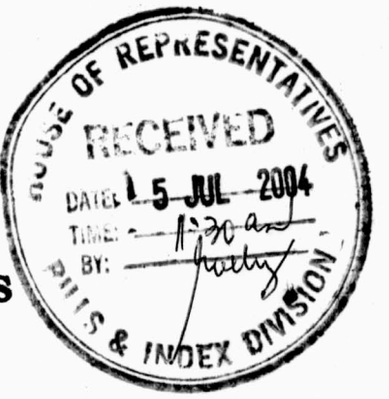
CONGRESS OF THE PHILIPPINES
THIRTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

House Bill No. 1457

INTRODUCED BY **HON. CYNTHIA A. VILLAR**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill seeks to set aside twenty-five percent (25%) of the calamity funds of all local government units (LGUs) to be utilized in preparation for future calamities occurring during the year.

It is observed that with the various calamities that beset our country in the past, LGUs, even with the assistance of the National Disaster Coordinating Council, the Department of Social Welfare and other concerned agencies and non-governmental organizations, could not provide the immediate, emergency, and necessary relief to the affected populace. In cases of disasters, the most critical time is during the event and immediately thereafter. Emergency treatment for the injured, evacuation of those affected and distribution of relief goods must already be in place during those times to minimize the effects of such calamity and to enable the authorities to assess the damage to properties and the loss of lives and thus expedite the rehabilitation of the areas affected.

With the proposed measure, the amount to be set aside would be used for preparatory activities such as: the dissemination of information on what to do before, during and after the calamity; for the LGUs to pinpoint, reinforce and strengthen relocation centers; for procurement of medicines, blankets, food and other basic necessities; and for other steps to be undertaken to minimize, if not prevent, loss of lives and damage to properties.

With the 25% allocation, citizens and the local government units will be adequately prepared to weather calamities or disasters. Verily, an ounce of prevention is better than a pound of cure.

Early approval of thus bill is earnestly requested.

CYNTHIA A. VILLAR

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HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

House Bill No. 1457

INTRODUCED BY **HON. CYNTHIA A. VILLAR**

AN ACT SETTING ASIDE TWENTY-FIVE PERCENT (25%) OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNITS' CALAMITY FUNDS FOR PREPARATORY ACTIVITIES, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT CODE OF 1991, AS AMENDED

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

SECTION 1. Section 324 (d) of Republic Act No. 7160, as amended by Republic Act No. 8185, is hereby further amended to read as follows:

"SEC. 324. *Budgetary Requirement.* –

x x x

(d) **AT LEAST [F]**ive percent (5%) of the estimated revenue from regular sources shall be set aside as annual lump sum appropriations for relief, rehabilitation, reconstruction and other works or services in connection with calamities **OR DISASTERS** which may occur during the budget year: *Provided, however,* That such fund shall be used only in the area or a portion thereof of the local government unit or other areas affected by a disaster or calamity, as determined and declared by the local *sanggunian* concerned: ***PROVIDED, FURTHER,*** **THAT TWENTY-**

FIVE PERCENT (25%) OF THE CALAMITY FUNDS SHALL BE SET ASIDE AND EXCLUSIVELY EXPENDED FOR PREPARATORY, MITIGATION AND PREVENTION ACTIVITIES FOR CALAMITIES OR DISASTERS THAT MAY OCCUR DURING THE BUDGET YEAR, WHICH ACTIVITIES SHALL INCLUDE, BUT SHALL NOT BE LIMITED TO, DISSEMINATION OF INFORMATION, DEVELOPMENT OF RELOCATION CENTERS, PROCUREMENT OF MEDICINE AND SUPPLIES, CONSTRUCTION OR MAINTENANCE OF INFRASTRUCTURES, AND OTHER STEPS TO BE TAKEN TO MINIMIZE, IF NOT PREVENT, LOSS OF LIVES AND DAMAGE TO PROPERTIES.

x x x"

SEC. 2. *Implementing rules and regulations.* - The Secretary of the Department of Interior and Local Government, in coordination with the National Disaster Coordinating Council, shall issue the necessary rules and regulations to implement this Act.

SEC. 3. *Repealing Clause.* - The provisions of existing laws, decrees, issuances, rules and regulations or orders which are inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed, modified or amended accordingly.

SEC. 4. *Effectivity Clause.* - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days following its publication in the *Official Gazette* or in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,