meet the following parameters:

- a. The structure must be elevated in such a manner that it will withstand likely impact from a high tide storm surge level of at least ten (10) meters;
- b. The structure must be a minimum of one (1) meter above the average flood level in the area where the same shall be built; and
- c. The structure shall not be less than nine (9) meters in height and designed in accordance with earthquake load standards.

Amenities and Accessibility of the Evacuation Center – The evacuation centers shall be well-ventilated and shall have the capacity to accommodate a large number of evacuees. The centers shall have the following minimum amenities:

- a. Sleeping quarters for the evacuees;
- b. Separate Shower and toilet facilities designated for males and females with a facility-to-user ratio of 1 :10 persons;
- c. Amenities to enable access thereto by and accommodation of the disabled;
- d. Provisions for emergency/exit doors;
- e. Food preparation areas which are provided with adequate ventilation;
- f. Trash and waste segregation and collection areas;
- g. Health care areas which shall include an isolation and/or quarantine area for potentially infectious persons;

- h. Rainwater harvesting and collection facilities; and
- i. Other facilities prescribed in DSWD-DILG-DOH-DepED Joint Memorandum Circular No. 1 Series of 2013, entitled "Guidelines on Evacuation Center and Management."

Sec. 5. Operations and Management of the Evacuation Center. – The LGUs concerned shall be primarily responsible for the operation, supervision and management of evacuation centers established under this Act. They are also hereby authorized to issue rules and regulations on the proper use and maintenance of the evacuation centers.

The mandatory audit of infrastructures used as evacuation centers shall be conducted by Provincial/City/Municipal Engineer and/or the building official at least once every year and immediately after the occurrence of a hazard or disaster event.

Sec. 6. Role of the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council. – The National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council (NDRRMC), or its successor, shall be the primary lead agency which shall oversee the implementation of this act.

Sec. 7. Appropriations. – The amount necessary to fund the construction and maintenance of evacuation centers under this Act shall be sourced from a portion of the general appropriations of the DPWH. Every year thereafter, the amounts necessary for the construction and maintenance of evacuation centers shall be included in the list of programs as part of annual budget in the General Appropriations Act.

The appropriations necessary for the operation and management of the evacuation centers shall be charged against the funds of the Local Disaster Risk Reduction & Management Council (LDRRMC), or its successor.

Sec. 7. Implementing Rules and Regulations. – Within ninety days (90) after the effectivity of this Act, the Department of Local Interior and Local Government (DILG) and the DPWH, in coordination with the appropriate government agencies concerned, shall formulate the necessary rules and regulations necessary to carry out the objectives of this Act.

Sec. 8. Separability Clause. – If any provision of this Act is held invalid or unconstitutional, other provisions not affected thereby shall continue to be in full force and effect.

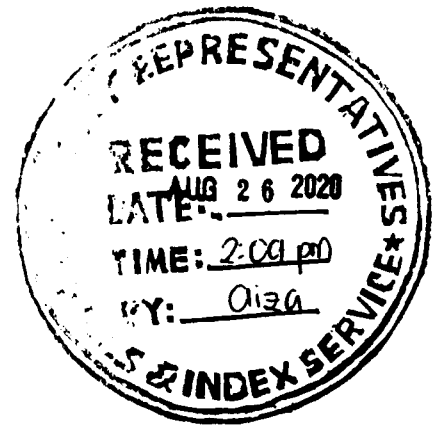
Sec. 9. Repealing Clause. – All laws, decrees, executive orders, or parts thereof inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed amended, or modified accordingly.

Sec. 10. Effectivity Clause. – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its complete publication in the Official Gazette or at least two (2) national

Approved,

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
Second Regular Session
7506
House Bill No. _____



INTRODUCED BY HONORABLE LIANDA B. BOLILIA

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Over the past decades, schools have been used to house hundreds or thousands of evacuees during disasters and calamities. These conditions have disrupted education, caused damage to educational facilities and equipment, and displaced students from learning. Schools have insufficient contingency plans on camp management and preparedness to act as evacuation centers. Thus, public schools should not be used as evacuation centers in order to ensure the continuity of education even in the midst of disasters and calamities.

