



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Environment and Natural Resources
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MEMORANDUM

FOR : **The Undersecretary**
Organizational Transformation and Human Resources

The Directors
Legal Affairs Service
Policy and Planning Service
Climate Change Service
Document Management and Operations Support

The Bureau Directors
Forest Management Bureau
Land Management Bureau
Environmental Management Bureau
Biodiversity Management Bureau

The Officer-in-Charge
Mines and Geosciences Bureau

FROM : **The Director**
Legislative Liaison Office

SUBJECT : **INVITATION AND REQUEST FOR COMMENTS FROM THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON NATIONAL DEFENSE AND SECURITY, PEACE, UNIFICATION AND RECONCILIATION JOINT WITH THE COMMITTEES ON PUBLIC WORKS AND FINANCE ON BILLS ESTABLISHING EVACUATION CENTERS**

DATE : 20 February 2023

In reference to the electronic mail received by our office on 18 February 2023, 11:47 PM, the Committee on National Defense and Security, Peace, Unification and Reconciliation, is inviting the Department to attend a **hybrid Joint Public Hearing scheduled on February 21, 2023, Tuesday at 10:00 a.m. at the Senator Padilla Room, 2nd Floor, Senate of the Philippines and via Cisco Webex Platform**, to discuss the following bills:

1. **SBN 193** – An Act Establishing a Mandatory Evacuation Center in All Cities, Provinces and Municipalities, Appropriating Funds Therefor (Sen. Go)
2. **SBN 940** – An Act Establishing Evacuation Centers in Every Municipality and City, Providing for the Necessary Facilities, Ensuring their Structural Capacity, and Appropriating Funds Therefor (Sen. Gatchalian)
3. **SBN 1200** – An Act Establishing Evacuation Centers in Every City and Municipality, And Appropriating Funds Therefor (Sen. Lapid)

4. **SBN 1652** – An Act Establishing Evacuation Centers in Every City and Municipality, and Appropriating Funds Therefor (Sen. Tulfo)

In this regard, we would like to **request comments/recommendations on the above-mentioned Senate Bills**. Further, may we invite you or your representative to attend as the hearing will discuss matters of your knowledge and expertise. Kindly submit your comments and the name/s of the resource persons who will be attending the hearing **on or before February 20, 2023, at 5 PM** via email at denrllc@denr.gov.ph.

Attached herewith are the invitation letter and the copies of the Senate Bills may be accessed through this link: <https://tinyurl.com/37b3mmj9>, for your reference.

For information and compliance, please.


ROMIROSE B. PADIN

Cc: Undersecretary for Special Concerns and Legislative Affairs



Republic of the Philippines
CONGRESS OF THE PHILIPPINES
SENATE
Pasay City

**COMMITTEE ON NATIONAL DEFENSE AND SECURITY,
PEACE, UNIFICATION AND RECONCILIATION JOINT WITH
THE COMMITTEES ON PUBLIC WORKS AND FINANCE**

NOTICE OF HYBRID JOINT PUBLIC HEARING

February 16, 2023

HON. MARIA ANTONIA YULO LOYZAGA
Secretary
Department of Environment and Natural Resources

Dear SECRETARY LOYZAGA:

Please be informed that the COMMITTEE ON NATIONAL DEFENSE AND SECURITY, PEACE, UNIFICATION AND RECONCILIATION, as primary committee, is inviting you to attend a hybrid Joint Public Hearing scheduled on February 21, 2023, Tuesday at 10:00 a.m. at the Senator Padilla Room, 2nd Floor, Senate of the Philippines and via Cisco Webex Platform.

The following legislative measures will be taken up during the said meeting:

EVACUATION CENTER

SBN 193 - An Act Establishing a Mandatory Evacuation Center in All Cities, Provinces and Municipalities, Appropriating Funds Therefor (Sen. Go)

SBN 940 - An Act Establishing Evacuation Centers in Every Municipality and City, Providing for the Necessary Facilities, Ensuring their Structural Capacity, and Appropriating Funds Therefor (Sen. Gatchalian)

SBN 1200 - An Act Establishing Evacuation Centers in Every City and Municipality, And Appropriating Funds Therefor (Sen. Lapid)

SBN 1652 - An Act Establishing Evacuation Centers in Every City and Municipality, and Appropriating Funds Therefor (Sen. Tulfo)

Copy of said bills may be downloaded at www.senate.gov.ph. We would appreciate it if you could provide us with your comments/position papers on the said measures prior to the hearing date.

Kindly confirm your attendance to the secretariat. *If physically attending*, please be reminded that as part of the Senate health and safety protocols, attendees will need to present

proof of full vaccination and a negative RT-PCR test result with QR code (taken within 24 hours) or a negative antigen test result (taken within 72 hours).

Please send to us the name of the confirmed attendee/s via email at senate.nationaldefense@gmail.com on or before February 20, 2023 as we will be submitting the guestlist to the Office of the Sergeant-At-Arms (OSAA) at least a day before the scheduled hearing. Those who are not on the list will not be allowed entry.


If attending via online/teleconferencing, please send us the official e-mail address that you will be using during the hearing at senate.nationaldefense@gmail.com. The meeting link and access code will be sent out at least an hour before the hearing to the designated e-mail address you will provide. The link is confidential and may not be shared.

Should you have any queries or concerns, please call the undersigned or look for Ms. Arriane Mae Adis at Tel Nos. 8552-6750 and 552-6601 local 3317 to 3321. Thank you very much.

