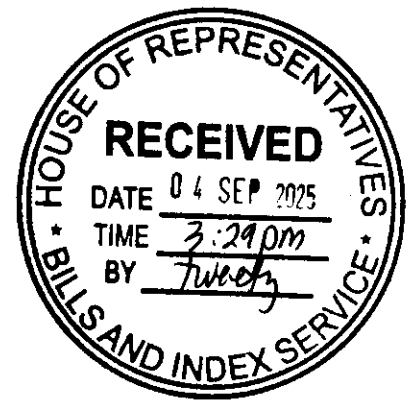


Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City, Metro Manila

Twentieth Congress
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. **4362**



Introduced by **Representative RAYMOND ADRIAN SALCEDA**

**AN ACT
DECLARING A CLIMATE EMERGENCY, INSTITUTING A CLIMATE CHANGE
RESILIENCY AND ADAPTABILITY PROGRAM, DEFINING THE ROLES OF
GOVERNMENT AGENCIES AND OTHER STAKEHOLDERS, AND FOR OTHER
PURPOSES**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Article II, Section 16 of the 1987 Constitution declares that “the State shall protect and advance the right of the people to a balanced and healthful ecology in accord with the rhythm and harmony of nature.” Climate change is the most pressing threat to that constitutional mandate. In recent decades, the Philippines has experienced increasingly frequent and severe weather events, resulting in loss of lives, damage to infrastructure, disruption of livelihoods, food insecurity, and setbacks to national development.

The Philippines is consistently ranked among the most vulnerable countries to climate change. Extreme weather patterns, rising sea levels, droughts, flooding, and shifts in agricultural productivity are no longer distant risks but daily realities that undermine both local communities and national progress. Addressing these requires not only mitigation of emissions but also systemic adaptation and resilience measures.

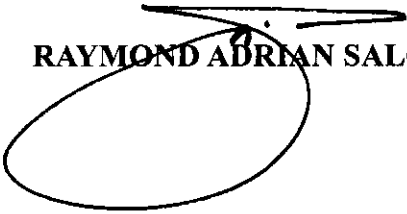
This bill declares a state of climate emergency and establishes a comprehensive Climate Change Resiliency and Adaptability Program. The Program institutionalizes critical measures, including open sharing of climate-related data, probabilistic climate risk assessments, a multi-level educational plan for climate literacy and green skills, investments in resilient infrastructure and critical services, ecosystem protection strategies, innovations in information and communication technology, and nature-based solutions. It emphasizes the linkage between health and climate, and ensures that vulnerable sectors, especially children and marginalized communities, are included in planning and decision-making.

The measure clearly defines the roles of national government agencies, local government units, and other stakeholders, including the private sector. It mandates multi-sectoral coordination, integrates climate resilience into development planning, and recognizes private sector projects under the Act as part of their corporate social responsibility. It also establishes an annual Climate Change Resiliency and Adaptability Summit to ensure collaboration, monitoring, and accountability.

Importantly, the bill empowers the newly organized Department of Development (DepDEV) to provide feasibility studies and assess the economic implications of climate change policies, thereby ensuring that climate resilience is directly linked to the country's economic development strategy.

By institutionalizing this framework, the Philippines will be better prepared to adapt to the adverse impacts of climate change, protect its most vulnerable communities, and build an economy that is both sustainable and resilient.

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



RAYMOND ADRIAN SALCEDA

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

SECTION 1. *Short Title.* This Act shall be known as the “Climate Change Resilience Act.”

SEC. 2. *Declaration of Policy.* It is hereby declared the policy of the State to protect the people’s right to a balanced and healthful ecology. The State recognizes that extreme weather conditions have devastated and may continue to devastate parts of the country, affecting food production, water availability, public health, infrastructure, and the economy. Demographics, settlements, communities, energy, industry, environment, waste, and transportation can all be influenced by or influence climate change policies. Enhancing resilience and adaptation to the effects of climate change is imperative, and declaring a climate emergency is necessary to protect lives, livelihoods, and the environment.

SEC. 3. *Declaration of a Climate Change Emergency.* The Philippines is hereby declared to be in a state of climate emergency. The government acknowledges that global warming exists and emphasizes the need to create measures to stop human-caused global warming, limit its effects, and mobilize funds for climate mitigation efforts.

