

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
Third Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 9965



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

EXPLANATORY NOTE

As the country work towards keeping COVID-19 infections at bay, vaccination cards have become an important documents which allow people more freedom to engage in transactions outside their residences. The same however could not be said for fully vaccinated Overseas Filipino Workers (OFWs) who needs to travel overseas and persons who have to who travel across different domestic zones.

Paragraph B of IATF Resolution No. 120, series of 2021 states that a fully vaccinated individual must have their vaccination card and a certificate issued by the Department of Information and Communications Technology or the City Health Officer of the local government unit which administered the last dose necessary for full vaccination. This basically renders the vaccination card useless for travel, as you would still have to get a certificate issued by the DICT to be able to use .

To remove the burden from the people, particularly Overseas Filipino Workers (OFWs) who will have to go through another process of certification for them to be cleared for travel, this measure proposes to expand the objectives of the vaccine card from being a purely informative card to a recognized document which fully vaccinated individuals may use for international and domestic travel.

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

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AN ACT
EXPANDING THE OBJECTIVES OF THE COVID-19 VACCINE CARD

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

SECTION 1. Section 12 of Republic Act No. 11525 is hereby amended to read as follows:

“SEC. 12. COVID-19 Vaccine Card - Subject to the provisions of Republic Act No.10173 or the “Data Privacy Act of 2012”, the DOH shall issue a vaccine card to all persons vaccinated. To fast track the process, the DOH may delegate the processing and issuance of vaccine cards to LGUs and private entities, subject to guidelines to be promulgated by the DOH. The vaccine card shall contain the following:

- (a) Basic personal information such as full name, present and/or permanent address, and birthdate;
- (b) Manufacturer, brand name, and batch number or other identifier of COVID-19 vaccine;
- (c) Date of vaccination;
- (d) Name of the hospital, health center, or health facility where the vaccine was received;
- (e) Name, signature, and license number of the duly licensed physician, nurse or other health worker administering the vaccine;
- (f) Date of the last RT-PCR testing and the name of the laboratory' that conducted the last RT-PCR testing, if applicable; and
- (g) Such other information which may be determined as necessary by the Secretary of Health or the IATF-EID in line with the declared policy of this Act.

The issuance of a vaccine card is intended to be digital, but shall remain accessible through other means such as printed cards. The DOH, through the Department of Information and Communications Technology, shall develop the LGU-based digital systems and applications that will meet the objectives of the COVID-19 Vaccination Program while maintaining quality, safety, ease of use, and

accessibility for all Filipinos: Provided, That the DOH shall maintain a central database of vaccinations, and mandate a uniform format for the vaccine card, the contents of which shall be updated accordingly to always conform with globally accepted standards: Provided, further, That the vaccine cards shall not be considered as an additional mandatory requirement for educational, employment and other similar government transaction purposes.

THE COVID-19 VACCINE CARD MAY BE USED FOR, BUT NOT LIMITED TO:

(A) INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL, AS MAY BE REQUIRED BY FOREIGN JURISDICTIONS; AND

(B) EASE OF DOMESTIC TRAVEL, AS MAY BE ALLOWED UNDER IATF REGULATIONS.

HOWEVER, [Individuals vaccinated against COVID 19 as indicated in the vaccine card] **THEY** shall not be considered immune from COVID-19, unless otherwise declared by the DOH based on reliable scientific evidence and consensus.

No fees shall be collected for the issuance, amendment, or replacement of a vaccine card. The amount needed for the initial implementation shall be charged against available funds for the purpose. Thereafter, such sums as may be necessary for its continued implementation shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

The falsification of a vaccine card shall be punishable under Act No. 3185, as amended, otherwise known as "The Revised Penal Code".

SEC. 2. Implementing Rules and Regulations. – The DOH and concerned agencies shall issue such rules and regulations as may be necessary to implement the provisions herein within thirty (30) days from date of effectivity of this Act.

The non-promulgation of the rules and regulations provided under this section shall not prevent the immediate implementation of this Act upon its effectivity.

SEC. 3. Separability Clause. – If for any reason, any provision of this Act is declared invalid or unconstitutional, the remaining parts or provisions not affected shall remain in full force and effect.

SEC. 4. Repealing Clause. – All laws, decrees, orders, rules and regulations or parts thereof, which are contrary or inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed, amended or modified accordingly.

SEC. 5. Effectivity. – This Act shall take effect immediately upon its publication in the Official Gazette or in any newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,