For the Chairman:

SEN. JINGGOY EJERCITO ESTRADA
*Committee on National Defense and Security,
Peace, Unification and Reconciliation*

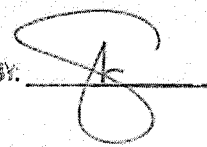
For:


CHARLYNE CLAIRE FUENTES-OLAY
Legislative Committee Secretary

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

'22 JUL -7 P4 55

SENATE
S. No. 193

RECEIVED BY: 

Introduced by Senator Christopher Lawrence "Bong" T. Go

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

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Article II, Section 5 of the 1987 Philippine Constitution provides that "[t]he maintenance of peace and order, the protection of life, liberty, and property, and promotion of the general welfare are essential for the enjoyment by all the people of the blessings of democracy."

The Philippines is highly vulnerable to natural hazards, attributed primarily to the country's location. The country is positioned along the so-called "Pacific Ring of Fire," an area where earthquakes and volcanic activities are more frequent than in any other part of the world. Further, the country fronts the Pacific Ocean, exposing it to a high number of typhoons and related weather disturbances annually; with the onset of climate change, these extreme disturbances will only serve to drastically increase the severity of natural disasters.

We can no longer deny the plight of the Filipino people who live along coastal communities and many others who are prone to such dangers. It is incumbent upon us that we realize and sympathize with their pain and grief when their homes and livelihood get destroyed in the middle of an earthquake, or when they are caught in between the crossfire of an armed conflict, withered by the crushing winds of a super

typhoon, or when flames engulf their household turning their hopes and dreams into ashes.

When these disasters strike, the Filipinos, especially the underprivileged, suffer the most. In most instances, these disasters render their homes unlivable, leaving the victims without roofs over their heads and food on their plates.

We must take action before the onslaught of any disaster. Hence, it is high time that the State establish evacuation centers in all cities, provinces, and municipalities which will cater to the basic needs of the victims of these disasters and provide them temporary shelters that will guarantee their safety, promote their social wellbeing, and guard their welfare while they recover and rebuild their homes and their lives.

The construction and maintenance of evacuation centers in all localities shall be implemented by a coordinated Department of Public Works and Highways, the LGUs concerned, and other line agencies. This will strengthen preparation and improve response capacity for future disasters.

In view of the foregoing, the approval of this measure is earnestly sought.


SENATOR CHRISTOPHER LAWRENCE "BONG" T. GO

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

'22 JUL -7 P4 55

SENATE
S. No. 193

RECEIVED BY: 

Introduced by Senator Christopher Lawrence "Bong" T. Go

**AN ACT
ESTABLISHING A MANDATORY EVACUATION CENTER IN ALL CITIES,
PROVINCES 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. *Title of the Act.* – This Act shall be known as the "Mandatory
2 Evacuation Center Act of 2022."
3

4 Sec. 2. *Declaration of Policy.* – It is hereby declared the policy of the State to
5 protect the people's right to life and property that is rooted and embedded in our
6 Constitution, and to promote their general welfare. It is for this reason that the
7 establishment of an evacuation center shall be undertaken in all cities, provinces, and
8 municipalities to address the vulnerability of the Philippines to the impacts of climate
9 change and other human-made disasters. This is also to strengthen the country's
10 institutional capacity for building the resilience of local communities to adhere and
11 adopt the universal standards of humanitarian assistance.
12

13 Sec. 3. *Establishment/Construction of Evacuation Centers.* – There shall be an
14 established evacuation center in every city, province and municipality throughout the
15 country which shall provide basic needs and assistance to all evacuees, and shall serve
16 as their temporary shelter that will guarantee the safety and wellbeing of all who have

1 become victims of natural calamities or any other hazards/emergency events such as,
2 typhoons, floods, fire, storm surges, weather disturbances and outbreak of
3 illnesses/diseases that may cause imminent danger to their life and property.

4

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

7

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

11

12 The location shall be determined based on the following criteria:

- 13 1) It must be centrally located in the community;
- 14 2) It must be of a safe distance from large trees, structures where hazardous
15 materials are used and/or stored, or high-voltage power lines;
- 16 3) It must be near a health facility;
- 17 4) It must be located on geotechnical stable land to avoid risk of landslides
18 and/or exposure to potential landslide of adjacent lands;
- 19 5) It must not be located near military base camps, camps of insurgent groups,
20 power plants, factories, and other areas where the occurrence of human-
21 induced disasters are very high.

22

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

31

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

4
5 The DPWH shall also ensure that the construction of such evacuation centers
6 is in accordance with the abovementioned requirements during its construction phase.

7
8 The specifications of the evacuation centers shall be periodically reviewed and,
9 if necessary, revised by the DPWH every three years.

10

11 The structural capacity should at least meet the following parameters:

12

13 a. The structure must be elevated in such a manner that it will withstand likely
14 impact from a high tide storm surge level of at least ten (10) meters;

15

16 b. The structure must be a minimum of one (1) meter above the average flood
17 level in the area where the same shall be built; and

18

19 c. The structure shall not be less than nine (9) meters in height and designed
20 in accordance with earthquake load standards.

21

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

26

27 1) Sleeping quarters for the evacuees;

28 2) Separate Shower and toilet facilities designated for males and females, with
29 a facility-to-user ratio of 1:20 persons;

30 3) Amenities to enable access thereto by and accommodation of the disabled;

31 4) Provisions for emergency/exit doors;

32

- 1 5) Food preparation areas which are provided with adequate ventilation;
- 2 6) Trash and waste segregation and collection areas;
- 3 7) Health care areas which shall include an isolation and/or quarantine area
- 4 for potentially infectious persons;
- 5 8) Rainwater harvesting and collection facilities; and
- 6 9) Other facilities prescribed in DSWD-DILG-DOH-DepED Joint Memorandum
- 7 Circular No. 1 Series of 2013, entitled "Guidelines on Evacuation Center and
- 8 Management."

9

10 *Sec. 5. Operations and Management of the Evacuation Center.* – The LGUs

11 concerned shall be primarily responsible for the operation, supervision, and

12 management of evacuation centers established under this Act. They are also hereby

13 authorized to issue rules and regulations on the proper use and maintenance of the

14 evacuation centers.

