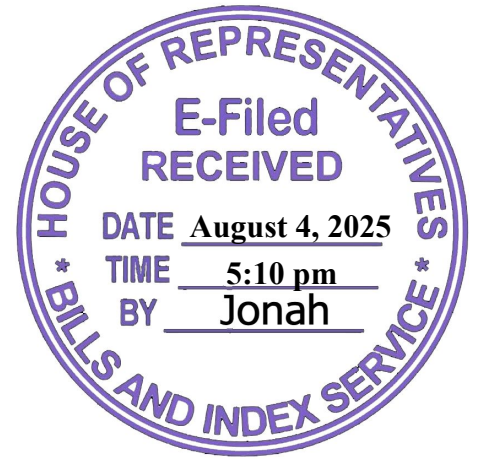




Republic of the Philippines
House of Representatives



20th CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 107

Introduced by Hon. Charisse Anne Hernandez
Lone District of Calamba, Laguna

A RESOLUTION

URGING THE COMMITTEE ON CLIMATE CHANGE, THE COMMITTEE ON DISASTER RESILIENCE, AND THE COMMITTEE ON ECOLOGY TO CONDUCT A JOINT INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, INTO THE REVIEW OF ALL EXISTING FLOOD CONTROL PROJECTS ALONG LAGUNA DE BAY, AND THE FEASIBILITY OF IMPLEMENTING NATURE-BASED AND SUSTAINABLE SOLUTIONS, WITH THE END VIEW OF MITIGATING FLOODING AND FORMULATING A COMPREHENSIVE LAKE MANAGEMENT AND FLOOD MITIGATION MASTER PLAN

WHEREAS, flooding remains a persistent and worsening problem in communities surrounding Laguna de Bay, particularly during the rainy season and extreme weather events;

WHEREAS, Laguna de Bay is the largest inland body of water in the Philippines and plays a vital role in the country's environmental and economic systems, serving multiple purposes including water supply, fisheries, aquaculture, inland navigation, and flood regulation;

WHEREAS, the following cities and municipalities surrounding Laguna de Bay are among the most affected by recurring and severe flooding due to reduced water-holding capacity, siltation, and poor drainage infrastructure: **San Pedro, Biñan, Santa Rosa, Cabuyao, Calamba, Los Baños, Bay, Calauan, Victoria, Pila, Santa Cruz, Lumban, Paete, Pakil, Pangil, Siniloan, Famy, Mabitac, and Santa Maria**, all of which face heightened vulnerability during heavy rains and typhoons;

WHEREAS, the increasing siltation of Laguna de Bay over the decades has significantly reduced its water-holding capacity, contributing to the frequency and severity of flooding, while also degrading water quality and threatening aquatic ecosystems;

WHEREAS, a number of flood control projects have already been implemented around the Laguna Lake region by various government agencies, yet flooding continues to pose a major risk to life, property, and livelihoods, indicating the need to review the scope, effectiveness, and sustainability of existing interventions;

WHEREAS, nature-based and sustainable solutions—such as ecological dredging, watershed rehabilitation, restoration of tributaries, and the protection of wetlands—can offer long-term, environmentally sound, and cost-effective approaches to flood mitigation, while simultaneously enhancing water quality and supporting biodiversity;

WHEREAS, there is a pressing need to harmonize the efforts of national agencies, local government units, and the private sector in developing an evidence-based, integrated, and sustainable flood mitigation strategy for Laguna de Bay and its tributaries;

WHEREAS, a comprehensive Lake Management and Flood Mitigation Master Plan would ensure that proposed interventions address both current vulnerabilities and future risks posed by climate change, sedimentation, rapid urbanization, and environmental degradation;

WHEREAS, recent scientific studies have revealed alarming levels of environmental degradation in Laguna de Bay, including the first documented presence of microplastics in the lake’s surface waters, posing significant risks to aquatic life, fisheries, and potentially human health, thereby compounding the lake’s ecological stress;

WHEREAS, microbial source tracking conducted through rep-PCR methods has identified fecal contamination from both human and animal origins in Laguna de Bay, underscoring the urgent need to address waste management, sanitation, and land use practices surrounding the lake;

WHEREAS, investigative reports such as “Poisoned Waters: Laguna de Bay’s Steady Crawl to Brink of Disaster” have highlighted the cumulative impact of industrial pollution, unregulated development, and environmental neglect, painting a grim picture of the lake’s declining health and the pressing necessity for a science-based, interagency intervention;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, as it is hereby resolved, to urge the **Committee on Climate Change**, the **Committee on Disaster Resilience**, and the **Committee on Ecology** to **conduct a joint inquiry, in aid of legislation**, into:

- a) The **review of all existing flood control projects** along Laguna de Bay; and
- b) The **feasibility, environmental impact, and long-term benefits of implementing nature-based and sustainable solutions** to mitigate flooding and enhance the resilience of lakeside communities;

RESOLVED FURTHER, that the findings and recommendations from the inquiry shall guide the formulation of a **Comprehensive Lake Management and Flood Mitigation Master Plan**, with the participation of relevant national agencies such as the Laguna Lake Development Authority (LLDA), the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), the

Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH), the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council (NDRRMC), local government units, and concerned civil society stakeholders.

Adopted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Charisse', with a stylized flourish at the end.

HON. CHARISSE ANNE C. HERNANDEZ
Lone District, Calamba City