Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 437

Introduced by HONORABLE STRIKE B. REVILLA

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Article II Section 15 of the 1987 Constitution provides that:

"The State shall protect and promote the right to health of the people and instill health consciousness among them."

Republic Act No. 10152 or the "Mandatory Infants and Children Health Immunization Act of 2011" was enacted to primarily protect infants and children against vaccine-preventable diseases. It also empowers the Secretary of the Department of Health (DOH) to expand the list of vaccine-preventable diseases.

Unfortunately, the recent controversy on Dengvaxia vaccination placed not only the government's vaccination program in spotlight but also, reminded us not to put in an individual’s wisdom the responsibility of deciding the fortune of many innocent infants and children.

This bill proposes to limit the power of the Secretary of Health to determine vaccine-preventable diseases and any proposal to add types of vaccines not included in the law shall be made through an amendment of the law through Congress.

REP. STRIKE B. REVILLA
2nd District, Cavite
AN ACT EXPANDING THE COVERAGE OF THE MANDATORY BASIC IMMUNIZATION PROGRAM AND PROVIDING A SYSTEM IN THE DETERMINATION OF OTHER TYPES OF VACCINE-PREVENTABLE DISEASES, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 10152, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE "MANDATORY INFANTS AND CHILDREN HEALTH IMMUNIZATION ACT OF 2011"

Be it enacted the Senate and House of Representatives of the Philippines in Congress assembled:

SECTION 1. Section 3 of Republic Act No. 10152, otherwise known as the "Mandatory Infants and Children Health Immunization Act of 2011", is hereby amended to read as follows:

"SEC. 3. Coverage. – The mandatory basic immunization for all infants and children provided under this Act shall cover the following vaccine-preventable diseases:

"a. Tuberculosis;
"b. Diphtheria, tetanus and pertussis;
"c. Poliomyelitis;
"d. Measles;
"e. Mumps;
"f. Rubella or German measles;
"g. Hepatitis B
"h. H. Influenza type B (HIB); [and]
"I. ROTAVIRUS;
"J. JAPANESE ENCEPHALITIS;
“K. PNEUMOCOCCAL CONJUGATE VACCINE (PCV);

“L. HUMAN PAPILLOMA VIRUS (HPV);

“M. HEPATITIS C VIRUS (HCV); AND

[i] “M. Such other types as may be determined by the Secretary of Health in a
department circular [ ] UPON THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE FORMULARY
EXECUTIVE COUNCIL (FEC) AND THE NATIONAL IMMUNIZATION
COMMITTEE (NIC) CREATED AS AN ADVISORY GROUP TO PROVIDE
TECHNICAL SUPPORT TO THE SETTING OF A DOH POLICY DIRECTION ON
THE NATIONAL IMMUNIZATION PROGRAM (NIP), AND AFTER SEPARATE
OR JOINT PUBLIC HEARINGS CONDUCTED BY THE COMMITTEE ON
HEALTH AND DEMOGRAPHY OF THE SENATE AND THE COMMITTEE ON
HEALTH OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES: PROVIDED, THAT WHEN
THERE IS A PANDEMIC AND WHEN THE CONGRESS OF THE PHILIPPINES IS
NOT IN SESSION, THE SAID PUBLIC HEARINGS NEED NOT BE CONDUCTED.

“XXX”

SEC. 2. A new section to be numbered as Section 7 is hereby added after Section 6 of the
same Act, to read as follows:

“SEC. 7. ANNUAL REPORT. – THE DOH SHALL SUBMIT TO THE OFFICE
OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE PHILIPPINES, THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON
HEALTH AND DEMOGRAPHY, AND THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
COMMITTEE ON HEALTH ON OR BEFORE THE END OF DECEMBER OF
EVERY YEAR, OR UPON THE REQUEST OF ANY OF THE AFORESAID
COMMITTEES OF CONGRESS, A REPORT GIVING A DETAILED ACCOUNT OF
THE STATUS ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THIS ACT.”

SEC. 3. Sections 7, 8, 9, 10 and 11 of the same Act are hereby renumbered as Sections 8, 9,
10, 11 and 12, respectively.

SEC. 4. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette
or in any newspaper of general circulation.

Approved.