

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



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SENATE

RECEIVED BY:

P. S. Res. No. 266

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**Introduced by Senator Jinggoy Ejercito Estrada**

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**RESOLUTION**

**URGING THE APPROPRIATE SENATE COMMITTEE TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE REPORTED UPSURGE IN CHOLERA CASES IN THE COUNTRY, WITH THE END VIEW OF REVIEWING EXISTING POLICIES AND STRENGTHENING LAWS TO PREVENT AND MITIGATE THE OUTBREAK OF THE DISEASE**

1 WHEREAS, Article II Section 15 of the Constitution provides that the State  
2 shall protect and promote the right to health of the people and instill health  
3 consciousness among them;

4 WHEREAS, Article XIII Section 11 provides that the State shall adopt an  
5 integrated and comprehensive approach to health development which shall endeavor  
6 to make essential goods, health and other social services available to all the people  
7 at affordable cost. There shall be priority for the needs of the underprivileged, sick,  
8 elderly, disabled, women and children;

9 WHEREAS, the Department of Health (DOH) reported that from January to  
10 October 2022, a total of 3,729 cholera cases have been recorded in the country. The  
11 figure is 282% higher compared to 976 cases recorded in the same period last year;

12 WHEREAS, thirty-three individuals have already died from the disease since  
13 January of this year;

14 WHEREAS, the DOH also noted that children aged five to nine were most  
15 affected by cholera;

1 WHEREAS, most of the cases were reported from Eastern Visayas, Davao  
2 Region and CARAGA, while Central Luzon, Western Visayas and Easter Visayas have  
3 surpassed the epidemic threshold levels for cholera based on the same period;

4 WHEREAS, according to the World Health Organization (WHO), cholera is an  
5 extremely virulent disease caused by ingestion of food or water contaminated with  
6 the bacterium *Vibrio cholera*. It can cause severe acute watery diarrhea affecting  
7 both children and adults and can kill within hours if left untreated<sup>1</sup>;

8 WHEREAS, according to a report of the Global Task Force on Cholera Control  
9 (GTFCC), cholera is a disease of inequity, disproportionately affecting the poorest  
10 and most vulnerable sectors. Every death from cholera is preventable with today's  
11 arsenal of tools, as it can be controlled with a multi-sector approach – including  
12 basic water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) services, and oral cholera vaccines<sup>2</sup>.

13 WHEREAS, ending cholera is an important achievement in its own right and  
14 represents a critical step towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goals  
15 (SDGs), with the disease serving as a proxy measure for progress for a number of  
16 goals<sup>3</sup>, particularly Goal 3 which is ensuring healthy lives and promoting well-being  
17 for all at all ages, Goal 6 which is ensuring availability and sustainable management  
18 of water and sanitation for all, and Goal 10 which is reducing inequality within and  
19 among countries;

20 WHEREAS, there is a need to protect the population, especially the children  
21 and the underprivileged, against this debilitating yet preventable illness through a  
22 coordinated approach among government agencies;

23 WHEREAS, existing policies and programs on sanitation and immunization  
24 must be reviewed in order to enhance emergency response mechanisms and  
25 preventive measures against the transmission of disease and to promote public  
26 health;

27 NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, as it is hereby resolved by the Senate,  
28 to urge the appropriate Senate Committee to conduct an inquiry, in aid of legislation,

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<sup>1</sup> [https://www.who.int/news-room/fact-sheets/detail/cholera?gclid=CjwKCAjwqJSaBhBUEiwAg5W9px6acY\\_v\\_4rIxz44ZthwEwmSllcEHxJHfQ5r-THJcbEB6Wto\\_n\\_odRoC6YMQAvD\\_BwE](https://www.who.int/news-room/fact-sheets/detail/cholera?gclid=CjwKCAjwqJSaBhBUEiwAg5W9px6acY_v_4rIxz44ZthwEwmSllcEHxJHfQ5r-THJcbEB6Wto_n_odRoC6YMQAvD_BwE)

<sup>2</sup> "Ending Cholera: A Global Roadmap to 2030." Accessed through <https://www.gtfcc.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/10/gtfcc-ending-cholera-a-global-roadmap-to-2030.pdf>

<sup>3</sup> Ibid.

- 1 on the reported upsurge in cholera cases in the country, with the end view of
- 2 reviewing existing policies and strengthening laws to prevent and mitigate the
- 3 outbreak of the disease.

*Adopted,*



**JINGGOY EJERCITO ESTRADA**