15

16 The mandatory audit of infrastructures used as evacuation centers shall be

17 conducted by Provincial/City/Municipal Engineer and/or the building official at least

18 once every year and immediately after the occurrence of a hazard or disaster event.

19

20 *Sec. 6. Role of the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council.*

21 – The National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council (NDRRMC), through

22 the Office of Civil Defense (OCD), shall be the primary lead agency which shall oversee

23 the implementation of this act.

24

25 *Sec. 7. Appropriations.* – The amount necessary to fund the construction and

26 maintenance of evacuation centers under this Act shall be sourced from a portion of

27 the general appropriations of the DPWH. Every year thereafter, the amounts necessary

28 for the construction and maintenance of evacuation centers shall be included in the

29 list of programs as part of annual budget in the General Appropriations Act.

30

1 The appropriations necessary for the operation and management of the
2 evacuation centers shall be charged against the funds of the Local Disaster Risk
3 Reduction & Management Council (LDRRMC).

4

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

10

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

14

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

18

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

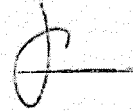
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23 *Approved,*

22 AUG -1 NO 27

NINETEENTH CONGRESS OF THE
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
First Regular Session

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SENATE

S.B. No. 940

Introduced by SEN. WIN GATCHALIAN

**AN ACT
ESTABLISHING EVACUATION CENTERS IN EVERY MUNICIPALITY AND CITY,
PROVIDING FOR THE NECESSARY FACILITIES, ENSURING THEIR
STRUCTURAL CAPACITY, AND APPROPRIATING
FUNDS THEREFOR**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

In its website, the Philippine Atmospheric, Geophysical and Astronomical Services Administration (PAGASA) highlights that more tropical cyclones (TCs) are entering the Philippine Area of Responsibility (PAR) than anywhere else in the world at an average of 20 TCs in the region per year, with about 8 or 9 of them crossing the Philippines.¹

This vulnerability to typhoons makes the Philippines one of the most flood-prone countries in the world. For the last ten years, there have been over 60 reported major floods in the country, with nearly 14 million people affected, more than 700 dead, and over \$400 million estimated damages².

¹ <https://www.pagasa.dost.gov.ph/climate/tropical-cyclone-information>

² Philippine Atmospheric Geophysical and Astronomical Services Administration. Data from EMDAT International Disaster Database, contained in the paper *Enhancing Risk Analysis Capacities for Flood, Tropical Cyclone Severe Wind and Earthquake for the Greater Metro Manila Area Component 3 – Flood Risk Analysis*

Clearly, when a typhoon or any disaster hits the country or any part thereof, many people are displaced and need to be relocated. It is common practice in the Philippines to use schools as evacuation centers in times of calamities, which disrupts school activities. In November 2020, Department of Education (DepEd) reported that 869 public schools were used as evacuation centers with 44 divisions and 4,367 classrooms, temporarily housing some 21,000 families or 82,584 individuals.³ In fact, DepEd issued Department Order No. 33, dated August 20, 2021, providing a Manual for School-Based Disaster Preparedness and Response Measures for Tropical Typhoons, Flooding and Other Weather-Related Disturbances and Calamities.

Another problem when calamity occurs is the lack of or inadequacy of typhoon or calamity-proof school buildings and classrooms. After the typhoon or calamity strikes, many classrooms are also damaged, and cannot be utilized as evacuation centers. When Super typhoon Odette ravaged the country in December 2021, DepEd recorded damages worth P700 million on 71 public schools,⁴ and 166 damaged public schools in Western Visayas alone. DepEd Region 6's Rapid Assessment of Damages Report (RADAR) showed 380 classrooms totally destroyed and 397 more partially damaged. By DepEd Region-6's estimate, it needs P1.1 billion to reconstruct the destroyed classrooms and repair those with damages.⁵

Thus, this measure seeks to establish a dedicated evacuation center in every municipality and city in the country, providing for necessary facilities and structural capacity, in addition to DepEd classrooms which will be sustained as evacuation centers in case a site for a new evacuation center is not available. It also emphasizes the need to ensure the structural capacity of existing evacuation centers and those that will be constructed in the future. It is imperative that strict compliance with the National Building Code of the Philippines is observed, and that inputs of structural engineers are integrated

³ <https://newsinfo.inquirer.net/1355855/depd-226-schools-damaged-over-800-schools-used-as-evacuation-centers-after-rollys-onslaught#ixzz7UqhuPHuO>

⁴ <https://cebudailynews.inquirer.net/427708/depd-lapu-lapu-says-damages-in-public-schools-due-to-odette-reach-p700m#ixzz7Uqjcfqu9>

⁵ <https://www.panaynews.net/wvs-166-public-schools-damaged-p1-1-b-rehab-fund-needed-deped-6-exec/>

**NINETEENTH CONGRESS OF THE
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES**
First Regular Session

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RECEIVED BY: _____



SENATE

S.B. No. 940

Introduced by SEN. WIN GATCHALIAN

**AN ACT
ESTABLISHING EVACUATION CENTERS IN EVERY MUNICIPALITY AND CITY,
PROVIDING FOR THE NECESSARY FACILITIES, ENSURING THEIR
STRUCTURAL CAPACITY, AND 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
2 "*Evacuation Center Act.*"

3
4 SEC. 2. *Declaration of Policy.* - It is a declared policy of the State to protect life,
5 liberty, and properties of all Filipinos, promote their general welfare, and provide
6 adequate social services to them. Towards this end, the State, in recognition of the
7 vulnerability of the Philippines to climate change, the occurrence of severe floods,
8 typhoons, and other natural or human-induced disasters, illnesses, diseases and other
9 factors that
10 affect the environment, shall institutionalize the government's efforts to
11 establish and maintain fully equipped and fully-operational evacuation

1 centers, and provide the necessary facilities to sites used as evacuation
2 centers to make them responsive to environmental or climatic events.

