



Introduced by Senator Maria Lourdes Nancy S. Binay 17 DEC -6 P5:35

RESOLUTION
DIRECTING THE PROPER SENATE COMMITTEES TO CONDUCT AN
INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE IMMUNIZATION PROGRAMS OF
THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

RECEIVED BY: 

WHEREAS, Article II, Section 15 of the 1987 Philippine Constitution provides the State shall promote the right to health of the people and instill health consciousness among them¹;

WHEREAS, in 1976 the Expanded Program on Immunization (EPI) was established by the Department of Health (DOH) to ensure that infants/children and mothers have access to routinely recommended infant/childhood vaccines where six vaccine-preventable diseases were initially included in the EPI namely tuberculosis, poliomyelitis, diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis and measles²;

WHEREAS, the Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG) Memorandum Circular No. 2016-41 implements a School-Based Immunization of Tetravalent Dengue Vaccine for all enrolled Grade 4 public elementary students, aged 9 years old and above through the joint efforts of the DOH, DILG, and Department of Education (DepEd)³;

WHEREAS, the School-Based Immunization Program (SBIP) strengthens the National Dengue Prevention and Control Program through the implementation of the dengue vaccine, Dengvaxia⁴;

WHEREAS, on December 1, 2017 the DOH ordered the suspension of the school-based dengue vaccination program following the study of the French pharmaceutical company Sanofi Pasteur advising that the vaccine may cause more severe cases of dengue if administered to a person who has not been infected by the virus⁵;

¹1987 Philippine Constitution Official Gazette of the Republic of the Philippines:
<http://www.officialgazette.gov.ph/constitutions/1987-constitution/>

²Department of Health Official Website: <http://www.doh.gov.ph/expanded-program-on-immunization>

³Department of Interior and Local Government Website: <http://www.dilg.gov.ph/issuances/mc/Implementation-of-2016-School-Based-Immunization-of-Tetravalent-Dengue-Vaccines/2285>

⁴Ibid

⁵Rappler Website: <https://www.rappler.com/nation/190056-doh-stops-dengue-vaccination-program-dengvaxia-sanofi>

WHEREAS, there is a vital need to review and improve the immunization programs of the DOH in order to protect and promote the safety and health of the people;

BE IT RESOLVED, AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, to direct the proper Senate Committees to conduct an inquiry, in aid of legislation, on the immunization programs of the Department of Health.

Adopted,


MARIA LOURDES NANCY S. BINAY