

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

House Bill No. 5101



Introduced by Representative Jose Manuel F. Alba

AN ACT
MANDATING THE NDRRMC TO PROVIDE A FINANCIAL RESILIENCE
PROGRAM IN THE CONTEXT OF DISASTER PREPAREDNESS, AMENDING
REPUBLIC ACT NO. 10121, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE PHILIPPINE
DISASTER RISK REDUCTION AND MANAGEMENT ACT

EXPLANATORY NOTE

In the Philippines, natural calamities happen every year and often strike quickly and without warning. In 2022, the World Risk Index, a part of the annual risk report which calculates the disaster risk for 193 countries, showed that the Philippines has the highest disaster risk. Recently, the pandemic has exposed underlying vulnerabilities and inequities across the globe and has led to catastrophic consequences among disproportionately affected populations. The Philippines is also one most cyclone-prone countries in the world, lying on what is often described as the 'typhoon belt'. Approximately 19-20 cyclones enter the Philippine Area of Responsibility annually.

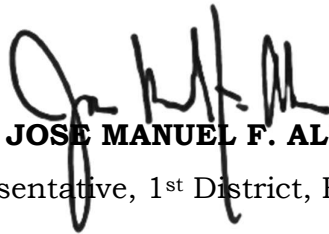
These natural calamities happen every year and often strike quickly and without warning. These calamities, whether it is an extreme weather event, earthquake, landslide, flooding, drought and other climate change related calamities negatively affect the individual or a family's financial condition, seriously destabilizing the overall economic well-being of Filipino families. Affected families are oftentimes unable to recover immediately from a calamity due to the absence of "emergency fund" or inability to access funds from financial institutions. Some even resort to 5-6 borrowings or *utang* to rebuild their homes, refinance their farm business or micro enterprise. While government financial assistance may be available, it is a fact that this is not enough to rehabilitate or completely support the needs of those affected by the disaster.

Given this recurring situation, the need for Filipinos to become more financially resilient is not only necessary but crucial to the economic survival and financial sustainability of every Filipino household. To build financial resilience among Filipinos, it is imperative for the State to provide personal finance education in the context of disaster preparedness.

Thus, this Bill aims to integrate financial resiliency in the Philippine Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Act, making it a core objective and program of the NDRRMC.

It is worth noting that this bill has been filed during the 19th Congress.

With the foregoing, the immediate passage of this bill is earnestly sought.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jose M. Alba', is positioned above the printed name.

JOSE MANUEL F. ALBA

Representative, 1st District, Bukidnon

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

House Bill No. 5101

Introduced by Representative Jose Manuel F. Alba

AN ACT
MANDATING THE NDRRMC TO PROVIDE A FINANCIAL RESILIENCE
PROGRAM IN THE CONTEXT OF DISASTER PREPAREDNESS, AMENDING
REPUBLIC ACT NO. 10121, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE PHILIPPINE
DISASTER RISK REDUCTION AND MANAGEMENT ACT

*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 "Financial
Resilience (FIRE) Act".

Section 2. A new provision under Section 6 of the Philippine Disaster
Risk Reduction and Management Act of 2010 is hereby provided to read as
follows:

"Section 6. Powers and Functions of the NDRRMC. - The
National Council, being empowered with policymaking,
coordination, integration, supervision, monitoring and
evaluation functions, shall have the following responsibilities:

xxx

- (q) CREATE AND CONDUCT FINANCIAL RESILIENCE
PROGRAMS IN ALL CITIES, MUNICIPALITIES
AND BARANGAYS, IN ORDER TO ENSURE THAT
SAID COMMUNITIES ARE ECONOMICALLY AND
FINANCIALLY CAPACITATED FOR RECOVERY,

IN A POST-DISASTER ENVIRONMENT;

xxx"

Section 3. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.* — The Secretary of the Department of National Defense (DND) with the Secretary of the Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG) shall promulgate the necessary implementing rules and regulations within thirty (30) days from the effectivity of this Act.

Section 4. *Repealing Clause.* — All laws, decrees, executive orders, rules, and regulations inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

Section 5. *Separability Clause.* — Should any part of this Act be declared unconstitutional, the validity of remaining provision hereof shall remain in full and effect.

Section 6. *Effectivity Clause.* — This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,