SEC. 4. *Climate Change Resiliency and Adaptability Program.* There is hereby created a Climate Change Resiliency and Adaptability Program (the “Program”) to develop and implement solutions to adapt to and mitigate the adverse impacts of climate change. The Program shall have the following components:

- (a) Open sharing of data – Datasets related to climate change and disaster efforts from various sources such as national government agencies, local government units (LGUs),

civil society organizations, academe, and the private sector shall be shared through an accessible digital platform;

(b) Probabilistic Climate Risk Assessments (PCRA) – PCRA shall consider all possible scenarios, uncertainties, and associated impacts of climate change to generate localized baseline information on climate risk for vulnerable communities;

(c) Multi-level national educational plan – A knowledge and competency-building agenda on climate change shall be implemented from primary to tertiary levels. Children and youth shall receive climate education and green skills and shall be included in all climate-related decision-making, including national and international negotiations;

(d) Link between health and climate change – The link between health and climate change shall be promoted, monitored, and reflected in decision-making at all levels of governance, with policies and processes adopted to safeguard the right to a safe, clean, healthy, and sustainable environment;

(e) Critical services – Investment in climate change adaptation and resilience for critical services such as water, sanitation, health, and education shall be supported to protect vulnerable communities and children;

(f) Ecosystem protection strategies – Strategies for ecosystem preservation and restoration shall be pursued;

(g) Insurance and financing – The insurance and financing industries shall assist in mitigating climate change impacts, ensuring food security, and helping people rebuild after a catastrophe;

(h) Innovations and information technology – Innovations in information and communications technology and digital transformation shall be promoted for data sharing and the conduct of PCRA's;

(i) Green-grey solutions or infrastructures – Solutions combining natural systems with conventional approaches shall be pursued to help mitigate the effects of climate change;

(j) Nature-Based Solutions (NBS) – Actions using natural processes shall be implemented to enhance economic resilience, reduce physical risks such as flooding, and decrease carbon emissions;

(k) Urban green spaces – The use and expansion of urban green spaces shall be encouraged to address the urban heat island effect, promote sustainable cities, and improve resilience; and

(l) Vulnerability assessments – LGUs shall be assisted by relevant national government agencies in conducting vulnerability assessments and developing their Local Climate Change Action Plans.

SEC. 5. Roles of Departments and Agencies. Government agencies shall coordinate to preserve and protect the environment, with the following specific mandates:

- (a) Climate Change Commission (CCC) – Coordinate, monitor, and evaluate climate change programs and action plans based on the National Climate Change Action Plan;
- (b) National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council (NDRRMC) – Monitor the integration of climate change resilience into national development plans and promote multi-stakeholder participation;
- (c) Philippine Atmospheric, Geophysical, and Astronomical Services Administration (PAGASA) – Conduct research and development on climate science and weather patterns, and provide climate projections and forecasts;
- (d) Department of Education (DepEd) – Integrate climate change education into the science curriculum from Grade 2 to Senior High School;
- (e) Commission on Higher Education (CHED) – Integrate climate change education into General Science subjects at the secondary and tertiary levels;
- (f) Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) – Develop and recommend climate change strategies, programs, and policies, especially on physical vulnerability;
- (g) Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG) – Coordinate with LGUs to address climate change vulnerability and impacts;
- (h) Department of Science and Technology (DOST) – Conduct research and development on climate change effects, develop technologies for adaptation, and facilitate the formulation of climate change policies on science, technology, and innovation;
- (i) Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE) – Ensure employers promote sustainable and environment-friendly work environments;
- (j) Department of Information and Communications Technology (DICT) – Provide cost-free public information dissemination on climate change, vulnerabilities, and risks;
- (k) Department of Development (DepDEV) – Prepare feasibility studies and determine how climate change policies will support economic development;
- (l) Department of Agriculture (DA) – Institutionalize a comprehensive program to strengthen the resilience of the country's food system;
- (m) Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) – Represent stakeholders affected by climate change and ensure their adaptive social protection;
- (n) Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH) – Design, plan, implement, and inspect public works and infrastructures that are resilient and adaptive to climate change; and

(o) Other departments and agencies – The Office of the President may call upon other agencies such as the Philippine Space Agency (PhilSA), National Youth Commission (NYC), Philippine Commission on Women (PCW), Philippine Commission on Urban Poor (PCUP), National Anti-Poverty Commission (NAPC), and National Commission on Indigenous Peoples (NCIP) to participate in climate resilience efforts.

SEC. 6. *Multi-Sectoral Approach.* Concerned government agencies and LGUs shall allocate adequate funds for their climate change programs and plans. Private entities, in coordination with government and non-governmental organizations, shall participate in environmental protection by ensuring their practices are not detrimental to the environment.

SEC. 7. *Corporate Social Responsibility of Private Entities.* Projects undertaken by private entities under this Act shall be considered part of their Corporate Social Responsibility Program.

SEC. 8. *Climate Change Resiliency and Adaptability Summit.* A Climate Change Resiliency and Adaptability Summit shall be held annually during the second week of September, spearheaded by the CCC and participated in by all stakeholders. The summit shall foster collaboration among agencies for environmental preservation and protection.

SEC. 9. *Reportorial Requirement.* All agencies identified in Section 5 shall submit an annual report to the Congress of the Philippines prior to the annual summit, covering the country's climate change resiliency and adaptability status, the implementation of this Act, and their recommendations.

SEC. 10. *Repealing Clause.* All laws, decrees, orders, rules, and regulations inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed, amended, or modified accordingly.

SEC. 11. *Separability Clause.* If any provision of this Act is declared unconstitutional, the other provisions not affected thereby shall remain in full force and effect.

SEC. 12. *Effectivity.* This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,