3 It shall be the continuing policy of the State to ensure the structural capacity of
4 evacuation centers and to provide the necessary and appropriate support facilities.
5

6 *SEC. 3. Establishment of Evacuation Centers.* -There shall be established an
7 evacuation center in every city and municipality in the Philippines which shall provide
8 immediate and temporary accommodation for people who have been evacuated or
9 displaced from their homes due to disasters, calamities or other emergency events, such
10 as typhoons, floods, storm surges, drought and other severe climate disturbances, as
11 well as fire, and the outbreak of illnesses and diseases that presents imminent danger to
12 life and property.
13

14 *SEC. 4. Facility Requirements.* - The following shall be the minimum requirements
15 for every evacuation center that will be established under this Act:

16 a) *Location* - The evacuation center should not be at risk of isolation. It should be
17 located at a safe distance from danger areas or hazards. The Local Disaster Risk
18 Reduction and Management Council (LDRRMC) of the local government unit (LGU)
19 concerned shall coordinate with the Department of Environment and Natural Resources
20 (DENR) to utilize the Mines and Geosciences Bureau's (MGB) geohazard maps in
21 determining the appropriate location of the evacuation center.

22 The following shall be considered in identifying an ideal site for an evacuation
23 center:

- 24 1) Drainage;
- 25 2) Elevation;
- 26 3) Protection from strong winds;
- 27 4) Accessibility to and proximity from the vulnerable
28 community;
- 29 5) Availability of the following in the immediate vicinity:
 - 30 i) Parking areas for emergency and other vehicles;

- 1 ii) Allocated area for additional portable toilets;
- 2 iii) Storage tanks for potable and non-potable water; and
- 3 iv) Safe shelter for livestock.

4 b) *Structural Capacity* - New evacuation centers and improvements in schools
5 used as an evacuation center which will be constructed after the effectivity of this Act
6 must be made of construction materials which are in accordance with the specifications
7 of Republic Act No. 6541, otherwise known as the "*National Building Code of the*
8 *Philippines*," and be able to withstand wind speeds of three hundred twenty (320)
9 kilometers per hour or two hundred (200) miles per hour and moderate seismic activity
10 of at least 7.2 magnitude.

11 The Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH) shall be responsible in
12 formulating the appropriate specifications for evacuation centers and to ensure
13 compliance with these specifications during the construction of evacuation centers. The
14 specifications shall be periodically reviewed and, if necessary, revised by the DPWH every
15 three years.

16 c) *Suitability and Capacity of Premises* - If the building is not primarily built as a
17 shelter or permanent site for use as an evacuation center, considerations should be
18 made on its impact to normal business if its operation as an evacuation center is
19 prolonged or its normal function is taken off for an extended period of time.

20 The number and diversity of evacuees as well as public health and safety concerns
21 should be considered in the suitability of the premises.

22 It must likewise be able to provide electricity, back-up power supply, water,
23 sewerage system, solid waste management, and physical mobility for people with
24 mobility aids.

25 d) *Physical Amenities* - The evacuation and relief center should
26 be able to provide the following minimum facilities:

- 27 1. Sleeping area;
- 28 2. Eating area;
- 29 3. Shower and toilet facilities which should accommodate
30 twenty (20) people per shower or toilet room, and should be utilized according

- 1 to gender;
- 2 4. Kitchen or food preparation area;
- 3 5. Trash collection area;
- 4 6. Clinic area including an isolation area for potentially infectious people;
- 5 7. Laundry area;
- 6 8. Recreation area; and
- 7 9. Pet and livestock holding area.

8 e) *Food Safety* - Kitchen and dining facilities should be able to cater for the number
9 of people in the evacuation center. Food preparation and storage facilities should comply
10 with satisfactory standards of the Department of Health on cleanliness to minimize the
11 potential for contamination and invasion of insects and pests.

12

13 *SEC. 5. Priority in the Establishment of Evacuation Centers. -*
14 The National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council (NDRRMC) shall, in
15 coordination with local chief executives of provinces, cities, and municipalities, identify
16 areas to be given the highest priority in the establishment of new evacuation centers.

17 Upon determination by the NDRRMC and the chief executives of LGUs, the
18 NDRRMC shall make a priority list of LGUs needing evacuation centers. The frequency of
19 occurrence of calamities, whether natural or human-induced, and the number of
20 displaced persons in the LGU during said calamities in the past three years may be
21 considered in coming up with the priority list.

22

23 *SEC. 6. Improvement of Schools or Structures Used as Evacuation Centers. -* When
24 an LGU is included in the priority list of LGUs which need an evacuation center pursuant
25 to Section 5 of this Act and there is no available site where the government can construct
26 a new evacuation center, the NDRRMC may instead consider the improvement of facilities
27 in schools or other structures already being used as evacuation center by the LGU to
28 make it comply with the provisions of Section 4 of this Act, particularly on the
29 requirement on location and structural capacity.

30

1 SEC. 7. *Role of the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council.* -
2 The NDRRMC shall be the lead agency in implementing this Act. It shall ensure that the
3 requirements of this Act are faithfully complied with.
4

5 SEC. 8. *Coordination Among Agencies.* - The NDRRMC shall coordinate with the
6 DPWH and the Department of Science and Technology (DOST) with regard to the design
7 specifications, cost estimates and construction details of new evacuation centers that
8 will be constructed pursuant to this Act.

9 All government agencies and instrumentalities, when necessary, shall provide
10 assistance to the NDRRMC to ensure the effective and efficient implementation of this
11 Act.
12

13 SEC. 9. *Operation and Maintenance of Evacuation Centers.* - The operation and
14 management of evacuation centers shall be under the auspices of the LGU where the
15 evacuation center is situated while the DPWH shall be tasked with the maintenance of
16 evacuation centers that will be constructed under this Act.

