

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City



EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

House Resolution No. 334

Introduced by Honorable Deogracias 'DV' B. Savellano

RESOLUTION

URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE TO COME UP WITH A COMPREHENSIVE IMPLEMENTING RULES AND REGULATIONS OR IRR THAT WOULD PRIORITIZE THE TOBACCO FARMERS AS BENEFICIARIES TO THE UNIVERSAL HEALTH CARE PROGRAM

WHEREAS, the Universal Health Care (UHC) Act became a law as Republic Act No. 11223 on February 20, 2019 automatically enrolling our citizens into the National Health Insurance Program and expanding PhilHealth coverage to include free medical service; consultations and laboratory tests that will guarantee equitable access to quality and affordable healthcare services for all Filipinos;

WHEREAS, in order to finance the UHC program in the next five years, the government needs to generate P1.44 trillion to fulfill the mandate of the UHC and these funds shall be taken from higher excise taxes on tobacco products;

WHEREAS, such tax hikes will surely be detrimental to the tobacco industry and the tobacco farmers cutting down their income;

WHEREAS, for the sake of fairness, in as much as the tobacco industry will be severely affected because of higher excise taxes, it is only proper that the tobacco farmers should be given the first priority to the benefits of the UHC;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, TO URGE THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE TO COME UP WITH A COMPREHENSIVE IMPLEMENTING RULES AND REGULATIONS OR IRR THAT WOULD PRIORITIZE THE TOBACCO FARMERS AS BENEFICIARIES TO THE UNIVERSAL HEALTH CARE PROGRAM.

DEOGRACIAS VICTOR "DV" B. SAVELLANO

