Republic of the Philippines HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES Batasan Hills, Quezon City

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS

First Regular Session



HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 124

Introduced by

REP. ARLENE D. BROSAS (Gabriela Women's Party);
REPS. CARLOS ISAGANI T. ZARATE, FERDINAND R. GAITE, EUFEMIA C. CULLAMAT
(Bayan Muna Partylist); REP. FRANCE L. CASTRO (ACT Teachers Partylist);
and REP. SARAH JANE I. ELAGO (Kabataan Partylist)

A RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
COMMITTEE ON HEALTH TO CONDUCT AN INVESTIGATION, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE
NATIONAL GOVERNMENT'S EFFORTS AND THE DISBURSEMENT OF FUNDS TO ADDRESS
THE DENGUE NATIONAL HEALTH EMERGENCY

WHEREAS, in the first seven months of 2019, at least 491 people had been killed by dengue throughout the Philippines;

WHEREAS, according to Department of Health (DOH), there is a 22 per cent spike in dengue cases nationwide to 5,744 recorded from June 30 to July 6, 2019, from 4,703 cases reported in the same period in 2018. Based on data from the Hospital Management Office (HMO), 851 out of the 1, 863 patients admitted in 12 district hospitals are dengue cases;

WHEREAS, most cases recorded from January 1 to June 29, 2019 are from Western Visayas (13,164), Calabarzon (11,474), Central Visayas (9,199), SOCCSKSARGEN (9,107), and Northern Mindanao (8,739);

WHEREAS, over 6,300 dengue cases have been recorded in Eastern Visayas from January 1 to July 19, 2019, with clustering of cases reported in several villages;

WHEREAS, in Negros Occidental, Gov. Eugenio Jose Lacson has declared a dengue heightened alert following the death of 23 people and 3,308 cases reported in the province from January 1 to July 6, 2019;

WHEREAS, on July 12, 2019, Iloilo Governor Arthur Defensor Jr. gathered the directors of private hospitals to ask them to help district hospitals, which have been overflowing with dengue patients;

WHEREAS, tents will serve as makeshift treatment centers for dengue cases in Iloilo province, as government hospitals have run out of space for patients seeking treatment for the illness;

WHEREAS, DOH also reported that 115,986 cases of dengue had been reported from January 1 to July 6, 2019 or nearly double the number of cases—62,267 – in the same period in 2018;

WHEREAS, nearly a fourth of the cases (23 percent) involved children aged 5-9 years old and 19 percent involved children aged 10-14 years old;

WHEREAS, on July 15, 2019, Health Secretary Francisco Duque has declared a national health emergency amid a sharp spike in the number of dengue cases;

WHEREAS, the Congress must exercise its relevant functions to address the rising dengue cases nationwide and to ensure sufficient budgetary support for the assistance to dengue patients;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, that the House of Representatives Committee on Health conduct an investigation, in aid of legislation, on the national government's efforts and the disbursement of funds to address the dengue national health emergency.

Adopted,

ARLENE D. BROSAS Gabriela Women's Party

Bayan Muna Partylist

EUFEMIA C. CULLAMAT Bayan Muna Partylist

FRANCE L. CASTRO

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