17 The local Sanggunian shall promulgate guidelines and procedures for the use and
18 operation of the evacuation centers under their jurisdiction. The guidelines shall include
19 provisions on the use of the evacuation center when it is not being utilized as an
20 evacuation center including its utilization as a classroom, livelihood center, youth center,
21 or multi-purpose center to benefit the constituents of the LGU.

22 The Department of Education (DepEd) shall be in charge with the maintenance,
23 repair and upgrading of the additional facilities of schools which will be constructed in
24 accordance with Section 6 of this Act.
25

26 SEC. 10. *Appropriations.* - The amount necessary for the implementation of this
27 Act shall be charged to the appropriations of the DPWH with respect to the construction
28 and maintenance of new evacuation centers. For this purpose, the DPWH shall include
29 in its programs and annual budget the maintenance of evacuation centers constructed
30 under this Act.

1 The amount necessary for the operation of the evacuation centers shall be charged
2 to the funds of the LDRRMC.

3 The construction and maintenance of additional facilities for schools already used
4 as evacuation centers shall be charged to the appropriations for the DepEd. Thereafter,
5 such amount needed by the concerned Department for the continued implementation of
6 this Act shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

7
8 SEC. 11. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.* – The Chairperson of the NDRRMC,
9 in close coordination with Administrator of the Office of Civil Defense (OCD)/ NDRRMC
10 Executive Director, and the member-Secretaries of the NDRRMC, shall issue the
11 necessary rules and regulations for the effective implementation of this Act.

12
13 SEC. 12. *Separability Clause.* - If any provision or part of this Act is declared invalid
14 or unconstitutional, the remaining parts or provisions not affected shall remain in full
15 force and effect.

16
17 SEC. 13. *Repealing Clause.* - All laws, decrees, orders, rules and regulations, and
18 other issuances inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed, amended or modified
19 accordingly.

20
21 SEC. 14. *Effectivity.* - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after publication
22 in the *Official Gazette* or in a newspaper of general circulation in the Philippines.

Approved,

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



22 AUG 17 A8:45

SENATE
S. No. 1200

RECEIVED BY: _____

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Lito", written over a horizontal line.

Introduced by Senator Manuel "Lito" M. Lapid

AN ACT
ESTABLISHING EVACUATION CENTERS IN EVERY CITY AND
MUNICIPALITY, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The Global Climate Risk Index 2021 for the period 2000–2019 is based on average values over a twenty-year period. It ranks to what extent countries have been affected by climate-related weather events such as storms and floods. Based on the same, the Philippines is the fourth most affected country affected by extreme weather events for the past two decades. Even in 2015, the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs reported that 56% of the 100 cities most exposed to natural hazards are concentrated in just four countries: the Philippines, China, Japan, and Bangladesh.

The vulnerability to frequent climate-related catastrophes could be attributed to the fact that the Philippines is located along the Pacific Ring of Fire, where several earthquakes and volcanic eruptions occur.

In recognition of this vulnerability, this bill seeks to establish and maintain a fully equipped and fully operational evacuation center, responsive to environmental or climatic events, in every city and municipality. This is to provide immediate and temporary accommodation for people who have been evacuated or displaced from their homes due to emergency events and outbreak of illnesses and diseases that present imminent danger to life and property.

Sa dalas po ng kalamidad na tumatama sa ating bansa ay kailangan po tayong magkaroon ng permanenteng struktura para po sa ating mga kababayan lalo na sa pinaka-bulnerableng mga lugar. Makatutulong po ito hindi lamang para magligtas ng buhay kundi para magbigay ng kapanatagan sa ating mga kababayan at maipakita sa kanila na laging handa at nakaantabay ang ating gobyerno na bigyan sila ng matutuluyan sa panahon ng delubyo.

In view of this, early passage of this bill is sought.

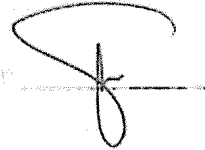

MANUEL "LITO" M. LAPID
Senator

'22 AUG 17 A8 :45

SENATE

S. No. 1200

RECEIVED BY



Introduced by Senator Manuel "Lito" M. Lapid

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AN ACT
ESTABLISHING EVACUATION CENTERS IN EVERY CITY AND
MUNICIPALITY, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

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

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Section 1. *Short Title.* - This Act shall be known as the "*Ligtas Pinoy Centers Act of 2022.*"

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Section 2. *Declaration of Policy.* - It shall be the policy of the State to uphold the constitutional right of the people for the protection of their life and property and the promotion of the general welfare. Towards this end, the State shall establish and maintain a fully equipped and fully operational evacuation center, responsive to environmental or climatic events, in recognition of the vulnerability of the Philippines to climate change, the occurrence of severe floods, typhoons, and other natural or human-induced disasters, illnesses, diseases and other factors that affect the environment.

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Section 3. *Establishment of Evacuation Centers.* - There shall be established an evacuation center to be called "Ligtas Pinoy Centers" in every city and municipality in the country which shall provide immediate and temporary accommodation for people who have been evacuated or displaced from their homes due to emergency events such as typhoons, floods, storm surges, drought and other severe climate disturbances, as well as fire, and the outbreak of illnesses and diseases that present imminent danger to life and property.

1 Existing structures that would meet the minimum requirements or could be
2 upgraded to effectively serve as evacuation centers could be designated as such in
3 compliance with the local government unit concerned.

4 Section 4. *Requirements.* – The following shall be the minimum requirements
5 for every Ligtas Pinoy Center that will be established under this Act:

6 a. *Location Designation.* – Each location for every Ligtas Pinoy Center shall be
7 determined by the Department of Environment and Natural Resources
8 (DENR), in close coordination with the LGUs concerned.

