Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
Second Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION No. 1356

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Introduced by
LAS PINAS Representative CAMILLE A. VILLAR

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RESOLUTION
EXPRESSING THE COLLECTIVE SUPPORT AND COMMENDATION TO THE MEN AND WOMEN IN UNIFORM, LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNITS, NONGOVERNMENT ORGANIZATIONS AND OTHER PRIVATE ORGANIZATIONS AND INDIVIDUALS FOR THEIR VALIANT EFFORTS IN HELPING OUR COUNTRYMEN IN THE RESCUE AND RELIEF OPERATIONS DURING THE RECENT TYPHOONS THAT HIT THE PHILIPPINES

WHEREAS, Article II, Section 5 of the 1987 Philippine Constitution provides that “the maintenance of peace and order, the protection of life, liberty, and property, and the promotion of the general welfare are essential for the enjoyment by all the people of the blessings of democracy”;

WHEREAS, Article II, Section 3 of the Constitution states that “the Armed Forces of the Philippines is the protector of the people and the State...”;

WHEREAS, Republic Act No. 6975 established the Philippine National Police to “take all necessary steps to ensure public order and safety” among other functions;

WHEREAS, the Philippine Coast Guard was created as an armed and uniformed service attached to the Department of Transportation under RA No. 9993 or the PCG Law of 2009 to “render aid to persons... in distress” and “grant requests for assistance of other government agencies in the performance of their functions”;

WHEREAS, the Philippines is located along the Western North Pacific Basin, considered the most active tropical cyclone area, and is visited by an average of 20 typhoons every year, with about nine making landfall in the country;
WHEREAS, 21 tropical cyclones have so far entered the Philippines, with the most destructive typhoons being experienced in the during the last quarter of 2020 and almost weekly weather disturbances since October;

- Tropical depression “Ofel” (Oct. 14)
- Typhoon “Pepito” (Oct. 20)
- Typhoon “Quinta” (Oct. 25)
- Super Typhoon “Rolly” (Nov. 1)
- Severe tropical storm “Siony” (Nov. 6)
- Tropical depression “Tonyo” (Nov. 7)
- Typhoon “Ulysses” (Nov. 11)

WHEREAS, Super Typhoon Rolly was considered the strongest landfalling tropical cyclone on record and the most powerful typhoon seen in the country in seven years since “Yolanda” that pummelled the Bicol region and nearby provinces, while Typhoon Ulysses caused massive damage to infrastructure and crops and record flooding in Cagayan and Isabela, and the capital Manila;

The state weather bureau, Philippine Atmospheric, Geophysical and Astronomical Services Administration, indicated that the country is likely to experience three more storms before the end 2020;

WHEREAS, our men in uniform showed heroic deeds amid the challenges and obvious high risk to their lives in rescuing families in their houses at the height of the onslaught of the past typhoons;

WHEREAS, despite limitations in water and air assets and sophisticated equipment side-by-side with the magnitude of damage and hundreds of thousands of people affected,

WHEREAS, local government units were at the forefront in rescue and relief efforts despite lack of funds and they need all the assistance they can get as they have already stretched their resources on the back of the response to the pandemic and back-to-back calamities;

WHEREAS, the active participation, assistance and support of the Philippine Red Cross, nongovernment organizations, international humanitarian missions, and private individuals are immeasurable and must be recognized accordingly as they selflessly put themselves in harm’s way;

WHEREAS, the AFP, PNP and PCG officers, as well as other emergency workers, civilian authorities, national agencies and local government units, have taken active roles during calamities, and it is most appropriate to give them commendation and recognition to the cause for humanity. Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives, as it is hereby resolved, that the House of Representatives express its collective support and commendation to the men and women in uniform, local government units, nongovernment organizations and other private organizations
and individuals for their valiant efforts in helping our countrymen in the rescue and relief operations during the recent typhoons that hit the Philippines.

Adopted,

[Signature]
CAMILLE A. VILLAR