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**SENATE**

**P.S. Res. No. 52**

RECEIVED BY:

**Introduced by SENATOR RAMON BONG REVILLA, JR.**

**RESOLUTION**

**DIRECTING THE APPROPRIATE SENATE COMMITTEE TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE STATUS AND CONTINUING VIABILITY OF THE COUNTRY'S EXISTING FLOOD CONTROL MASTER PLAN AND PENDING FLOOD CONTROL PROJECTS UNDER THE DIRECT IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS AND HIGHWAYS (DPWH) AND METRO MANILA DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (MMDA), WITH THE END IN VIEW OF ENSURING A COMPREHENSIVE AND COST-EFFICIENT SOLUTION TO THE FLOODING PROBLEM THAT WOULD IMMEDIATELY BRING RELIEF TO THE PUBLIC AND IDENTIFY URGENT INTERVENTIONS TO IMPROVE MITIGATION EFFORTS OF ADVERSE EFFECTS TO THE COMMUNITIES, AND PREVENT SIMILAR DISASTERS IN THE FUTURE**

1       **WHEREAS**, Article II, Section 9 of the Constitution provides that the State shall  
2 "promote a just and dynamic social order that will ensure the prosperity and  
3 independence of the nation and free the people from poverty through policies that provide  
4 adequate social services, promote full employment, a rising standard of living, and an  
5 improved quality of life for all";

6  
7       **WHEREAS**, Article II, Section 16 of the same "underscores that the State shall  
8 protect and advance the right of the people to a balanced and healthful ecology in accord  
9 with the rhythm and harmony of nature";

10

1           **WHEREAS**, in the landmark case of *Oposa v. Factoran* (G.R. No. 101083; July 30,  
2 1993), the Supreme Court elucidated that the two (2) aforementioned rights concern  
3 “nothing less than self-preservation and self-perpetuation”;

4  
5           **WHEREAS**, in the same case, the Supreme Court stressed that Executive Order  
6 No. 292 or the Administrative Code of 1987, the Department of Public Works and  
7 Highways (DPWH), as the “engineering and construction arm of the national  
8 government”, shall be responsible for the planning, design, construction and maintenance  
9 of infrastructure facilities, especially national highways, flood control and water resources  
10 development systems, and other public works in accordance with national development  
11 objectives. The Supreme Court added that in Metro Manila, the Metro Manila  
12 Development Authority (MMDA), is authorized by Sec. 3(d) of Republic Act No. 7924,  
13 which created it and defined its powers and functions, to perform metro-wide services  
14 relating to “flood control and sewerage management which include the formulation and  
15 implementation of policies, standards, programs and projects for an integrated flood  
16 control, drainage and sewerage system”;

17  
18           **WHEREAS**, the DPWH and the MMDA are tasked to implement the Flood  
19 Management Master Plan for Metro Manila and Surrounding Areas Project in close  
20 coordination with local governments and key shelter agencies;

21  
22           **WHEREAS**, DPWH has reported completion of 13,224 flood control structures  
23 nationwide in the last 6 years,<sup>1</sup> and MMDA claimed that pumping stations in the National  
24 Capital Region (NCR) are ready and at “100 percent” capacity for the coming rainy season  
25 during their last televised Laging Handa Briefing;<sup>2</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.dpwh.gov.ph/dpwh/news/25606>

<sup>2</sup> De la Cruz, R. (21 June 2022). NCR flood pumps 100% ready for rainy season: MMDA  
Retrieved 16 July 2022, from: [NCR flood pumps 100% ready for rainy season: MMDA | Philippine News Agency \(pna.gov.ph\)](https://www.pna.gov.ph)

1           **WHEREAS**, World Bank’s Global Subnational Atlas of Poverty and Global  
2 Monitoring Database estimates around 1.47 billion people globally are directly exposed  
3 to the risk of intense flooding with more than one third, almost 600 million, are poor;  
4

5           **WHEREAS**, the Philippines is one of the most cyclone-prone countries in the  
6 world, lying on the ‘typhoon belt’, with approximately 20 typhoons entering the Philippine  
7 Area of Responsibility annually, with 7-9 reaching landfall<sup>3</sup>;  
8

9           **WHEREAS**, the Philippines is highly exposed to flooding, as a consequence of  
10 these severe cyclones and heavy rainfall, exacerbated by unabated urbanization and  
11 logging, directly affecting an estimated 176,000 Filipinos, and incurring an average of  
12 \$625 million in damages to infrastructure and agriculture annually;  
13

