

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

SIXTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 3345



INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVE **MICHAEL ANGELO C. RIVERA**
1-CARE Party List

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Last November 8, 2013. Typhoon "Yolanda" (INTERNATIONAL NAME Haiyan) has made landfall in Eastern Samar at 4:40 a.m. It made a second landfall over Tolosa, Leyte at 7:00 a.m. Yolanda was packing maximum sustained winds of 235 kilometers per hour near the center gusts of 275 kph. More areas were placed under Storm signal number 4, where winds of at least 185 kph may be felt in at least 12 hours.

PAGASA reported that under signal number 4 were Masbate, Ticao Island, Southern Sorsogon, Romblon, Northern Samar, Eastern Samar, Samar, Leyte, Southern Leyte, Biliran, Northern Cebu, Cebu city, Camotes Island, Northern Negros Occidental, Capiz,aklan, Antique, Iloilo and Guimaras.

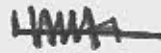
Under Signal No. 3 were Burias Island, Albay, Marinduque, Occidental Mindoro, Oriental Mindoro, and Calamian group of Islands, the rest of Sorsogon, the rest of Negros Occidental, Negros Oriental, and the rest of Cebu, Bohol, Surigao Del Norte and Siargao Island.

It was one of the strongest typhoons in this country's history, if not the world's. Modern technology allowed us to witness the vast destruction that this typhoon wrought in Leyte and Samar. As Yolanda battered the country, electricity and communications were lost in many areas. This affected not only communications but also coordination of relief efforts by the government. There was difficulty in getting information in the affected areas. Local governments were paralyzed and information as to the extent of destruction was difficult to obtain. Almost everybody in government, officials and personnel were victims too. Information was gathered through word of mouth---no TV's. cell phones or internet; stores and establishment were closed; and relief efforts was difficult to organize.

After the storm, estimated deaths were at 10,000 and thousands rendered

transmission lines were devastated resulting to total black out in most areas. Electricity is the engine of growth of any business...it is almost impossible to fuel the economy with no electricity. How can our countrymen go back to normalcy if power will not be restored soon enough to provide opportunities for business to flourish and start anew and to light homes, schools and business establishments. It is for this reason that passage of this bill is earnestly requested.

Approved.



Representative **Michael Angelo C. Rivera**
1-CARE PARTY LIST



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HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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SIXTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. **3345**

INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVE MICHAEL ANGELO C. RIVERA
1-CARE Party List

AN ACT
APPROPRIATING THE SUM OF FIVE BILLION PESOS TO THE
DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY FOR THE RESTORATION OF ELECTRICITY
AND REHABILITATION OF POWER AND TRANSMISSION LINES AND
OTHER INFRASTRUCTURE SUPPORT IN THE PROVINCES RAVAGED BY
TYPHOON YOLANDA

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

1 **SECTION 1.** Short Title.-This Act shall be known as the “**OPLAN**
2 **Yolanda Power Restoration and Rehabilitation Emergency Assistance and**
3 **Development Fund**”

4 **SEC. 2.** *Declaration of Policy.*- It is hereby declared the policy of the State
5 to assist communities damaged or destroyed or adversely affected by typhoon
6 Yolanda on November 8, 2013 by extending to the Provinces of Leyte, Samar
7 and other neighboring provinces aid, relief, restoration of electricity and
8 rehabilitation of power and transmission lines, repair and reconstruction of
9 other infrastructure support with the end in view that life will return to
10 normalcy at the earliest possible time and accelerate the development of these
11 provinces affected by typhoon Yolanda. For this purpose, the State shall
12 promote, encourage and assist all public service entities engaged in supplying
13 electric service, particularly electric cooperatives, which are willing to pursue
14 diligently this objective.

15 The State acknowledges individuals, organizations and financial
16 institutions here and abroad as well as foreign governments who have
17 spontaneously and unselfishly contributed their effort and resources to help
18 the areas devastated by nature’s convulsions.