9 That location shall be determined based on the following criteria:

- 10 1. It must be centrally located in the community;
- 11 2. It must be of a safe distance from large trees, structures where
12 hazardous materials are used and stored, or high-voltage power lines;
- 13 3. It must be near a health facility;
- 14 4. It must be located on geotechnically stable land to avoid risk of
15 landslides or exposure to potential landslide of adjacent lands;
- 16 5. It must not be located near military base camps, camps of insurgent
17 groups, power plants, factories, and other areas where the occurrence
18 of human-induced disasters are very high.

19 b. *Structural and Building Capacity.* – The Ligtas Pinoy Centers shall be
20 constructed and designed to withstand super typhoons or wind speeds of
21 at least three hundred kilometers per hour (300 kph) and seismic activity of
22 at least 8.0 magnitude. The structure must be calamity-resilient, built with
23 sturdy materials, and in accordance with the specifications of Republic Act
24 No. 6541, otherwise known as the “National Building Code of the
25 Philippines” or shall be at par with the standards set by the International
26 Building Code.

27 The Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH) shall be in charge
28 of the construction of evacuation centers, including the formulation of
29 building specifications and shall ensure that the same are based on

1 standards, issuances, and other guidelines set by the DPWH, and are
2 compliant with the provisions of the National Building Code. The DPWH shall
3 also ensure that the construction of such evacuation centers is in
4 accordance with the abovementioned requirements during its construction
5 phase.

6 The specifications of the Ligtas Pinoy Centers shall be periodically reviewed
7 and, if necessary, revised by the DPWH every three (3) years.

8 The Ligtas Pinoy Centers must at least meet the following parameters:

- 9 1. The structure must be elevated, in such a manner that is safely above the
10 reach of a high tide storm surge level of at least ten (10) meters;
 - 11 2. The structure must be a minimum of one (1) meter above the average flood
12 level in the area where the same shall be built; and
 - 13 3. The structure shall not be less than nine (9) meters in height and shall be
14 designed in accordance with earthquake load standards.
- 15 c. *Amenities and Accessibility.* – The evacuation centers shall be well-
16 ventilated and shall have the capacity to accommodate a large number of
17 evacuees. The evacuation center shall have the following minimum
18 amenities:
- 19 1. Sleeping quarters for the evacuees;
 - 20 2. Separate shower and toilet facilities designated for males and females,
21 with one (1) facility for every twenty (20) persons;
 - 22 3. Amenities to enable access thereto by persons with disabilities;
 - 23 4. Emergency exit doors;
 - 24 5. Food preparation areas with adequate ventilation;
 - 25 6. Trash and waste segregation and collection areas;
 - 26 7. Health care areas which shall include an isolation or quarantine area for
27 potentially infectious persons;
 - 28 8. Rainwater harvesting and collection facilities; and
 - 29 9. Other facilities as may be prescribed by the appropriate authorities.

30 Section 5. *Operation and Management.* – The LGUs concerned shall be primarily

1 responsible for the operation, supervision, and management of evacuation centers
2 established under this Act. They are also hereby authorized to issue rules and
3 regulations on their proper use and maintenance.

4 The local *sanggunian* shall promulgate guidelines and procedures for the use
5 and operation of the Ligtas Pinoy Centers under its jurisdiction. The guidelines shall
6 prescribe rules on the utilization of the evacuation center when it is not used as such:
7 *Provided*, That the evacuation center may only be used for such other activities or
8 purposes that involve the use of collapsible amenities and those that shall not in any
9 way compromise the serviceability of the evacuation center or impede the use thereof
10 when a disaster occurs: *Provided further*, That the LGU shall impose such penalties as
11 may be deemed proper on the organizers of authorized activities when the evacuation
12 center suffers any damage, defacement, or loss during or as a result of such activities.

13 The mandatory audit of infrastructures used as evacuation centers shall be
14 conducted by the City or Municipality at least once every year and immediately after
15 the occurrence of a hazard or disaster.

16 Section 6. *Role of the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management*
17 *Council (NDRRMC) and Progressive Realization of this Act.* – The National Disaster
18 Risk Reduction and Management Council (NDRRMC) shall be the lead implementing
19 agency of this Act. The objectives of this Act shall be realized progressively. In
20 implementing this Act, the NDRRMC shall prioritize the construction of Ligtas Pinoy
21 Centers based on the LGUs: (a) vulnerability to disasters/calamities; (b) financial
22 capability; and (c) existing evacuation centers suitable to their needs.

23 The NDRRMC shall enter into memoranda of agreement (MOA) with the
24 concerned LGUs for the maintenance, operation, and management of a permanent
25 evacuation center in their respective areas of jurisdiction. It shall provide technical
26 assistance and support services to these LGUs in the management of the facility.

27 Local chief executives concerned shall evaluate and provide suitable sites for
28 evacuation centers to determine their geographical stability, and public accessibility in
29 times of disasters. They shall provide for the maintenance, operation, and

1 management of the facility taking into consideration the goal of life preservation and
2 meeting the basic subsistence needs of affected population based on acceptable
3 standards during or immediately after a disaster.

4 Section 7. *Coordination among Agencies.* – The NDRRMC shall coordinate with
5 the DPWH and the Department of Science and Technology (DOST) with regard to the
6 design specifications, cost estimates, and construction details of the evacuation
7 centers that will be constructed pursuant to this Act.

8 Concerned government agencies and instrumentalities, when necessary, shall
9 provide assistance to the NDRRMC to ensure the effective and efficient implementation
10 of this Act.

