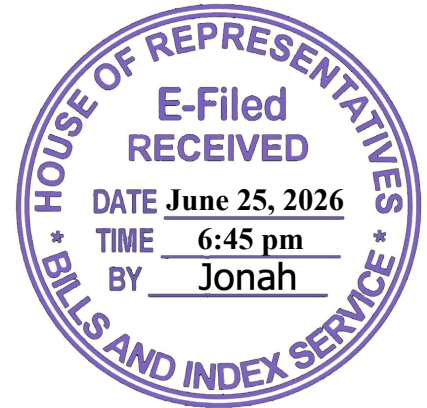


Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City, Metro Manila

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

House Bill No. 9952



Introduced by **Representative JEFFREY SORIANO**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill seeks to declare a climate change emergency and establish a comprehensive Climate Change Resiliency and Adaptability Program to strengthen the country's capacity to mitigate, prepare for, and adapt to the adverse effects of climate change. The measure institutionalizes a whole-of-government and whole-of-society approach to climate resilience by strengthening climate education, risk assessment, ecosystem protection and ecocentric innovation.

The Philippines remains among the countries most vulnerable to the impacts of climate change. Stronger typhoons, prolonged droughts, rising sea levels, extreme heat, and increasingly unpredictable weather patterns continue to threaten lives, livelihoods, food security, water resources, public health, and critical infrastructure. While existing laws have established important frameworks for climate action and disaster risk reduction, the growing frequency and intensity of climate-related events underscore the need for stronger coordination, greater investment in resilience-building measures, enhanced public awareness, and more robust adaptation strategies.

This measure mandates climate risk assessments, promotes open data-sharing systems, integrates climate resilience education across all levels of learning, and prioritizes nature-based solutions and climate-resilient infrastructure as cornerstones of the national response.

Climate change is no longer a distant threat but a present reality affecting millions of Filipinos. The costs of inaction continue to rise with every disaster, every displaced family, and every community left vulnerable to environmental degradation. The State must act decisively to strengthen resilience, safeguard future generations, and protect the nation's development gains.

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


HON. JEFFREY SORIANO

Republic of the Philippines
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TWENTIETH CONGRESS
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House Bill No. **9952**

Introduced by **Representative JEFFREY SORIANO**

AN ACT
DECLARING A CLIMATE CHANGE EMERGENCY AND ENHANCING
RESILIENCY AND ADAPTABILITY TO THE EFFECTS OF CLIMATE CHANGE

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 and advance the right of the people to a balanced and healthful ecology. The State also acknowledges that extreme weather conditions have devastated and may continue to devastate parts of the country which have radically affected food production and supply, water availability, public health, infrastructure, and economy.

The State further recognizes that demographics, settlements and communities, energy and industry, environment and waste, and transportation are elements that can influence and can be influenced by climate change policies. Towards this end, it is imperative to enhance resilience and adaptation to the effects of climate change, and to declare an environment and climate emergency for the protection and preservation of people’s lives, livelihoods, and the environment.

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

SEC. 4. *Climate Change Resiliency and Adaptability to the Effects of Climate Change.* – There is hereby created a Climate Change Resiliency and Adaptability Program, hereinafter referred to as the “Program”, that shall develop and implement solutions to adapt and mitigate the adverse impacts of climate change. The Program shall have the following components:

a. Open sharing of data amongst the stakeholders. – All data sets related to climate change and disaster efforts generated by the national government agencies, local government units (LGUs), civil society organizations (CSOs), academe, and the private sector shall be shared through a digital platform that is readily accessible to all stakeholders;

b. Probabilistic Climate Risk Assessments. – Probabilistic Climate Risk Assessments (PCRA) shall consider all possible scenarios, likelihood and inherent uncertainties, associated impacts of climate change, and the climate change projections in extremes in consultation with collective strengthening for community awareness on natural disasters agencies. The PCRA shall generate the needed localized baseline information on climate risk faced by vulnerable communities and their support system for potential climate-related hazards;

c. Multi-level national educational plan on climate resilience. – There shall be a knowledge and competency building education agenda on climate change from primary to tertiary levels of the education system, including the country's research and development program, producing citizens with progressive conceptual and operational knowledge and skills to build resilient communities, sectors, and nation.

Children and youth shall be provided with climate education and green skills, necessary for their adaptation to and preparation for the effects of climate change: *Provided*, That they shall be included in all climate-related decision-making: *Provided, further*, That the youth shall be included in all national, regional, and international climate negotiations and decisions;

d. Link between health and climate change. – The link between health and climate change shall promote, account for, and monitor the health co-benefits from climate interventions which shall be reflected in decision-making at all levels of governance.

The right to a safe, clean, healthy, and sustainable environment shall also be recognized: *Provided*, That policies and processes to safeguard this right shall be adopted: *Provided, further*, That to strengthen the science of health and climate change, it is necessary to close knowledge gaps and build capacity to reach on the health impacts of climate change and health co-benefits of climate actions;

e. Critical services. – Increasing investment in climate change adaptation and resilience in critical services, such as water, sanitation and hygiene systems, health, and education, shall be supported in order to protect the children, communities, and the most vulnerable from the worst impacts of climate change; and

f. Ecosystem protection strategies. – The following ecosystem protection strategies shall be pursued:

1. Assistance from the insurance and financing industries to help mitigate the impacts of climate change, ensure food security, and assist in a post-catastrophe scenario in order for the insured populace to rebuild and re-establish their lives and livelihoods while greatly increasing their resilience to disasters;

