

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



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**SENATE
P.S.R. No. 92**

RECEIVED BY:

INTRODUCED BY **SENATOR RISA HONTIVEROS**

**RESOLUTION
DIRECTING THE APPROPRIATE SENATE COMMITTEE TO CONDUCT AN
INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, INTO THE PROCUREMENT AND
ADMINISTRATION OF COVID-19 VACCINES AMIDST REPORTS OF UNUSED
AND EXPIRED COVID-19 VACCINES**

WHEREAS, Republic Act 11525 or the COVID-19 Vaccination Program Act of 2021 aimed to address the adverse impact of COVID-19 through the procurement and administration of safe and effective COVID-19 vaccines;

WHEREAS, it is the primary responsibility of the national government to ensure effective coordination and regulation of the implementation of the COVID-19 vaccination program from acquisition, distribution, deployment, and provision of vaccination services;

WHEREAS, the Department of Health (DOH) and the National Task Force Against COVID-19 (NTF) are the only mandated and authorized entities to source and procure safe and effective COVID-19 vaccines on behalf of the government and the private sector;

WHEREAS, the National Task Force Against COVID-19 reported that the Philippines received 245,382,600 COVID-19 vaccines, which were secured through procurement and donations from international partners (NTF, 28 June 2022);

WHEREAS, the National COVID-19 vaccination Dashboard reported that 157, 085, 768 COVID-19 vaccines had been administered, pending the addition of 1,352,558 total second booster doses, as of 30 July 2022, with 71,693,268 reportedly completed the primary vaccine series and 16,204,711 received booster dose;

WHEREAS, based on available data, the country achieved its initial target of administering COVID-19 vaccines to 70 million of the population, yet an estimated 86.9M doses are left in its supply inventory with undisclosed shelf-life and expiration dates;

WHEREAS, the Department of Health (DOH) is targeting to administer COVID-19 booster shots to 11 to 23M fully vaccinated individuals within the 100 days of the new administration of Pres. Ferdinand Marcos Jr.;

WHEREAS, it has come to the attention of the public reports of COVID-19 vaccine wastages due to unused and near-expiring vaccines—i.e., 27M doses worth PhP 13.5B (Drilon, 03 April 2022), 4.25M doses worth PhP 5.1B (Concepcion, 27 July 2022), &

300,000 doses worth PhP 98M in Bacolod alone (Varona, July 2022)—and allegedly due to lack of clear rules on the vaccines administration, lack of urgency on the part of health authorities and in some cases, disparity in COVID-19 vaccine acquisition and distribution;

WHEREAS, COVID-19 vaccine expiration and wastage are inevitable for various reasons—e.g., over procurement, “about to expire late-date donations,” stagnation in vaccine uptake, etc.—yet, it is reprehensible that billions of pesos could end up squandered amid the continuing threat of COVID-19 and the need to fund the needs of the other sectors heavily affected by the pandemic;

WHEREAS, it is imperative for the government authorities to strive for less COVID-19 vaccine wastage, to accurately and transparently report vaccine wastage, identify drivers of wastage, and implement effective interventions to reduce it;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, TO DIRECT THE APPROPRIATE SENATE COMMITTEE TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, INTO THE PROCUREMENT AND ADMINISTRATION OF COVID-19 VACCINES AMIDST REPORTS OF UNUSED AND EXPIRED COVID-19 VACCINES.

Adopted.


RISA HONTIVEROS