11 Section 8. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.* – Within sixty (60) days from
12 the effectivity of this Act, the NDRRMC shall, in consultation with the DPWH, DOST,
13 League of Cities of the Philippines, League of Municipalities of the Philippines, and
14 other concerned government and private agencies, promulgate the necessary rules
15 and regulations to carry out the provisions of this Act.

16 Section 9. *Appropriations.* – The amount necessary for the initial
17 implementation to fund the construction and maintenance of multipurpose gyms to
18 serve as evacuation centers shall be charged against the budget for this purpose under
19 the DPWH. Thereafter, such amounts necessary for the construction of multipurpose
20 gyms as evacuation centers shall be included in the Annual General Appropriations
21 Act. The LGU concerned shall provide the continued maintenance, operation, and
22 management of the facility.

23 Section 10. *Separability Clause.* - If any provision, section, or part of this Act
24 shall be declared unconstitutional or invalid, such judgement shall not affect, invalidate
25 or impair any other provisions, sections or parts hereof.

26 Section 11. *Repealing Clause.* - All provisions of existing laws, orders, rules and
27 regulations or parts thereof which are in conflict or inconsistent with the provisions of
28 this Act are hereby repealed, amended or modified accordingly.

1 Section 12. *Effectivity.* - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its
2 publication in the *Official Gazette* or in at least two (2) newspapers of general
3 circulation.

4 *Approved,*

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

23 JAN 11 P5:41

SENATE
S. No. 1652

RECEIVED BY: 

Introduced by **Senator Raffy T. Tulfo**

**AN ACT ESTABLISHING EVACUATION CENTERS IN EVERY CITY AND
MUNICIPALITY, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR**

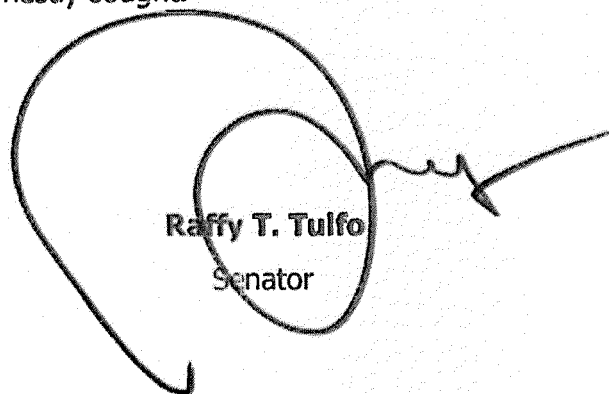
EXPLANATORY NOTE

The Philippines is one of the most typhoon-prone countries in the world, lying on what is often described as the 'typhoon belt'. Approximately 19-20 typhoons enter the Philippine Area of Responsibility annually, with 7-9 reaching landfall.

When disaster and calamities strike, covered courts, gymnasiums, schools, and even churches serve as evacuation areas to shelter affected residents and families. These areas are jam-packed when the situation worsens. Diseases; existing and unforeseen may also spread because these areas do not meet standard measures for a proper and well-ventilated evacuation center.

Thus, this bill aims to establish evacuation centers that have basic facilities, accessible location, and adequate emergency supplies, such as water, medicine and relief goods in every city and municipality in the Philippines—1,488 municipalities and 146 cities.

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



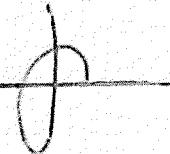
Raffy T. Tulfo
Senator

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



23 JAN 11 P5:41

SENATE
S. No. 1652

RECEIVED BY: 

Introduced by **Senator Raffy T. Tulfo**

AN ACT

**ESTABLISHING EVACUATION CENTERS IN EVERY CITY AND MUNICIPALITY, AND
APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR**

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

1 Sec. 1. *Declaration of Policy.* – It shall be the policy of the State to uphold the
2 constitutional right of the people for the protection of their life and property and the
3 promotion of the general welfare. Towards this end, the State, shall establish and
4 maintain a fully-equipped and fully-operational evacuation center, responsive to
5 environmental or climatic events, in recognition of the vulnerability of the Philippines
6 to climate change, the occurrence of severe floods, typhoons, and other natural or
7 human- induced disasters, illnesses, diseases and other factors that affect the
8 environment.

9 Sec. 2. *Establishing of Evacuation Centers.*- There shall be established an
10 evacuation center in every city and municipality in the country which shall provide
11 immediate and temporary accommodation for people who have been evacuated or
12 displaced from their homes due to emergency events such as typhoons, floods, storm
13 surges, drought and other severe climate disturbances, as well as fire, and the
14 outbreak of illnesses and diseases that present imminent danger to life and property.

1 Existing structures that would meet the minimum requirements or could be
2 upgraded to effectively serve as evacuation center could be designated as such in
3 compliance with the local government unit concerned.

4 Sec. 3. *Requirements.* The following shall be the minimum requirements every
5 evacuation center that will be established under this Act:

6 a. Location Designation- Each location for every evacuation center shall be
7 determined by the Department of Environment and Natural Resources
8 (DENR), in close coordination with the LGUs concerned.

9 The location shall be determined based on the following criteria:

- 10 1. It must be centrally located in the community;
- 11 2. It must be of a safe distance from large trees, structures where
12 hazardous materials are used and stored, or high-voltage power
13 lines;
- 14 3. It must be near a health facility;
- 15 4. It must be located on geotechnically stable land to avoid risk of
16 landslides or exposure to potential landslide of adjacent lands;
- 17 5. It must not be located near military base camps, camps of insurgent
18 groups, power plants, factories, and other areas where the
19 occurrence of human-induced disasters are very high.

20 b. Structural and Building Capacity – The evacuation center shall be
21 constructed and designed to withstand super typhoons or wind speeds of a
22 least three hundred kilometers per hour (300 kph) and seismic activity of at
23 least 8.0 magnitude. The structure must be calamity-resilient, built with
24 sturdy materials, and in accordance with the specifications and shall and
25 are compliant with the provisions of the National Building Code. The
26 Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH), and are complaints
27 with the provisions of the National Building Code. The DPWH shall also
28 ensure that the construction of such evacuation centers is in accordance
29 with the abovementioned requirements during its construction phase.