2. Innovations in information and communication technology and digital transformation to enable the open sharing of data, the conduct of PCRA, and the provision of valuable input into climate change negotiations and decision-making;

3. Green-grey solutions or infrastructures, combining conventional approaches with the conversion and restoration of natural systems, to offer the best protection against calamities and help mitigate the effects of climate change;

4. Nature-Based Solutions that uses the forces of nature itself to achieve economic resilience like food and water security, reduced physical risks including flood control and coastal protection, enhance ecosystem and health, and reduce carbon emissions through sequestration and avoided emissions to promote ecosystem resilience;

5. The usage and expansion of urban green spaces to address urban heat island effect, promote more sustainable cities, improve resilience to climate change, mitigate its impacts, and increase its co-benefits to health and environment; and

6. Assistance to LGUs by the relevant national government agencies in the conduct of vulnerability assessments, including their Local Climate Change Action Plan.

SEC. 5. *Roles of Department Agencies.* – Government agencies shall immediately and efficiently coordinate and lead in taking practicable measures to preserve and protect the environment, as follows:

a. The Climate Change Commission (CCC) shall coordinate, monitor, and evaluate programs and action plans related to climate change based on the National Climate Change Action Plan;

b. The National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council (NDRRMC) shall monitor the integration of climate change resilience and adaptation in the national development plans and create an enabling environment that shall promote multi-stakeholder participation of concerned departments, agencies, LGUs, organizations, and other stakeholders;

c. The Philippine Atmospheric Geophysical, and Astronomical Services Administration (PAGASA) shall conduct research and development on the science of climate and changing weather patterns worldwide, and provide

and disseminate climate projections and weather forecasts;

d. The Department of Education (DepEd) shall integrate climate change education under the Science Curriculum from Grade 2 to Senior High School level, in both private and public educational institutions, to raise and increase the awareness of children about the impacts and effects of climate change;

e. The Commissioner on Higher Education (CHED) shall integrate climate change education under the General Science subjects of the secondary and tertiary levels, in both private and public educational institutions, to raise and increase the awareness of children and youth about the impacts and effects of climate change;

f. The Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) shall develop, formulate, and recommend climate change strategies, programs, and policies especially on physical vulnerability;

g. The Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG) shall coordinate with LGUs to address vulnerability and impacts of climate change in regions, provinces, cities, and municipalities;

h. The Department of Science and Technology (DOST) shall conduct research and development on the effects of climate change and pathways to climate disasters, including determining vulnerability and assessing climate risks of natural ecosystem; develop technologies to enhance climate change adaptation; facilitate the formulation of climate change policies on science, technology, and innovations (STI) and related technical assistance; and monitor and assess the impacts of provided technical assistance and/or intervention;

i. The Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE) shall ensure that employers promote a healthy and safe environment for the employees which is sustainable and environment-friendly;

j. The Department of Information and Technology (DICT) shall provide cost-free means for public information dissemination on climate change, vulnerabilities, risks, relevant laws, and protocols specifically those which need immediate dissemination;

k. The Department of Economy, Planning, and Development (DEPDev) shall provide the feasibility studies and the determination of how climate change policies can help in the economic development of the country;

l. The Department of Agriculture (DA) shall institutionalize a comprehensive program to strengthen the resilience of the country's food system;

m. The Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) shall represent the stakeholders that are affected by climate change and extreme weather conditions as indicated in Section 2 of this Act and ensure their adaptive social protection;

n. The Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH) shall design, plan, implement, and inspect public works and infrastructures, which are resilient and adaptive to climate change; and

o. Other departments and agencies may be called upon by the Office of the President, incumbent upon their mandate, to provide relevant information relative to their sectors. This includes the following agencies:

1. Philippines Space Agency (PhilSA);
2. National Youth Commission (NYC);
3. Philippine Commission on Women (PWC);
4. Presidential Commission for the Urban Poor (PCUP);
5. National Anti-Poverty Commission (NAPC); and
6. National Commission on Indigenous People (NCIP).

Provided, That other departments and agencies may be called upon by the Office of the President to take part in the efforts in environmental preservation and protection.

SEC. 6. *Multi-Sectoral Approach.* – Concerned government agencies and LGUs shall allocate adequate funds from their annual appropriations for the formulation, development, and implementation of their respective climate change programs and plans, in accordance with Republic Act No. 9279, otherwise known as the “*Climate Change Act of 2009*”.

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

SEC. 8. *Climate Change Resiliency and Adaptability Summit.* – There shall be a Climate Change Resiliency and Adaptability Summit to be held on the second week of September every year. The Summit shall be spearheaded by the CCC and shall be participated in by all stakeholders mentioned in Section 5 hereof. The Summit shall aim to collaborate all the efforts of the concerned agencies in environment preservation and protection.

SEC. 9. *Reportorial Requirement.* – All agencies mentioned in Section 5 of this Act shall submit an annual report on the current status of the country’s resiliency

and adaptability to climate change, the implementation of this Act, and their recommendations, if any, to the Congress of the Philippines, through the Committee on Climate Change of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Environment, Natural Resources, and Climate Change of the Senate of the Philippines, on or before the scheduled Climate Change Resiliency and Adaptability Summit.

SEC. 10. *Separability Clause.* – If any portion or provision of this Act is declared invalid or unconstitutional, other provisions hereof shall remain in full force and effect.

SEC. 11. *Repealing Clause.* – All laws, presidential decrees, executive orders, rules and regulations which are inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or amended accordingly.

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

Approved,