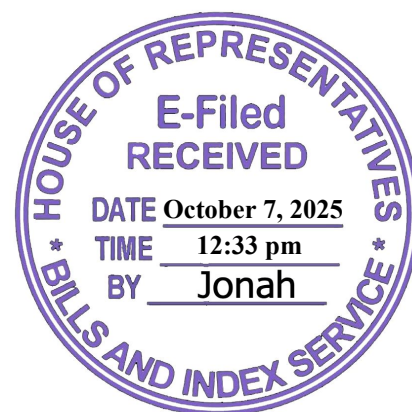


Republic of the Philippines  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
Quezon City

TWENTIETH CONGRESS  
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 5218



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Introduced by: **REP. SALVADOR A. PLEYTO, SR.**

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### **EXPLANATORY NOTE**

This proposed bill aims to create a cohesive and long-term national strategy to address flooding, which is a significant and recurring challenge. This type of comprehensive legislation generally seeks to shift the focus from merely reacting to disasters to proactively managing flood risk through planning, infrastructure, and environmental protection.

The bill's title suggests four major thrusts:

1. Institutionalizing a National Masterplan and establish a single, unified, and long-term national plan for comprehensive flood management. This is designed to ensure all flood control efforts across different agencies and local governments are coordinated, consistent, and strategic.

The masterplan would likely cover a broad range of measures, including structural solutions (like dams, dikes, and drainage systems) and non-structural measures (like land-use planning, zoning restrictions in flood-prone areas, early warning systems, and flood insurance).

2. Comprehensive Flood Management and Control - The plan goes beyond traditional engineering solutions to include aspects like watershed management, reforestation, and coastal protection. It emphasizes mitigation rather than just relief and response.

The institutionalization implies a lead agency will be mandated to oversee and coordinate the masterplan's execution across all relevant government departments and local units.

3. Strengthening Environmental Law Enforcement by addressing the root cause. Flooding is often exacerbated by environmental degradation, such as illegal logging, quarrying, and the conversion of natural flood buffers (like wetlands and mangroves). This component directly tackles these issues.

This bill would likely grant stronger enforcement powers to relevant environmental agencies and impose stricter accountability for local government units in preventing environmental violations within their jurisdictions.

4. Providing Penalties and Appropriating Funds. The provision for appropriating funds ensures that the national masterplan isn't just a paper document. It guarantees a dedicated, regular budget for implementing flood control projects, maintenance, scientific research, and capacity building for local units.

Including clear penalties for violations—especially for non-compliance with the masterplan's provisions (e.g., illegal construction in floodways or failure to enforce environmental laws)—is crucial for ensuring the effectiveness of the law.

This bill is expected to have a transformative impact on disaster resilience by better planning, issuing earlier warnings, and improving infrastructure. Integrating flood control with environmental protection promotes the long-term health of watersheds

Establishing a single masterplan reduces redundancy, streamlines decision-making, and promotes transparency in project implementation.

The immediate approval of this critical measure is hereby earnestly sought.



**SALVADOR A. PLEYTO, SR.**

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TWENTIETH CONGRESS  
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HOUSE BILL NO. 5218

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Introduced by: **REP. SALVADOR A. PLEYTO, SR.**

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**AN ACT INSTITUTIONALIZING A NATIONAL MASTERPLAN FOR  
COMPREHENSIVE FLOOD MANAGEMENT AND CONTROL,  
STRENGTHENING ENVIRONMENTAL LAW ENFORCEMENT, PROVIDING  
PENALTIES FOR VIOLATIONS, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS  
THEREFOR**

*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 Flood  
Management and Control Masterplan Act of 2025."

**SEC. 2.** *Declaration of Policy.* - It is the policy of the State to protect its  
citizens from the adverse effects of flooding, which are exacerbated by climate  
change and environmental degradation. The State shall adopt a  
comprehensive, integrated, and long-term approach to flood management,  
control, and mitigation, anchored on sustainable development, ecological  
balance, and disaster resilience. This policy mandates the institutionalization  
of a National Flood Management Masterplan (NFMM) that integrates  
structural and non-structural measures, and strictly enforces environmental  
laws to address the root causes of flooding.