30 The (DPWH) shall be in charge of the construction of evacuation
31 centers, including the formulation of building specifications and shall ensure

1 that the same are based on standards, issuances, and other guidelines set
2 by the DPWH, that the construction of such evacuation centers is in
3 accordance with the abovementioned requirements during its construction
4 phase.

5 The specifications of the evacuation centers shall be periodically
6 reviewed and, if necessary, revised by the DPWH every three (3) years.

7 The evacuation center must at least the following parameters:

- 8 1. The structure must be elevated, in such a manner that is safely above
9 the reach of a high tide storm surge level of at least ten (10) meters;
- 10 2. The structure must be a minimum of one (1) meter above the
11 average flood level in the area where the same shall be built; and
- 12 3. The structure shall not be less than nine (9) meters in height and
13 shall be designed in accordance with earthquake load standards.

14 c. Amenities and Accessibility.- The evacuation centers shall be well- ventilated
15 and shall have the capacity to accommodate a large number of evacuees.

16 The evacuation center shall have the following minimum amenities.

- 17 1. Sleeping quarters for the evacuees;
- 18 2. Separate shower and toilet facilities designated for the males and
19 females, with one (1) facility for every twenty (20) persons;
- 20 3. Amenities to enable access thereto by persons with disabilities;
- 21 4. Emergency exit doors;
- 22 5. Food preparation areas with adequate ventilation;
- 23 6. Trash and waste segregation and collection areas;
- 24 7. Health care areas which shall include an isolation or quarantine area
25 for potential infectious persons;
- 26 8. Rainwater harvesting and collection facilities; and
- 27 9. Other facilities as may be prescribed by the appropriate authorities.

28 *Sec. 4. Role of the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council*
29 *(NDRRMC).*- The National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council
30 (NDRRMC) shall be the lead implementing agency of this Act. It shall give utmost
31 priority to those areas of the country that (a) are identified as disaster prone; (b) are

1 financially incapable to establish their own evacuation centers; and (c) do not have
2 existing evacuation centers of their own.

3 It shall enter into memoranda of agreement (MOA) with the concerned LGUs for
4 the maintenance, operation, and management of a permanent evacuation center in
5 their respective areas of jurisdiction. It shall provide technical assistance and support
6 service to these LGUs in the management of the facility.

7 Local chief executives concerned shall evaluate and provide suitable sites for
8 evacuation centers to determine their geographical stability, and public accessibility in
9 times of disasters. They shall provide for the maintenance, operation, and
10 management of the facility taking into consideration to the goal of life preservation
11 and meeting the basic subsistence needs of affected population based on acceptable
12 standards during or immediately after a disaster.

13 *Sec. 5. Coordination Among Agencies.* – The NDRRMC shall coordinate with the
14 DPWH and the Department of Science and Technology (DOST) as well as the particular
15 LGU with regard to the design specifications, cost estimates, and construction details
16 of the evacuation centers that will be constructed pursuant to this Act.

17 Concerned government agencies and instrumentalities, when necessary, shall be
18 provide assistance to the NDRRMC to ensure the effective and efficient implementation
19 of this Act.

20 *Sec. 6. Operation and Management.* – The LGUs concerned shall be primarily
21 responsible for the operation, supervision, and management of evacuation centers
22 established under this Act. They are also hereby authorized to issue rules and
23 regulations on their proper use and maintenance.

24 The local sanggunian shall promulgate guidelines and procedures for the use and
25 operation of the evacuation center under its jurisdiction. The guidelines shall prescribe
26 rules on the utilization of the evacuation center when it is not used as such: Provided,
27 That the evacuation center may only be used for such other activities or purposes that
28 involve the use of collapsible amenities and those that shall not in any way compromise
29 that serviceability of the evacuation center or impede the use thereof when a disaster
30 occurs: Provided further, That the LGU shall impose such penalties as may be deemed

1 proper on the organizers of authorized activities when the evacuation center suffers
2 any damage, defacement, or loss during or as a result of such activities.

3 The mandatory audit of infrastructures used as evacuation centers shall be
4 conducted by the City or Municipality at least once every year and immediately after
5 the occurrence of a hazard or disaster.

6 *Sec. 7. Implementation Rules and Regulations.* – With sixty (60) days from the
7 effectivity of this Act, the NDRRMC shall, in consultation with the DPWH, DOST,
8 League of Cities of the Philippines, League of Municipalities of the Philippines, and
9 other concerned government and private agencies, promulgate the necessary rules
10 and regulations to carry out the provisions of this Act.

11 *Sec. 8. Appropriations.* – The amount necessary for the initial implementation
12 to fund the construction and maintenance of multi-purpose gyms to serve as
13 evacuation centers shall be charged against the budget provided for this purpose
14 under the DPWH. Thereafter, such amounts necessary for the construction of
15 multipurpose gyms as evacuation centers shall be included in the annual General
16 Appropriations Act. The LGU concerned shall provide the continued maintenance,
17 operation and management of the facility.

18 *Sec. 9. Separability Clause.* - If, for any reason, any provision of this Act is
19 declared to be unconstitutional or Invalid, the other sections or provisions hereof
20 which are not affected thereby shall continue to be in full force or effect.

21 *Sec. 10. Repealing Clause.* - All laws; decrees, orders, rules and regulations or
22 parts thereof which are inconsistent with or contrary to the provisions of this Act are
23 hereby repealed, amended, or modified accordingly.

24 *Sec. 11. Effectivity.* - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its
25 complete publication in the Official Gazette or in a national newspaper of
26 general circulation.

27

28 Approved,