14           **WHEREAS**, the country has repeatedly witnessed catastrophic flooding of  
15 communities, and tragically in a number of cases in the recent decade, the complete  
16 devastation of these areas directly affected the living conditions and livelihood and led to  
17 long-term negative impact on health and economy;  
18

19           **WHEREAS**, the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council  
20 (NDRRMC) constantly reminds the public to be more vigilant and take precautions against  
21 flash floods and landslides caused by inclement weather<sup>4</sup>;  
22

23           **WHEREAS**, despite the flood control management master plan of the government  
24 and the annual budget allotted for the same under the administration of the DPWH and  
25 MMDA, flooding and its adverse effects continue to challenge many communities  
26 nationwide especially during the rainy season;  
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<sup>3</sup> [Philippines - Vulnerability | Climate Change Knowledge Portal \(worldbank.org\)](https://www.worldbank.org/)

<sup>4</sup> Nepomuceno, P. (11 July 2022) *Brace for rainy season, NDRRMC warns public*  
Retrieved 16 July 2022, from: [Brace for rainy season, NDRRMC warns public | Philippine News Agency \(pna.gov.ph\)](https://pna.gov.ph/)

1           **WHEREAS**, the DPWH and MMDA have a combined annual allocations of more  
2 than P 125 Billion pesos for flood control management program in the 2022 General  
3 Annual Appropriations;<sup>56</sup>

4  
5           **WHEREAS**, the Commission on Audit (COA) reported in their Annual Audit Report  
6 that twenty (20) flood control projects of the MMDA were unfinished and 39 others were  
7 not completed within the contract period as of end-2021, and brought about by the  
8 inadequate planning and coordination among agencies concerned, undermining the  
9 welfare of the people in the capital;<sup>7</sup>

10  
11           **WHEREAS**, MMDA has clarified that the flood control projects flagged by the COA  
12 were substantially completed as of 2022 and furthered that the agency’s flood mitigation  
13 projects are operational;<sup>8</sup>

14  
15           **WHEREAS**, the Climate Change, among other factors, has led to fast changing  
16 weather patterns globally, hence, may have affected the design, construction and  
17 maintenance of the existing flood control management system and pending national and  
18 local flood control projects. Moreover, the dismal failure for timely implementation the  
19 flood management mechanism and related public works, including but not limited to  
20 dredging of silted rivers and the establishment of flood control systems, will continue to  
21 put the lives and and livelihood of the affected communities in great peril;

22  
23           **WHEREAS**, just recently, residents of Metro Manila were surprised when parts of  
24 the Metro were swamped with flash floods after only a few hours of heavy downpour.<sup>9</sup>

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<sup>5</sup> 2022 DPWH Budget [DPWH.pdf \(dbm.gov.ph\)](#)

<sup>6</sup> 2022 MMDA Budget [A.pdf \(dbm.gov.ph\)](#)

<sup>7</sup> Aurelio, J. (July 2022) *59 MMDA flood control projects delayed - COA*. Retrieved 16 July 2022, from <https://newsinfo.inquirer.net/1620514/59-mmda-flood-control-projects-delayed-coa/amp>

<sup>8</sup> Villanueva, R. (04 July 2022). *MMDA: Flood control projects completed*. Retrieved 16 July 2022, from: <https://www.msn.com/en-ph/news/national/mmda-flood-control-projects-completed/ar-AAZ9iHX>

<sup>9</sup> Cerezo, A. (16 July 2022) *Flash floods swamped parts of Metro Manila*. Retrieved 17 July 2022, <https://news.abs-cbn.com/news/07/16/22/flash-floods-swamp-parts-of-metro-manila>

1 Many roads remained unpassable for a few hours, and some streets became too unsafe  
2 for both vehicles and pedestrians to traverse. This is the unfortunate reality which this  
3 representation now seeks to urgently address. Our people have suffered far too long, the  
4 government should thus be quick in its action especially when this issue has repeatedly  
5 caused menace to the Filipinos;

6

7 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED BY**  
8 **THE SENATE**, to direct the appropriate Senate Committee to conduct an inquiry, in aid  
9 of legislation, on the status and continuing viability of the country's existing flood control  
10 master plan and pending flood control projects under the direct implementation of the  
11 Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH) and Metro Manila Development  
12 Authority (MMDA), with the end in view of ensuring a comprehensive and cost-efficient  
13 solution to the flooding problems that would immediately bring relief to the public and  
14 identify urgent interventions to improve mitigation efforts of adverse effects to the  
15 communities, and prevent similar disaster in the future.

16

17 *Adopted,*

  
**RAMON BONG REVILLA JR.**