



'17 JUN 15 AM 11:12

SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE]
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES]
Second Regular Session]

RECEIVED BY: X. Aquino

SENATE

P.S. Res. No. 404

Introduced by SENATOR SHERWIN T. GATCHALIAN

**A RESOLUTION EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF THE SENATE TO
PROVIDE IMMEDIATE HUMANITARIAN RELIEF AND
REHABILITATION TO MARAWI CITY AND ITS RESIDENTS,
INCLUDING OTHER INTERNALLY DISPLACED PERSONS BY VIRTUE
OF THE VIOLENT EXPULSION OF REBEL FORCES, URGING IN THIS
WISE RELEVANT GOVERNMENT AGENCIES TO ASSESS THE
DAMAGE AND PROVIDE THE MEASURES FOR RELIEF AND
REHABILITATION PROGRAMS**

WHEREAS, on 23 May, 2017 at around 2:00 in the afternoon, firefight ensued between members of the PNP and the AFP military and several armed men, later identified as the Maute group, after government troops initiated the pursuit to capture Abu Sayyaf Leader, Isnilon Hapilon - the Maute rebels helping in the escape of Hapilon;

WHEREAS, the fierce battle continued late into the night of the same day, with the Maute group strategically positioning themselves in several parts of Marawi City, a largely Muslim city with a population of

over 200,000 - the firefight escalating into a crisis, with several residents evacuating from the City¹;

WHEREAS, around 11:20 PM of the same day, 23 May 2017, by the subsequent acts of rebellion and lawless violence inflicted by the Maute rebels in cohort with other extremist groups in Marawi City, for the purpose of removing allegiance to the Philippine Government this part of Mindanao, killing civilians and military personnel, and damaging several private properties and government infrastructure of the entire town, Proclamation No. 216 was issued by the President of the Philippines, declaring a state of Martial Law and suspending the privilege of the Writ of Habeas Corpus in the whole of Mindanao to combat the forces of the belligerent group;

WHEREAS, the same Proclamation has detailed that government and private facilities, including educational institutions, have been burned down by the attack, the rebel groups having facilitated the escape of inmates of the City Jail, setting patrol cars on fire, cutting vital lines of transportation and power, hostages taken, several people killed – showing *“the capability of the Maute group and other rebel groups to sow terror, and cause death and damage to property not only in Lanao del Sur but also in other parts of Mindanao, x x x , through these groups armed siege and acts of violence directed towards civilians and government authorities, institutions and establishments, the Maute group were able to take control of major social, economic and political foundations of Marawi City which led to its paralysis²”*;

WHEREAS, the image of Marawi City after the carnage and heavy firefight depicts of a war-torn settlement with buildings and homes of residents in uninhabitable state of waste and damage, major roads and thoroughfares are pocked with bullet-ridden holes, uprooted plants and trees strewn over amongst destroyed power lines;

WHEREAS, the magnitude of damage in infrastructure and loss of lives after two weeks of fighting has been massive, where, as of 6 June 134 terrorists, 38 government troops and 30 civilians have been killed, 37,649 families or 185,878 people from Marawi City were displaced – of

¹ Philippine Statistics Authority, GMA News

² Paragraph 2, Page 3 of the President’s Report Relative to Proclamation No. 216 dated 25 May 2017.

which, the Department of Education (DepEd) estimates 20,000 learners have been displaced and 2,428 of them have already enrolled in different schools across 8 regions³;

WHEREAS, Marawi City is the provincial capital of Lanao del Sur and is the only highly urbanized city in ARMM – which according to Philippine Statistics Authority data – has consistently figured among the poorest provinces nationwide from 2009 to 2015. The transients aside, Marawi City has the biggest population among the cities and municipalities in ARMM⁴;

WHEREAS, foreign and domestic tourism in Mindanao accounts for 20 percent of our economy, that is 5 percent or P150 Billion of the 3 Trillion contribution to the GDP, and Mindanao agricultural production as well as agricultural product exports accounts for 10 percent of our economy, a P1.4 Trillion component to our annual Philippine economy for 2017. As the conflict lengthens and prolongs in Marawi City, the 6.5 percent to 7.5 percent government projection for the growth of the Philippine economy for 2017 will be trimmed to 5 percent if the crisis extends beyond 30 days, and this is only medium-term⁵;

WHEREAS, as the government intensifies its military offensive to quash the rebels occupying Marawi City and in the other parts of Mindanao, parallel effort should now be initiated to mobilize and utilize all available resources to provide immediate humanitarian relief for all internally displaced persons (IDPs) whose lives were primarily and adversely affected by this incident, as well as conceptualizing infrastructure facilities which must be rebuilt and/or rehabilitated in the affected town;

WHEREAS, the undertaking should be a unified mission by all concerned government agencies in planning and institutionalizing programs for the purpose of launching an immediate and most effective recovery and rehabilitation program to rebuild the city;

WHEREAS, an assessment of the extent of the damage as well as the amount necessary for the implementation of programs and projects

³ News.abs-cbn.com; DepEd

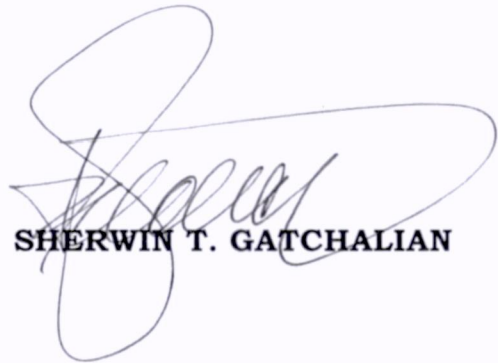
⁴ Philippine Statistics Authority; GMA news

⁵ The Freeman, philstar.com

in the relief, rehabilitation and rebuilding of Marawi City according to sectors – agriculture, industry, tourism, education, health, housing, cultural heritage, electricity, water, sanitation, transport, telecommunications, social protection and other humanitarian aid for the support of its residents should be provided and the necessary funding to support the endeavor must be readily made available;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Philippines, to express the sense of the Senate to provide immediate humanitarian relief and rehabilitation to Marawi City and its residents, including other internally displaced persons by virtue of the violent expulsion of rebel forces, urging in this wise relevant government agencies to assess the damage and provide measures for relief and rehabilitation program.

Adopted,



SHERWIN T. GATCHALIAN