**SEC. 3.** *Definition of Terms.* - For the purpose of this Act, the following  
terms shall mean:

1. Comprehensive Flood Management: A holistic approach that includes  
prevention, preparedness, response, and recovery, incorporating both  
structural (e.g., dams, dikes) and non-structural (e.g., land-use  
planning, early warning systems, reforestation) measures.
2. Floodplain: The area of low-lying ground adjacent to a river, formed  
mainly of river sediments and subject to flooding.

3. Environmental Laws: Shall collectively refer to all existing national laws and regulations pertaining to environmental protection, including but not limited to the Philippine Water Code, the Clean Air Act, the Solid Waste Management Act, and the Forestry Code, as amended.
4. Masterplan: The National Flood Management Masterplan (NFMM) created and institutionalized under this Act.
5. Prohibited Acts: Actions or omissions that violate the NFMM provisions, environmental laws, or other regulations aimed at preventing floods.

**SEC. 4.** *Institutionalization of the National Flood Management Masterplan (NFMM).*

- a. The NFMM is hereby institutionalized as the primary framework for all flood control and management efforts in the country.
- b. The Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH), in coordination with the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) and the Climate Change Commission (CCC), shall immediately finalize, adopt, and regularly update the NFMM.
- c. c. The NFMM shall include, but not be limited to:
  - i. A National Drainage and Sewerage Masterplan for urban areas.
  - ii. A Watershed Management and Reforestation Program in critical flood-prone river basins.
  - iii. Mandatory Floodplain Zoning and land-use regulations.
  - iv. Establishment of Flood-Retardation Basins and Catchment Areas.
  - v. Upgrading and installation of Integrated Early Warning and Monitoring Systems.

**SECTION 5.** - *Inter-Agency Flood Management Council (IFMC).*

- a. An Inter-Agency Flood Management Council (IFMC) is hereby created to oversee and ensure the effective implementation of the NFMM.
- b. The IFMC shall be chaired by the Secretary of Public Works and Highways and co-chaired by the Secretary of Environment and Natural Resources. Its members shall include the heads of the National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA), the Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG), the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council

(NDRRMC), and a representative from a non-governmental organization focused on environmental protection.

- c. The IFMC shall ensure harmonization of all local and national flood control projects with the NFMM.

**SEC. 6. *Penalties for Violations of Environmental Laws.*** - Notwithstanding the penalties provided under existing Environmental Laws, any person, natural or juridical, found guilty of violating any provision of the aforementioned laws, particularly those actions contributing significantly to flooding (e.g., illegal logging, unauthorized construction in floodplains, improper waste disposal in waterways), shall be subject to the following strengthened penalties:

- a. Administrative Fines: A fine of not less than Five Hundred Thousand Pesos (P500,000.00) but not more than Five Million Pesos (P5,000,000.00) shall be imposed for each count of violation.
- b. Criminal Sanctions: Imprisonment of not less than six (6) years and one (1) day but not more than twelve (12) years.
- c. Immediate Closure and Demolition: For unlawful structures and operations contributing to flood risk, the DENR or DPWH is authorized to issue an immediate Cease and Desist Order and implement summary demolition, at the violator's expense.
- d. Liability of Officials: If the violation is committed by a corporation, partnership, or other juridical entity, the president, manager, or other officials responsible for the operation shall be directly and personally liable for the criminal sanctions.

**SEC. 7. *Mandate for Local Government Units (LGUs).***

- a. Integration into Local Plans: All LGUs shall integrate the NFMM into their respective Comprehensive Land Use Plans (CLUPs) and Local Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Plans.
- b. Maintenance of Drainage Systems: LGUs shall be primarily responsible for the maintenance, desilting, and cleanup of local drainage, canals, and waterways within their jurisdiction. Failure to do so shall be a ground for administrative sanction against the responsible local official.

**SEC. 8. *Funding.*** - The amount necessary to implement the NFMM and the provisions of this Act shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act. The IFMC is authorized to seek and receive grants, donations, and loans from domestic and international sources.

**SEC. 9. *Separability Clause.*** - If any part or provision of this Act is declared invalid or unconstitutional, the other parts not affected thereby shall remain valid.

**Sec. 10. *Repealing Clause.*** – All laws, decrees, executive orders, issuances, or rules and regulations, or portions thereof, that are inconsistent with this Act or any provision or provisions thereof are repealed or modified accordingly.

**Sec. 11. *Effectivity.*** – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

*Approved,*