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SENATE

P. S. Res. No. 41

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Introduced by Senator Ralph G. Recto

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**A RESOLUTION**

**DIRECTING THE APPROPRIATE SENATE COMMITTEE TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE LA NIÑA PHENOMENON AND TO DETERMINE THE APPROPRIATE PHILIPPINE GOVERNMENT INTERVENTION, WITH THE INTENT OF STRENGTHENING THE MANDATES OF GOVERNMENT AGENCIES AND ENSURING THE SAFETY AND SECURITY OF THE FILIPINO PEOPLE**

WHEREAS, the Philippine Atmospheric, Geophysical and Astronomical Service Administration (PAGASA) announced the possible development of the La Niña Phenomenon by July to September 2016<sup>i</sup>;

WHEREAS, the La Niña Phenomenon is the cold phase of the El Niño-Southern Oscillation (ENSO) Phenomenon characterized by a persistent cooler than negative five degree centigrade (-0.5°C) sea surface temperature (SST) anomalies over the tropical Pacific<sup>ii</sup>, which in turn increases the rate of rainfall and onset of tropical cyclones entering the Philippine area of responsibility;

WHEREAS, past La Niña events caused monsoon surges and slow moving tropical cyclones in the Philippines, which instigated flooding and landslides that caused loss of lives and properties, destruction of infrastructure, disruption of agricultural production and interruption of social and economic activities;

WHEREAS, the La Niña Phenomenon could further diminish the contribution of agriculture in the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) and increase the levels of poverty by one percentage point<sup>iii</sup>;

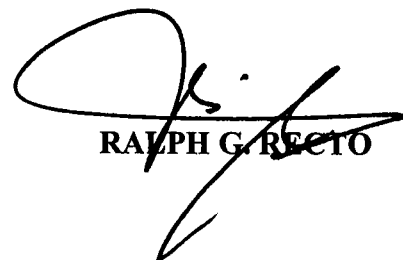
WHEREAS, the PAGASA advised the government agencies concerned to take precautionary actions to mitigate the adverse impact of the La Niña Phenomenon<sup>iv</sup>;

WHEREAS, the Philippine Government and its instrumentalities must be prepared to cushion the detrimental effects of the La Niña Phenomenon on the country's food, energy, and economic security;

WHEREAS, there is an urgent need to assess the capability of government agencies concerned and determine the planned response to address the aforementioned concerns;

*NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED*, by the Philippine Senate, to direct the appropriate Senate committee to conduct an inquiry, in aid of legislation, on the La Niña Phenomenon, and to determine the appropriate Philippine Government intervention, with the intent of strengthening the mandates of government agencies and ensuring the safety and security of the Filipino people.

Adopted,



**RALPH G. RECTO**

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<sup>i</sup> Philippine Atmospheric, Geophysical and Astronomical Service Administration. (2016 July 4). *El Niño Advisory No. 17 (Final)/ La Niña Watch*. Quezon City: Philippine Atmospheric, Geophysical and Astronomical Service Administration

<sup>ii</sup> Philippine Atmospheric, Geophysical and Astronomical Service Administration. (2016 July 4). *El Niño Advisory No. 17 (Final)/ La Niña Watch*. Quezon City: Philippine Atmospheric, Geophysical and Astronomical Service Administration

<sup>iii</sup> The Business Mirror. (2016 June 1). La Niña post-El Niño: Is PHL ready for deluge of misery?

<sup>iv</sup> Philippine Atmospheric, Geophysical and Astronomical Service Administration. (2016 July 4). *El Niño Advisory No. 17 (Final)/ La Niña Watch*. Quezon City: Philippine Atmospheric, Geophysical and Astronomical Service Administration