

NINETEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES *Third Regular Session* 

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## SENATE

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P. S. Res. No. <u>1093</u>

Introduced by Senator Loren B. Legarda

## RESOLUTION

DIRECTING THE APPROPRIATE SENATE COMMITTEE TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE MASSIVE FLOODING CAUSED BY SUPER TYPHOON CARINA AND OTHER CONTRIBUTING FACTORS, WITH THE END IN VIEW OF RECOMMENDING STRONGER POLICY MEASURES TO IMPROVE FLOOD MANAGEMENT, INFRASTRUCTURE MAINTENANCE, WASTE MANAGEMENT, AND DISASTER PREPAREDNESS

1	WHEREAS, since 11 July 2024, the Southwest Monsoon has brought moderate
2	to heavy rains over different provinces in the country;
3	WHEREAS, on 19 July 2024, a Low Pressure Area over the Philippine Sea
4	developed into Tropical Depression Carina (International Name: Gaemi), which
5	enhanced the Southwest Monsoon;
6	WHEREAS, on 22 July 2024, Carina intensified into a Typhoon, bringing heavy
7	to intense rains as it continues to enhance the Southwest Monsoon; <sup>1</sup>
8	WHEREAS, on the afternoon of 24 July 2024, Carina further intensified into a
9	super typhoon; <sup>2</sup>
10	WHEREAS, as of 24 July 2024, the following areas have been placed under a
11	state of calamity: all 16 cities and one municipality in Metro Manila, Cainta in Rizal,
12	Cavite, Batangas, and Baco in Oriental Mindoro; <sup>3</sup>
13	WHEREAS, according to Situational Report No. 23 of the National Disaster Risk

<sup>1</sup> https://www.philstar.com/headlines/2024/07/23/2372223/carina-intensifies-typhoon-leaves-philippines-thursday

<sup>2</sup> https://news.abs-cbn.com/news/2024/7/24/-carina-turns-into-super-typhoon-heads-over-northern-taiwan-1715

<sup>3</sup> https://www.rappler.com/philippines/list-areas-state-calamity-southwest-monsoon-super-typhoon-carina-july-2024/

Reduction and Management Council (NDRRMC) dated 29 July 2024, 8:00 A.M., there
have been a total of 36 dead, 6 injured, 3 missing persons, 4,553,752 individuals
affected and 1,598 damaged houses reported;<sup>4</sup>

WHEREAS, several major and inner roads in the National Capital Region (NCR)
have experienced floodwaters ranging from gutter-deep to chest-high levels;<sup>5</sup>

6 WHEREAS, according to the Philippine Atmospheric, Geophysical and 7 Astronomical Services Administration (PAGASA), the country is expected to experience 8 13 more tropical cyclones in 2024. Moreover, PAGASA also states that more tropical 9 cyclones enter the Philippine Area of Responsibility (PAR) than anywhere else in the 10 world, with an average of 20 tropical cyclones in this region per year;<sup>6</sup>

WHEREAS, according to the Department of Environment and Natural Resources
(DENR), rising sea levels due to climate change may permanently displace 13.6 million
Filipinos by 2100, submerging nearly 17% of the Philippines' islands and affecting 64
provinces and 822 coastal communities;<sup>7</sup>

WHEREAS, in the General Appropriations Act of the past three years, a significant amount has been allocated to the Flood Management Program of the Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH), specifically Php 244,577,911,000 in 2024, Php 182,989,695,000 in 2023, and Php 128,966,729,000 in 2022. These funds cover the (a) construction and maintenance of flood mitigation structure and drainage systems, and (b) construction and rehabilitation of flood mitigation facilities within major river basins and principal rivers;

22 WHEREAS, on 25 July 2024, the Metropolitan Manila Development Authority 23 (MMDA) reported that Metro Manila's existing drainage system could only 24 accommodate 30 millimeters of rainfall an hour, which is significantly below the 74 25 millimeters an hour rainfall recorded during the 10-hour period on 24 July 2024;<sup>8</sup>

26 WHEREAS, it is crucial for the DPWH and the Local Government Units (LGUs) 27 to consistently clear and unclog canals, roadside ditches, and drains, and to regularly

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https://ndrrmc.gov.ph/attachments/article/4259/SitRep\_No\_23\_for\_the\_Combined\_Effects\_of\_Southwest\_Monsoon\_TC\_BUTC HOY\_2024\_and\_TC\_CARINA\_2024.pdf

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> https://www.pna.gov.ph/articles/1229672

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> https://bagong.pagasa.dost.gov.ph/climate/tropical-cyclone-information

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup>https://mb.com.ph/2024/7/12/13-6-million-pinoys-may-be-displaced-by-2100-due-to-climate-change-denr

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> https://newsinfo.inquirer.net/1965260/carina-floods-leave-ph-capital-in-state-of-calamity

1 inspect all drainage systems to ensure that these are functioning properly;

WHEREAS, Republic Act No. 9003 or the Ecological Solid Waste Management
Act mandates the adoption of a systematic, comprehensive and ecological solid waste
management program to ensure the protection of public health and environment;

5 WHEREAS, Republic Act No. 9003 prohibits the establishment and operation of 6 open dumpsites as these may contribute to the clogging of drainage systems, as waste 7 are often carried by wind and rain into waterways and drainage systems, blocking the 8 flow of water and increasing the risk of flooding;

9 WHEREAS, the improper disposal of solid waste significantly contributes to the 10 clogging of drainage systems, thereby increasing the risk and severity of flooding;

11 WHEREAS, there is a need to ensure the proper and strict implementation of 12 Republic Act No. 9003 and other environmental laws to reduce the volume of waste 13 that may block waterways and drainage systems, thus ensuring a more efficient flow 14 of rainwater;

WHEREAS, since there is no single cause for the flooding, it is imperative to determine the appropriateness of measures taken not only in terms of infrastructure but also ecological, economic and behavioral terms: Now, therefore be it

18 RESOLVED BY THE SENATE, as it is hereby resolved, To direct the appropriate 19 Senate committee to conduct an inquiry, in aid of legislation, on the massive flooding 20 caused by Super Typhoon Carina and other contributing factors, with the end in view 21 of recommending stronger policy measures to improve flood management, 22 infrastructure maintenance, waste management, and disaster preparedness.

23 Adopted,

LOREN LEGARDA