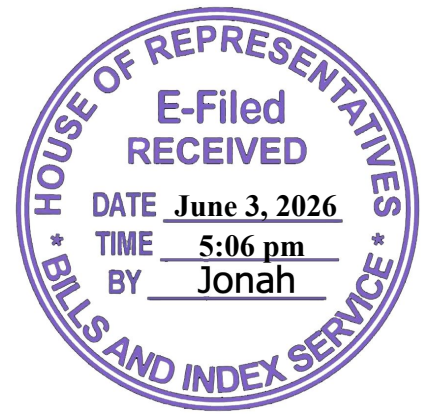


1 Republic of the Philippines
2 **HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**
3 Batasan Hills, Quezon City

4
5
6 **TWENTIETH CONGRESS**
7 First Regular Session
8

9
10 **HOUSE BILL No. 9755**
11



12 -----
13 Introduced by
14 **ACT Teachers Party-List Rep. ANTONIO L. TINIO,**
15 **Gabriela Women's Party Rep. SARAH JANE I. ELAGO,**
16 **and KABATAAN Party-List Rep. RENEE LOUISE M. CO**
17 -----

18
19 **AN ACT**
20 **PROVIDING FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF A MEMORIAL**
21 **FOR THE VICTIMS OF SUPERTYPHOON YOLANDA IN TACLOBAN**
22 **CITY, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR**
23

24
25 **EXPLANATORY NOTE**
26

27 November 1, 2013. Super Typhoon Yolanda was one of the worst natural
28 disasters to strike the country in recent memory. The death toll was apocalyptic in
29 magnitude and the damage to property was biblical in proportion. Conservative reports
30 from the National Risk Reduction Management Council (NDRRMC) tallied 6,300 dead,
31 28,688 injured, and 1,062 still missing.¹ However, survivors' group People's Surge
32 placed the number of casualties up to 19,000 people, citing the uncounted dead in the
33 far-flung areas of Eastern Visayas. The total cost of damages reached some ₱95.5
34 billion.
35

36 Days prior to Yolanda's landfall, the Philippine Atmospheric Geophysical and
37 Astronomical Services Administration (PAGASA) already gave warnings that a
38 supertyphoon was about to enter the Philippine Area of Responsibility (PAR) that could
39 generate storm surges of up to 17 feet high. President Benigno Aquino III addressed
40 the country, confidently saying that all preparations are already in place and that the

1 "Final Report re: Effects of Typhoon "Yolanda" (Haiyan)." National Disaster Risk Reduction and
Management Council, November 2013.
[https://ndrrmc.gov.ph/attachments/article/1329/FINAL_REPORT_re_Effects_of_Typhoon_YOLAN
DA_\(HAIYAN\)_06-09NOV2013.pdf](https://ndrrmc.gov.ph/attachments/article/1329/FINAL_REPORT_re_Effects_of_Typhoon_YOLANDA_(HAIYAN)_06-09NOV2013.pdf)

country is ready for the onslaught of the supertyphoon, which came in with an estimated packed winds of up to 280 kph and gustiness up to 315 kph.²

But the aftermath of the disaster manifested the lack of comprehension of the warnings released by PAGASA, from the local government units to the highest office in the Executive Department.

The response was dismal, there was a clear lack of body bags, and the dead were left lying on the streets for days. Authorities had a difficult time identifying bodies. Worst, the people were left almost entirely to their own devices on fleeing, taking shelter, and surviving, even for days afterward.

Additionally, reconstruction efforts have been abysmal. According to the National Economic Development Authority (NEDA), the government allocation for Yolanda relief, reconstruction and rehabilitation amounted to approximately ₱144.4 billion as of June 2016. While 71% of this has been released, only 53.4% were disbursed according to the submissions of the government agencies. The overall weighted accomplishment or physical completion of projects funded by these releases was only 40%, while 27.7% are ongoing and 33% have not yet been started.³

