Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City, Metro Manila

18th Congress
Second Regular Session
House Bill No. 7287

Introduced by HON. RODRIGO A. ABELLANOSA

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Six months after patient zero has been found positive for SARS-Cov-2, thousands of Filipinos have been infected despite stringent quarantine measures employed by the government. As a result, our health systems are close to breaking down, the economy has taken a huge blow, and our country’s coffers are running low.

Yet, the end to this quandary is far from sight. Our biggest chance hinges on the discovery of a vaccine that will provide resistance, if not full immunity, from the virus. This bill looks forward to the moment when such a vaccine should become available and hopes to ensure that processes and funding would already be in place for the vaccine’s immediate purchase.

Further, this bill seeks free access to the vaccine in order to safeguard the health of the country’s most precious resource, the Filipino population.

In view of the foregoing, passage of this bill is earnestly sought.

RODRIGO A. ABELLANOSA
AN ACT ESTABLISHING A FREE COVID-19 VACCINATION PROGRAM FOR ALL FILIPINOS AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

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

Section 1. Short Title. This Act shall be known as the "Free Covid-19 Vaccination Act of 2020"

Sec. 2. Coverage. Every Filipino in the country shall be entitled to free access to the Covid-19 vaccine.

Sec. 3. Implementing Rules and Regulations. To ensure the extensive and efficient delivery, the Department of Health and its attached agencies are directed to collaborate with local government units. The Department of Health, in partnership with the Department of Interior and Local Government, shall thereby formulate and promulgate the pertinent rules and regulations for the implementation of the program within sixty (60) days upon approval of this Act.

Sec. 4. Appropriations. The amount necessary for the implementation of this Act shall be charged against current appropriations of the Department of Health. Thereafter, such sums necessary for the continued implementation of this Act shall be included in the General Appropriations Act.

Sec. 5. Separability Clause. - If, for any reason, any part, section or provision of this Act is held invalid or unconstitutional, the remaining provisions not affected thereby shall continue to be in force and effect.

Sec. 6. Repealing Clause. - All laws, decrees, executive orders, proclamations, rules and regulations, and other issuances, or part or parts thereof, which are inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed, amended or modified accordingly.
Sec. 7. Effectivity Clause. - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation, whichever comes earlier.

Approved,