RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE COMMITTEE ON DISASTER RESILIENCE
AND OTHER APPROPRIATE COMMITTEES TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY IN
AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE CURRENT POLICIES OF THE GOVERNMENT
RELATIVE TO RISK REDUCTION AND RESPONSE ON NATURAL DISASTERS,
WITH THE END IN VIEW OF LEGISLATING STANDARDS AND
COMPREHENSIVE POLICIES, STRATEGIES AND PROGRAMS
CORRESPONDING TO PRESENT TIMES TO MITIGATE AND CIRCUMVENT
FUTURE LOSS FROM CALAMITIES

WHEREAS, the onslaught brought about by Typhoons Rolly and Ulysses affected
thousands of our fellow Filipinos from the Provinces of Albay, Catanduanes, Rizal,
Cagayan, Isabela, Bulacan, Pampanga, including Metro Manila:

WHEREAS, as Typhoon Ulysses battered Luzon and brought heavy rains, areas like
Cagayan, Isabela, Bulacan, parts of Rizal like San Mateo and Montalban, and parts of
Metro Manila like Marikina, Pasig and low-lying areas in Quezon City were submerged
with at least neck-deep flood resulting to people needed to be rescued from their homes:

WHEREAS, the releasing of water from the floodgates of various dams in Luzon - Magat,
Ipo, Angat, Binga, Ambuklao and La Mesa worsened the flooding situation by causing
rivers of Cagayan, Pampanga, Marikina and Tullahan to overflow resulting to further
destruction and unnecessary casualties;

WHEREAS, harrowing videos and appeals for rescue trended in social media as rescuers
and responders worked round the clock to accommodate those stranded on their rooftops
crying for help;

WHEREAS, there were even reports of rescuers who died due to electrocution or
landsides, aside from the inadequate equipment like rubber boats;

WHEREAS, there have been allegations that the government - from the local to the
national level, was caught flat-footed in relation to its response to calamities, including
its strategies to mitigating the risk and loss of lives and property;

WHEREAS, it is imperative that Congress exercise its legislative oversight powers to
review and assess the current government’s policies relating to risk reduction and
response to natural disasters, together with national government agencies (NGAs), local
government units (LGUs) and other stakeholders, especially now when our country is
still reeling from the effects of the COVID19 pandemic – which has been an obstacle to the government’s capability to act on our people’s needs and pleas for help;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, by the House of Representatives that the Committee on Disaster Resilience and other appropriate committees to conduct an inquiry in aid of legislation, on the current policies of the government relative to risk reduction and response on natural disasters, with the end in view of legislating standards and comprehensive policies, strategies and programs corresponding to present times to mitigate and circumvent future loss from calamities.

Adopted,

ENRICO A. PINEDA

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