Independent think-tank IBON Foundation noted that agencies tasked to facilitate survivors' fundamental needs, such as housing, food, livelihood, and water received rehabilitation funds, had very low overall weighted accomplishment. The National Housing Authority (NHA) received the largest allocation amounting to ₱39.2 billion but the Department of Budget Management (DBM) reported that its overall weighted accomplishment was only 12.3%, with 45% ongoing and 42.6% not yet started, three years after the disaster struck. The overall weighted accomplishment of the Department of Agriculture (DA), which received ₱1.5 billion, was only 14.1%, with 11.6% ongoing and 74.3% not yet started. The overall weighted accomplishment of the Local Water Utilities Administration (LWUA), which received ₱737 million, was only 2.9%, with 2.5% ongoing and 94.6% not yet started.⁴

Additionally, IBON Foundation noted, on the fourth-year anniversary of Yolanda, that only 25% percent or 50,891 of the 205,128 houses for the victims have been built. Of the completed units, only 27 percent are occupied.⁵

The poor preparedness, the lack of response and relief, and the abysmal reconstruction efforts by the government resulted in the massive death toll and

² Sabillo, Kristine Angeli. "Aquino: PH ready to face supertyphoon 'Yolanda.'" Inquirer.net, November 2013. <https://newsinfo.inquirer.net/522661/aquino-ph-ready-to-face-supertyphoon-yolanda>

³ "Use funds to hasten Yolanda rehab, Duterte gov't urged." IBON, November 2016.

<https://www.ibon.org/use-funds-to-hasten-yolanda-rehab-duterte-govt-urged/>

⁴ Ibid

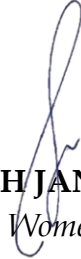
⁵ "Only 25% of houses for Yolanda survivors completed after four years — research." CNN, November 2017. <https://www.cnnphilippines.com/news/2017/11/9/Yolanda-houses-survivors-incomplete-after-four-years.html>

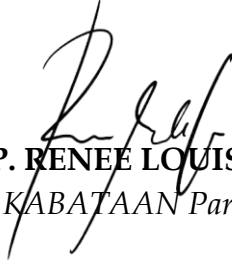
1 continuing injustice for the survivors. A memorial in Tacloban City will serve as a
2 marker in memory of the victims including the many unidentified dead buried in mass
3 graves, and as a reminder to our leaders and the people to work towards a disaster-
4 resilient nation.

5
6 This Bill was first filed during the 16th Congress by Bayan Muna Rep. Neri
7 Colmenares as House Bill 4100. The Makabayan Bloc refiled this Bill in the succeeding
8 Congresses.

9
10 In this regard, the immediate approval of this Bill is earnestly sought.
11


REP. ANTONIO L. TINIO
ACT Teachers Party-list


REP. SARAH JANE I. ELAGO
Gabriela Women's Party


REP. RENEE LOUISE M. CO
KABATAAN Party-list

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21 **VICTIMS OF SUPERTYPHOON YOLANDA IN TACLOBAN CITY,**
22 **APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR**
23

24
25 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Philippines in Congress*
26 *assembled:*
27

28 **SECTION 1. *Short Title.*** – This Act shall be known as the ***“Yolanda Memorial Act of***
29 ***2026.*”**
30

31 **SEC. 2. *Construction of the Memorial.*** – A memorial for the victims of Supertyphoon
32 Yolanda shall be constructed in Tacloban City under the supervision of the Department
33 of Public Works and Highways (DPWH) in coordination with the Local Government
34 Units (LGUs) and the National Historical Commission of the Philippines.
35

36 **SEC. 3. *Inscription.*** – A message shall be inscribed unto the base of the memorial and
37 shall read as:
38

39 *“In memory of the thousands of victims of Supertyphoon Yolanda*
40

41 *May this remind all:*

42 *That calamities have been transformed into monstrosities due to climate change;*
43 *That the leaders of this country must employ their utmost knowledge and care for the*
44 *people,*

45 *And to work for a disaster-resilient nation;*
46 *That appropriate, decisive, and climate-adaptive policies must be enforced*

To help protect the lives and livelihood of the people and mitigate the effects of disasters,

To prevent losses should another calamity as Yolanda come our way anew.

May this never happen again."

The inscription shall have Filipino and Waray versions.

SEC. 4. *Implementing Agency.* – The DPWH shall be the lead implementing agency of this project in coordination with the concerned LGUs.

SEC. 5. Appropriations. – The amount necessary to implement the provisions of this Act shall be charged against the allocations in the General Appropriations Act (GAA) of the Department of Public Works and Highways.

SEC. 6. *Effectivity.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen days (15 days) after its complete publication in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,