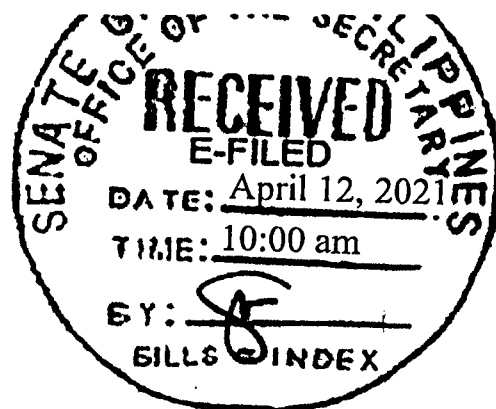


EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE  
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES  
*Second Regular Session*



SENATE

P.S. Res. No. 698

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INTRODUCED BY: SENATOR EMMANUEL D. PACQUIAO

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**A RESOLUTION  
URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, THE FOOD AND DRUG  
ADMINISTRATION AND THE DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY  
TO EXPLORE THE EFFICACY AND VIABILITY OF IVERMECTIN AS AN  
ALTERNATIVE DRUG TO PREVENT AND TREAT CORONAVIRUS DISEASES  
(COVID-19)**

WHEREAS, Section 15 of Article II of the 1987 Constitution provides that it is the State's duty to "protect and promote the right to health of the people and instill health consciousness among them;"

WHEREAS, Section 11 of Article XIII of the 1987 Constitution states that "[t]he State shall adopt an integrated and comprehensive approach to health development which shall endeavor to make essential goods, health and other social services available to all the people at affordable cost. There shall be priority for the needs of the underprivileged sick, elderly, disabled, women, and children. The State shall endeavor to provide free medical care to paupers;

WHEREAS, since the World Health Organization has declared the 2019 Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) a pandemic, the National Government has implemented various programs and measures to mitigate its impact to our people's everyday life;

WHEREAS, as much as the quarantine restrictions may have helped in preventing the spread of the disease, the reported positive cases, as March 2021, still reached more than 740,000, while the death toll is at 13,297;

WHEREAS, as a concrete measure to address this situation, Congress enacted Republic Act No. 11525, otherwise known as "An Act Establishing the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) Vaccination Program Expediting the Vaccine Procurement and Administration Process, Providing Funds Therefor, and For Other Purposes," to lessen the "adverse impact of COVID-19 through the procurement and administration of safe and effective COVID-19 vaccines;"

WHEREAS, the country targets to vaccinate at least 70 million of its population to achieve herd immunity. However, since the delivery of the first set of COVID-19 vaccines, only 738,913 total doses have been administered as of 30 March 2021;


WHEREAS, with the current pace of the COVID-19 vaccination program, there is an urgent need to explore other safe and effective alternatives to serve the need of our people for a preventive and curative drug against the disease;

WHEREAS, Ivermectin, a low-cost drug, is seen as a viable alternative to treat humans with COVID-19;

WHEREAS, further studies are needed before it could be conclusively declared that Ivermectin is a safe and effective low-cost alternative drug that could prevent and cure COVID-19. Moreover, before it could be made available to the general public, approval of appropriate health authorities such as, but not limited to, the Food and Drug Administration is necessary;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE PHILIPPINES**, to urge the Department of Health, the Food and Drug Administration and the Department of Science and Technology to explore the efficacy and viability of Ivermectin as an alternative drug to prevent and treat coronavirus diseases (COVID-19).

Adopted,



**EMMANUEL D. PACQUIAO**