

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



EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
Second Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION No. 1451

Introduced by

**ACT Teachers Party-List Rep. FRANCE L. CASTRO,
BAYAN MUNA Party-List Rep. CARLOS ISAGANI T. ZARATE,
Rep. FERDINAND GAITE and Rep. EUFEMIA C. CULLAMAT,
GABRIELA Women's Party Rep. ARLENE D. BROSAS,
and KABATAAN Party-List Rep. SARAH JANE I. ELAGO**

RESOLUTION

**CALLING FOR AN URGENT INQUIRY BY THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH AND
COMMITTEE ON GOOD GOVERNMENT AND PUBLIC ACCOUNTABILITY IN AID OF
LEGISLATION INTO THE VIP COVID-19 VACCINATION OF PRESIDENTIAL SECURITY GROUP
PERSONNEL USING UNAUTHORIZED AND UNREGISTERED VACCINES**

WHEREAS, the World Health Organization implements the policy of equitable access to COVID-19 vaccines, which means that those who are most in need of a vaccine are able to receive it regardless of their ability to pay, where they live, or historic or systemic limitations to health care;

WHEREAS, Republic Act 9711 or the FDA Act of 2009 prohibits the manufacture, importation, exportation, sale, distribution, transfer and non-consumer use of unregistered products. Furthermore, under the Customs Modernization and Tariff Act which prohibits, prevents, and suppresses the smuggling and other frauds. The same goes for a 'donation' of the unauthorized vaccine, which did not pass through proper government channels, can be a violation of Anti-Graft and Corrupt Practices Act. Also, possible violations of the Medical Practice Act of 1959 which holds liable any individuals who knowingly or willfully administer an unregistered medicine or vaccine;

WHEREAS, under Executive Order No. 292, s. 1987 or The Revised Administrative Code of 1987, Book 1, Chapter 10, section 40, Oaths of Office for Public Officers and Employees, states that *"All public officers and employees of the government including every member of the armed forces shall, before entering upon the discharge of his duties, take an oath or affirmation to uphold and defend the Constitution; that he will bear true faith and allegiance to it; obey the laws, legal orders and decrees promulgated by the duly constituted*

authorities; will well and faithfully discharge to the best of his ability the duties of the office or position upon which he is about to enter x x x";

WHEREAS, President Rodrigo Duterte revealed that selected Presidential Security Group (PSG) had a clandestine and VIP vaccination of unauthorized and unregistered vaccines from Chinese pharmaceutical company Sinopharm. From separate statements of National Defense Secretary Delfin Lorenzana that the Sinopharm drug lacks the approval of the Food and Drug Administration (FDA), the said vaccines were also admitted as smuggled;

WHEREAS, the clandestine vaccination happened as early as September 2020. PSG Head Jesus Durante III reasoned out that the matter as an issue of national security to protect the health of the President. In addition, the administration is boasting that the unauthorized act as 'heroic' and 'courageous' step that would assure President Duterte's safety;

WHEREAS, FDA Director General Eric Domingo said in a statement that, "the FDA has not issued any Emergency Use Authorization to any vaccine for COVID-19. Without the proper authorization, there is no guarantee on the safety, quality and efficacy of said vaccine as the same has not undergone the required technical evaluation by the FDA";

WHEREAS, based on the vaccination plan and priority as released by Department of Health, the military and uniformed personnel ranks fifth among the priority recipients. The topmost priority recipients are the frontline health workers, employees of select government offices, indigent senior citizens, remaining senior citizens and indigents;

WHEREAS, the VIP vaccination of PSG is therefore a blatant violation of multiple laws and the oath to public office to uphold and defend the Constitution and to obey the laws, which includes uniformed personnel, binds the PSG and the Office of the President to uphold the laws against unregistered drugs, smuggling, and prioritizing personal interest above their own. Their oaths of office likewise binds them to accord the highest fealty and service to the Constitution, our laws, and the Filipino people—not to a specific person such as the President;

WHEREAS, the funds used for the illegal procurement and administration of the unauthorized and unregistered vaccines came from the government coffers and from the taxpayers;

WHEREAS, the people thus demand for the administration's complete transparency regarding the VIP vaccination: Who were the officials and employees vaccinated? How did the unregistered vaccines enter the country? What vaccination products were administered? Who were the officials responsible for the procurement, smuggling, and administration of the illegal vaccines? The PSG and the Office of the President must be forthcoming to the people about this and other relevant information;


WHEREAS, the said VIP vaccination follows in the footsteps of the administration's failure on mass testing which resulted to VIP testing of select politicians and public officials and the wealthy;

WHEREAS, there is a brewing corruption in the procurement of vaccines, a chance for kickbacks from the pharmaceutical companies; public officials act as agents and favors different vaccine manufacturers; and the government approved P75 Billion for vaccine procurement in the GAA 2021, of which P70 Billion is under unprogrammed appropriations which can evolve as 'vaccine pork'. Even as mass vaccination and the procurement of safe and effective vaccines for it are still up in the air, here comes select officials and their irresponsible and brazen display of 'panlalamang' at the expense of the taxpayers and the people;


WHEREAS, much like what happened with the VIP COVID testing, the VIP vaccination exposes the lack of a clear, fair, and sound plan on mass vaccination in particular, and on the control and management of the pandemic in general;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, as it is hereby resolved, that the House Committee on Health and Committee on Good Government and Public Accountability conduct an urgent inquiry in aid of legislation into the VIP COVID-19 vaccination of Presidential Security Group personnel using unauthorized and unregistered vaccines.


Adopted,



Rep. **FRANZE L. CASTRO**
ACT Teachers Party-List



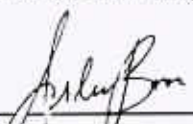
Rep. **CARLOS ISAGANI T. ZARATE**
BAYAN MUNA Party-List




Rep. **FERDINAND GAITE**
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Rep. **EUFEMIA C. CULLAMAT**
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Rep. **ARLENE D. BROSAS**
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