

Republic of the Philippines  
**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**  
Quezon City

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS  
**Second Regular Session**

HOUSE BILL NO. **9189**



---

Introduced by **HON. JOY MYRA S. TAMBUNTING**

---

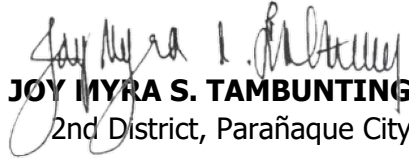
#### **EXPLANATORY NOTE**

As the country is still at the early phases of the National COVID-19 Vaccination Program with only a limited supply of vaccines, the Department of Health has reiterated that the first doses should be given to priority groups as identified in the country's vaccine line. It is essential that the country strictly adheres to the COVID-19 vaccine line to ensure that medical frontliners and the most vulnerable are inoculated first.

Recently however, there have been several reports of vaccine line jumping amongst a number of personalities, some of which are public officials. This raises concerns as the country is still at the process of completing the vaccination of all 1.7 million healthcare workers in the country. While LGU officials were recently moved up in the COVID-19 vaccine priority list, they can only be inoculated after health workers, senior citizens and persons with comorbidities.

In light of the recent events, this measure seeks to define and criminalize the act of vaccine queue-jumping. This measure also proposes to provide a penalty of imprisonment for fifteen (15) days to sixty (60) days and a fine of one hundred thousand pesos (P100,000) to five hundred thousand pesos (P500,000).

On behalf of the people of Parañaque City's Second District, and for the common good of the Filipino people, the approval of the said measure is earnestly sought.

  
**REP. JOY MYRA S. TAMBUNTING**  
2nd District, Parañaque City

Republic of the Philippines  
**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**  
Quezon City

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS  
**Second Regular Session**

HOUSE BILL NO. **9189**

---

Introduced by **HON. JOY MYRA S. TAMBUNTING**

---

**AN ACT**  
**DEFINING AND CRIMINALIZING COVID-19 VACCINE QUEUE-JUMPING AND**  
**PROVIDING PENALTIES 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 referred to as the “COVID-19 Vaccine Queue-Jumping Ban Act.”

**SEC. 2. Declaration of Policy.** – It is the policy of the State to adopt an integrated and comprehensive approach to COVID-19 vaccine procurement and administration. Towards this end, the State shall ensure that science and evidence-based vaccination plan shall be observed and guidelines on which groups shall be prioritized to receive COVID-19 jabs shall be strictly complied with.

**SEC. 3. Vaccine Queue-Jumping.** – The administration of COVID-19 vaccines shall strictly conform with the guidelines provided under DOH Memorandum No. 2021-0099 otherwise known as the “Interim Omnibus Guidelines for the Implementation of the National Vaccine Deployment Plan for COVID-19” and with other rules and regulations relevant to the implementation of the National COVID-19 Vaccination Program.

The list of “Priority Population Groups” under Section III (B) of DOH Memorandum No. 2021-0099 shall be strictly followed. Queue-jumping as well as misrepresentation as to eligibility into a priority group shall be prohibited.

**SEC. 4. Validity of Substitution.** – As provided in Section III (D) of DOH Memorandum No. 2021-0099, recipients from Quick Substitution Lists (QSL) shall only be tapped if the initial list of identified recipients is exhausted. The identification of recipients in QSLs shall be based on the same priority group as that of the initial recipients. Vaccination of eligible recipients from the immediately next priority group shall be the last resort in case vaccine spoilage may result from the surplus.

**SEC. 5. Penalties.** – The following penalties shall be imposed upon those who have violated this Act:

- a) Any person who shall violate Sections 3 of this Act shall be punished by imprisonment of fifteen (15) days to sixty (60) days and a fine of One Hundred Thousand Pesos (Php100,000) to Five Hundred Thousand Pesos (Php500,000), at the discretion of the court; Provided that, if the offender is a public official and the offender has taken advantage of his public position, the maximum penalty shall be provided;
- b) If the offender is a corporation, association, partnership or any other juridical person, the penalty shall be imposed upon the president, directors, managers, managing partners, as the case may be, who participated in the commission of the offense or who shall have knowingly permitted or failed to prevent the commission of the same.

**SEC. 6. Implementing Rules and Regulations.** – Within thirty (30) days from the effectivity of this Act, the Department of Health, in coordination with the Department of Justice and other relevant government agencies, shall promulgate the necessary rules and regulations to effectively implement the provisions of this Act.

**SEC. 7. Separability Clause.** – If any provision or part hereof is held invalid or unconstitutional, the remainder of the law or the provision not otherwise affected shall remain valid and subsisting.

**SEC. 8. Repealing Clause.** – Any law, presidential decree or issuance, executive order, letter of instruction, administrative order, rule or regulation contrary to or inconsistent with the provisions of this Act is hereby repealed, modified, or amended accordingly.

**SEC. 9. Effectivity Clause.** – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

*Approved,*