



Senate  
Office of the Secretary

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE )  
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES )  
First Regular Session )

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SENATE  
P.S. Res. No. 364

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**Introduced by SENATOR RONALD "BATO" DELA ROSA**

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**RESOLUTION**

**COMMENDING ALL THE FRONTLINERS AND ESSENTIAL WORKERS WHO RISK THEIR OWN HEALTH AND SAFETY IN ORDER TO SERVE THEIR FELLOW FILIPINOS IN THE MIDST OF THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC**

WHEREAS, on March 8, 2020, President Rodrigo R. Duterte issued Proclamation No. 922, declaring a State of Public Health Emergency in the country due to the looming threats of the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19)<sup>1</sup>;

WHEREAS, on March 11, 2020, due to the exponential increase in the number of those infected with COVID-19 in more than 100 countries, the World Health Organization declared it as a pandemic<sup>2</sup>;

WHEREAS, on March 16, 2020, President Rodrigo R. Duterte placed the entire Philippines under a State of Calamity,<sup>3</sup> given the grave possible effects that COVID-19 poses;

WHEREAS, in view of the threats posed by COVID-19, the entire island of Luzon<sup>4</sup>, the city of Cebu<sup>5</sup>, the Davao Region<sup>6</sup>, among others, have been placed under enhanced community quarantine;

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<sup>1</sup> "Philippines under state of public health emergency," Sunstar Philippines: March 9, 2020. Retrieved from: <https://www.sunstar.com.ph/article/1847657>, retrieved on April 25, 2020.

<sup>2</sup> Gumbrecht, Jamie, & Howard, Jacqueline. "WHO declares novel coronavirus outbreak a pandemic," CNN Philippines. Retrieved from <https://cnnphilippines.com/world/2020/3/12/WHO-COVID-19-pandemic.html>, retrieved on April 24, 2020.

<sup>3</sup> Retrieved from: <http://www.covid19.gov.ph/mar-covid-19-timeline/>, retrieved on April 25, 2020.

<sup>4</sup> Franco Luna, "Duterte places entire Luzon under 'enhanced' community quarantine," March 16, 2020. Retrieved from: <https://www.philstar.com/headlines/2020/03/16/2001320/duterte-places-entire-luzon-under-enhanced-community-quarantine>, retrieved on April 25, 2020.

<sup>5</sup> "Cebu City under enhanced community quarantine starting March 28," retrieved from: <https://www.sunstar.com.ph/article/1850072>, retrieved on April 25, 2020.

<sup>6</sup> City Information Office, "Enhanced Community Quarantine Guidelines Davao City," April 2, 2020. Retrieved from: <https://mindanaotimes.com.ph/2020/04/02/full-text-enhanced-community-quarantine-guidelines-davao-city/>, retrieved on April 25, 2020.

WHEREAS, based on the guidelines of enhanced community quarantine, only 'essential' workers can be allowed to continue to go to work;

WHEREAS, among these essential workers are the health care workers, soldiers, law enforcement personnel, national and local government officials, delivery personnel, to name a few;

WHEREAS, under Section 3 (h) of Republic Act No. 11469 or the *Bayanihan to Heal as One Act*, there is an urgent need on the part of the State to "promote and protect the interests of all Filipinos in these challenging times;"

WHEREAS, it is a dire reality that while most Filipinos are in their homes to control the transmission of COVID-19, others have to stay outside to provide essential services, thereby exposing themselves to greater risk;

WHEREAS, as of April 23, 2020, the number of health care workers infected with COVID-19 has risen to 1,062,<sup>7</sup> which comprises nearly 19% of the country's total number of cases;

WHEREAS, the very act of going to work in the time of a pandemic is one that takes great strength and bravery;

WHEREAS, the State honors the heroic deeds and ultimate sacrifices of these workers taking the frontlines;

RESOLVED BY THE SENATE, as it is hereby resolved, to commend all the frontliners and essential workers who risk their own health and safety in order to serve their fellow Filipinos in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Adopted,

RONALD "BATO" DELA ROSA



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<sup>7</sup> CNN Philippines Staff, "DOH: Community exposure, long shifts led to high infection rate of healthcare workers," April 23, 2020. Retrieved from: <https://cnnphilippines.com/news/2020/4/23/community-exposure-long-shifts-health-worker-infections.html?fbclid=IwAR3vlo05na00rUfudH9l1UExrZgFb7dDLQHnQXuPZLznUHpm4hMaRlbpoao>, retrieved on April 25, 2020.