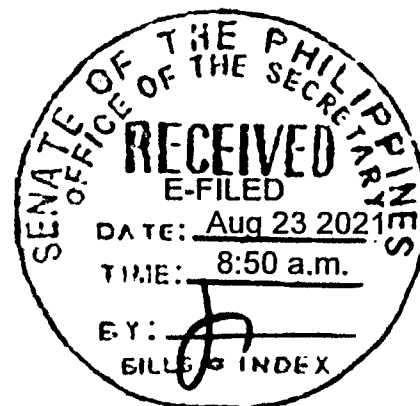


EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE)
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
Third Regular Session)



SENATE
P.S. Res. No. 858

Introduced by Senator Juan Miguel "Migz" F. Zubiri

RESOLUTION

DIRECTING THE SENATE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE ON THE VACCINATION PROGRAM TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY ON THE PROCUREMENT OF COVID-19 VACCINES BY LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNITS AND THE PRIVATE SECTOR THROUGH THE MULTI-PARTY AGREEMENTS, WITH THE END IN VIEW OF RAMPING UP VACCINATION IN THE RURAL AREAS AND IN THE PRIVATE SECTOR, AND ACHIEVING HERD IMMUNITY AGAINST COVID-19 FOR THE COUNTRY

WHEREAS, Republic Act No. 11525 or the COVID-19 Vaccination Program Act of 2021 was enacted into law on February 26, 2021 to address the adverse impact of COVID-19 through the procurement and administration of safe and effective COVID-19 vaccines by the National Government;

WHEREAS, RA11525 was also enacted to provide the legal mechanism for local government units (LGUs) and the private sector to source and procure, through the Department of Health (DOH) and the National Task Force Against COVID-19 (NTF), safe and effective COVID-19 vaccines;

WHEREAS, based on the NTF data as of August 12, 2021, there have been 42,091,150 vaccine doses received by the country, of which 26.67 million doses have been administered, and from these administered doses, 14 million have received their first shot of the vaccine and 12.18 million Filipinos are fully vaccinated;

WHEREAS, based on the Inter-Agency Task Force Against Emerging Infectious Diseases (IATF) revised target of 77 million Filipinos to be vaccinated, 63 million are yet to receive their first dose of the COVID-19 vaccine;

WHEREAS, RA11525 recognizes the role of LGUs and the private sector in the COVID-19 vaccination program and allows LGUs and the private sector to procure COVID-19 vaccines through the DOH and NTF via Multi-Party Agreements (MPAs);

WHEREAS, there are a number of LGUs and 300 private sector companies which have availed and signed the Multi-Party Agreements through the DOH and NTF to procure COVID-19 vaccines with an estimated 10 million doses for their constituencies as provided for in RA11525;

WHEREAS, there have been reports that these MPAs submitted by LGUs and the private sector have been left unsigned and are languishing in the NTF, directly affecting the speedy vaccine roll-out in the country;

WHEREAS, there is a need for more transparency and more government information as to the allocation and coverage of the COVID-19 vaccination roll-out, particularly in the provinces and in rural areas;

WHEREAS, with the recent surge of COVID-19 cases attributed to the more transmissible Delta variant and the confirmation of the first local case of the Lambda variant in the country, all efforts and support to ramp-up vaccination against COVID-19 should be welcomed and acted upon promptly by the concerned government agencies;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, to direct the Senate Committee of the Whole on the Vaccination Program to conduct an inquiry on the procurement of COVID-19 vaccines by local government units and the private sector through the multi-party agreements, with the end in view of ramping up vaccination in rural areas and in the private sector, and achieving herd immunity against COVID-19 for the country.

Adopted,



JUAN MIGUEL F. ZUBIRI
Senator