

NINETEENTH CONGRESS OF THE ) REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES ) *First Regular Session* 

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## SENATE

## **P.S. RES. NO.**<u>150</u>

## INTRODUCED BY SENATOR RONALD "BATO" DELA ROSA

## RESOLUTION

DIRECTING THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS, TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE STRUCTURAL INTEGRITY OF ALL BUILDINGS, BRIDGES, ROADS, RAILWAYS, SCHOOLS, HOSPITALS, CHURCHES, AND OTHER INFRASTRUCTURES, AFTER THE 7.0 MAGNITUDE EARTHQUAKE THAT HIT NORTHERN LUZON, IN ORDER TO INSTITUTE MEASURES WOULD MAKE THE INFRASTRUCTURES IN THE COUNTRY DISASTER RESILIENT, AND ENSURE THE SAFETY OF THE GENERAL PUBLIC IN CASE OF NATURAL AND MAN-MADE CALAMITIES

1 WHEREAS, the Philippines lies in the Pacific Ring of Fire, characterized by

2 frequent volcanic eruptions and earthquakes;

3 WHEREAS, the 7.0 magnitude earthquake that hit Northern Luzon, particularly

4 the province of Abra, last July 27, 2022, affected more than 500 thousand individuals,

5 and damaged different infrastructures, with an estimated cost of damage amounting

6 to over P1.8 billion<sup>1</sup>;

WHEREAS, according to reports, the Abra earthquake "triggered landslides,
damaged roads and caused some structures – including century old churches and
buildings-- to collapse;"<sup>2</sup>

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Zacarian Sarao, "Abra earthqualke damage now over P1.8B; agriculture damage over P56M," August 10, 2022, retrieved from: https://newsinfo.inquirer.net/1644422/abra-earthquake-damage-now-over-p1-8b-agriculture-damage-over-p56m, retrieved on August 16, 2022.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Xave Gregorio, "Damage to households, establishments reported after Abra quake," July 27, 2022, retrieved from: <u>https://www.philstar.com/headlines/2022/07/27/2198320/damage-households-establishments-reported-after-abra-quake</u>, retrieved on August 8, 2022

1 WHEREAS, this recent major earthquake once again resounded the call to 2 assess the structural integrity of all buildings and edifices, bridges, hospitals, schools, 3 churches, railways, and other public and private structures, all over the country, to 4 make sure that infrastructures are secured, retrofitted, and far more resilient to 5 natural as well as man-made calamities;

6 WHEREAS, a great number of towering edifices have been built over the years,
7 many of which have been constructed in a short period of time;

8 WHEREAS, it is imperative to inspect these structures and ensure that they can 9 withstand calamities, and provide sturdy protection and shelter to the people;

10 WHEREAS, it is important to undertake urgent action in assessing the structural 11 integrity of all public and private buildings and infrastructures in the midst of the 12 impending threat of the "Big One" or the worst case earthquake scenario that could 13 happen in the country anytime in the future that could possibly result to an enormous 14 loss of lives, and unimaginable destruction to properties.

15 RESOLVED BY THE SENATE, as it is hereby resolved, To direct the Senate 16 Committee on Public Works, to conduct an inquiry, in aid of legislation, on the 17 structural integrity of all buildings, bridges, roads, railways, schools, hospitals, 18 churches, and other infrastructures, after the 7.0 magnitude earthquake that hit 19 Northern Luzon, in order to institute measures would make the infrastructures in the 20 country disaster resilient, and ensure the safety of the general public in case of natural 21 and man-made calamities.

Adopted,

RONALD "BATO" DELA ROSA