This measure aims to establish an evacuation center in all cities and municipalities that will become temporary shelter of victims of disasters. Such structure should withstand the impacts of disaster, reduce social vulnerability for certain groups, meet certain safety standards, ensure reliable water supply and uninterrupted power supply, and set up facilities for sanitation and hygiene.

In view of the foregoing, the immediate enactment and approval of this bill is earnestly sought.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Lianda B. Bolilia', written over a faint circular stamp.

LIANDA B. BOLILIA
Representative
4th District, Batangas

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
Second Regular Session

House Bill No. 7506

INTRODUCED BY HONORABLE LIANDA B. BOLILIA

AN ACT
ESTABLISHING A MANDATORY EVACUATION CENTER IN ALL CITIES
AND MUNICIPALITIES, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

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

1 **SECTION 1. Short Title.** - This Act shall be known as the "Mandatory Evacuation
2 Center Act of 2020."

3
4 **SECTION 2. Declaration of Policy.** - It shall be the policy of the State to protect the
5 people's right to life and property, and to promote their general welfare. Towards
6 this end, the government must invest in building life-saving, disaster-resilient
7 evacuation centers in all municipalities and cities as a strategic component for
8 disaster mitigation and preparedness framework and for long-term development
9 agenda for local communities.

10
11 **SECTION 3. Establishment/Construction of Evacuation Centers.** - There shall be
12 an established evacuation center in every city and municipality throughout the
13 country which shall provide basic needs and assistance to all evacuees, and shall
14 serve as their temporary shelter that will guarantee the safety and wellbeing of all
15 who have become victims of natural calamities or hazards/emergency events such
16 as, typhoons, floods, fire, storm surges, weather disturbances, earthquakes, volcano
17 eruption, and outbreak of illnesses/diseases that may cause imminent danger to
18 their life and property.

1 **SECTION 4. Evacuation Center Requirements.** - The following shall be the
2 minimum requirements for every evacuation center that will be established under
3 this Act:

4 a. *Location* - The evacuation center should be easily accessible to evacuees
5 and to emergency rescue personnel. It should be located away from
6 potential primary and/or secondary hazards. Local Government Units
7 (LGUs) concerned shall coordinate with the Department of Environment
8 and Natural Resources to identify the appropriate location of the
9 evacuation center.

10 b. *Structural Capacity* - The evacuation center must be able to withstand
11 category 5 typhoons and magnitude 8 earthquakes. It shall be built in
12 accordance with Republic Act No. 6541, otherwise known as the "National
13 Building Code of the Philippines" and should adhere to the International
14 Building Code.

15 c. *Facilities* - The evacuation center shall have adequate water, sanitation and
16 hygiene facilities, and uninterrupted power supply. It shall have special
17 shelter arrangements for more vulnerable individuals including lactating
18 mothers, children, the elderly, and persons with disability.

19
20 **SECTION 5. Operations and Management of the Evacuation Center.** - The LGUs
21 concerned shall be primarily responsible for the operation, supervision, and
22 management of evacuation centers established under this Act.

23
24 **SECTION 6. Role of the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management**
25 **Council** - The National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council, or its
26 successor, shall be the primary lead agency which shall oversee the implementation
27 of this Act.

28
29 **SECTION 7. Appropriations.** - The amount necessary to fund the construction and
30 maintenance of evacuation centers under this Act shall be sourced from a portion of
31 the general appropriations of the DPWH. Every year thereafter, the amounts

1 necessary for the construction and maintenance of evacuation center shall be
2 included in the list of programs as part of annual budget in the General
3 Appropriations Act.

4
5 The appropriations necessary for the operation and management of the
6 evacuation centers shall be charged against the funds of the Local Disaster Risk
7 Reduction & Management Council (LDRRMC), or its successor.

8
9 **SECTION 8. Implementing Rules and Regulations.** - Within ninety days (90) after
10 the effectivity of this Act, the Department of Interior and Local Government, the
11 Department of Public Works and Highways, and the National Disaster Risk
12 Reduction and Management Council, shall formulate the necessary rules and
13 regulations to carry out the objectives of this Act.

14
15 **SECTION 9. Repealing Clause.** - All laws, decrees, orders, rules and regulations, or
16 portions thereof, inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed or modified
17 accordingly.

18
19 **SECTION 10. Effectivity Clause.** - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its
20 publication in the *Official Gazette* or at least two (2) national newspapers of general
21 circulation.

22
23 Approved,