INTRODUCED BY HON. AURELIO “DONG” D. GONZALES, JR.

A RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the Philippines is a country frequently visited by typhoons and is also in the Pacific Ring of Fire, where active and dormant volcanoes abound and where the world’s strongest earthquakes and volcanic eruptions occur;

WHEREAS, the incidence of volcano eruptions in the Philippines rank among the most deadliest in the world and costliest in terms of fatalities and significant losses;

WHEREAS, one of the largest volcanic eruption in the whole world transpired in Central Luzon, when Mt. Pinatubo had a major eruption in 1991, and was deemed as the second largest eruption of the 20th century;
WHEREAS, the pyroclastic explosions of Mt. Pinatubo claimed the lives of many of our countrymen and bringing ruination to some of our people when houses, commercial buildings, and other structures were buried in lahar, and the remobilization of giant mudflows of volcanic materials from Mt. Pinatubo because of monsoon and typhoon rains magnified such destruction;

WHEREAS, the lives of our countrymen were forever changed by such event, and over time, those affected by the eruption of Mt. Pinatubo were able to recover and moved on with their lives, but the lesson of their experience is never lost upon them;

WHEREAS, presently, Mt. Pinatubo is active once more and its status is now raised to Alert Level 1 by the Department of Science and Technology-Philippine Institute of Volcanology and Seismology (PHILVOCS);

WHEREAS, the Office of Civil Defense has communicated with the City of San Fernando, Pampanga Province, of the barangays in the same city that are susceptible to lahar mudflow should Mt. Pinatubo finally erupt;

WHEREAS, the bitter lesson of Mt. Pinatubo paid for by the blood and tears of our countrymen must not be lost on everyone, and the country can not afford repetition of such painful experience, especially as the Philippines is now confronting a pandemic. Thus, there is a need for a whole-of-government approach to address the situation in order to minimize the impact of the possible eruption of Mt. Pinatubo to our people and their property;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, to urge the House Committee on Disaster Resilience to conduct a comprehensive and substantial inquiry on the status of disaster preparedness, monitoring, evaluation, and strategic response plan and actions by concerned national government agencies, specifically the measures adopted by the Office of Civil Defense-National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council, the Department of Interior Local Government, the Department of Science and Technology with its attached agencies Philippine Institute of Volcanology and Seismology and the Philippine Atmospheric, Geophysical and Astronomical Services Administration, the Department of Public Works and Highways, the Department of Human Settlements and Urban Developments, the Department of Information and Communications Technology, the Department of Labor and Employment, the Department of Agriculture, the Department of Trade and Industry, the Bases and Conversion Development Authority, the Department of Social Welfare and Development, the Department of Education, the Commission on Higher Education, the Department of Budget and Management, the National Economic Development Authority, the League of Municipalities and Associations of Barangay Captains in Central Luzon, and the League of Cities of the Philippines, vis-à-vis the impending eruption of Mt. Pinatubo in Central Luzon.

Adopted,