19 **SEC. 3.** Statement of Objectives and Guidelines. - This Act is intended to
20 help the communities devastated on November 8, 2013 by Typhoon Yolanda in
21 the Provinces of Leyte, Samar and other neighboring Provinces’ towns and
22 municipalities. It aims to provide funds for the immediate rehabilitation of
23 damaged and destroyed transmission and power lines and other infrastructure
24 support thus, restore power in the affected areas.

1 **SEC. 4.** Guidelines in the Allocation of Funds.- The government's funds
2 and resources herein appropriated shall be spent judiciously and effectively in
3 consonance with the principle of providing the greatest good for the greatest
4 number. Accordingly, the following guidelines shall be observed in allocating
5 the funds made available under this Act:

6 (a) In the repair and reconstruction of infrastructure and facilities,
7 priority shall be given to the damaged transmission and power lines
8 and other infrastructure facilities of electric cooperatives in the
9 affected areas;

10 (b) Repair and rehabilitation of damaged facilities, transmission and
11 power lines shall be equitably extended to all identified communities
12 affected by typhoon Yolanda irrespective of political or party
13 affiliation, sex, creed, religious belief, or ethnic origin;

14 (c) No money shall be released without specific plans and programs of
15 work nor shall be used to pay obligations incurred before the approval
16 of this Act;

17 **Sec. 5.** Appropriations Clause. To carry out the purposes of this Act,
18 The sum of Five Billion Pesos (P5,000,000,000) is hereby appropriated
19 out of any available fund in the national treasury not otherwise
20 appropriated.

21 **Sec. 6.** Creation of the Oplan Yolanda Power Restoration and
22 Rehabilitation Emergency Assistance Fund.- For purposes of this Act, the
23 National Electrification Administration (NEA) thru the Department of
24 Energy is hereby authorized, empowered and directed to promote,
25 encourage and assist public service entities, particularly **electric**
26 cooperatives, to the end of achieving the objective of making service
27 available throughout the area devastated by typhoon Yolanda as rapidly
28 as possible.

29 (a) To make contract of every name and nature for the construction or
30 repair of damaged transmission lines and distribution facilities and
31 all related properties, equipment, machinery, fixtures, and materials
32 for the purpose of restoring supply of power in the area.

33 (b) To plan and develop to the extent possible and without charge
34 therefore, technical and professional assistance and guidance,
35 information, data and the results of any investigation, study, or
36 reviews conducted or made by the NEA;

37 (c) To cooperate, coordinate and exchange such information, studies and
38 reports with, and to seek such cooperation and coordination from,
39 other departments, agencies and instrumentalities of the National
40 Government, including the NPC, as will most effectively conduce to

1 (d) To report to Congress and the President of the Republic of the
2 Philippines on the status of OPLAN Yolanda Power Restoration and
3 Rehabilitation Emergency Assistance and Development Fund and all
4 such other information and data as will accurately reveal the
5 progress being made toward the achievement of the purposes of this
6 Act; and to publish such report for dissemination and for use by
7 other interested departments, agencies and instrumentalities of the
8 National Government.

9 (e) To make proper evaluation, studies and recommendation on how
10 to make the lines, and equipment and facilities more durable and
11 weather-proof.

12 **“SEC. 7.** Separability Clause.- If any provision of this Act shall be held
13 unconstitutional or invalid, the other provisions not otherwise affected
14 shall remain in full force and effect.

15 **Section 8.** Repealing clause.- Any law , decree, or rules and regulations
16 which are inconsistent with or contrary to the provisions of this Act are
17 hereby amended or repealed.

18 **Section 9.** Effectivity Clause.- This Act shall take effect upon its
19 publication in at least two (2) national newspapers of general circulation.

20 Approved,
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25 Representative **Michael Angelo C. Rivera**
26 1-CARE Party List