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**SENATE
Senate Bill No. 1794**

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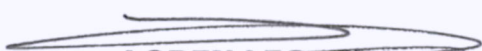

Introduced by Senator LOREN LEGARDA

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Dengvaxia was originally intended to help eradicate, if not reduce, the dengue incidents in the country. It was unfortunate that it was only after around 800,000 children were already administered with this dengue vaccine that the public was informed of its accompanying risks, particularly to those who have not yet been infected with dengue, at the time of the first vaccine.¹ Tragic deaths of children supposedly linked to Dengvaxia have been reported in the news, which has compelled the Department of Health to suspend the administration of Dengvaxia. On demand of the Government, Zuellig Pharma, the local distributor of the Dengvaxia manufacturer Sanofi Pasteur, refunded the amount of around Php 1.16 Billion covering the unused vials of Dengvaxia vaccines.

This bill seeks to appropriate the said amount to fund the much-needed support to the vaccinees by providing them with medical assistance for hospitalization, medical kits, out-patient care services, including laboratory tests, among others. This medical assistance program will hopefully prevent further deaths and illnesses of those administered with the vaccine, regardless of cause.

In view of the foregoing, the immediate enactment of this Supplemental Budget is earnestly sought


**LOREN LEGARDA
Senator**

¹ Dengue vaccine: WHO position paper – July 2016, available at <http://www.who.int/wer/2016/wer9130.pdf?ua=1> (last accessed on March 21, 2018).

SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE)
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
Second Regular Session)

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Senate Bill No. 1794

Introduced by Senator LOREN LEGARDA

AN ACT
APPROPRIATING THE SUM OF ONE BILLION ONE HUNDRED SIXTY-ONE
MILLION SEVEN HUNDRED TEN THOUSAND PESOS (P1,161,710,000) AS
SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS FOR FY 2018 AND FOR OTHER
PURPOSES

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Philippines in Congress assembled:

1 SECTION 1. *Appropriations.* – The sum of One Billion One Hundred Sixty One
2 Million Seven Hundred Ten Thousand Pesos (P1,161,710,000) is hereby appropriated
3 out of any funds in the National Treasury of the Philippines not otherwise appropriated,
4 as supplemental appropriations for the FY 2018 Budget.

5 SEC. 2. *Assistance to Dengvaxia Vaccinees.* The amount appropriated herein to
6 fund the assistance to the Dengvaxia vaccinees, which amount shall be used
7 exclusively for the following activities and/or projects, namely: (a) Human Resource
8 for Health (HRH) Deployment; (b) Public Health Management; and (c) Assistance to
9 Indigent Patients either Confined or Out-Patient in Government Hospitals/ Specialty
10 Hospitals / LGU Hospitals / Philippine General Hospital / West Visayas State University
11 Hospital.

12 SEC. 3. *Use and Release of Funds.* – The amount appropriated shall be released
13 by the Department of Budget and Management (DBM) to the Department of Health
14 (DOH) in accordance with budgeting, accounting and auditing laws, rules and
15 regulations. The DOH shall issue the guidelines necessary for the proper

1 implementation of the foregoing activities and/or projects for the benefit of Dengvaxia
2 vaccinees.

3 SEC. 4. *Applicability of General and Special Provisions in the FY 2018 General*
4 *Appropriations Act.* – The amounts herein appropriated shall be used for the purposes
5 indicated and subject to the relevant special and general provisions under Republic
6 Act 10964 or the FY 2018 GAA.

7 SEC. 5. *Availability of Appropriations.* – The appropriations authorized in this
8 Act shall be available for release and obligation for the purposes specified for one (1)
9 year from the effectivity of this Act.

10 SEC. 6. *Transparency Provisions.* – The DOH shall ensure that the details of
11 activities and/or projects are included as part of the information posted on their
12 transparency seals required under Section 99 of the General Provisions under Republic
13 Act 10964 or the FY 2018 GAA.

14 SEC. 7. *Separability Clause.* – If, for any reason or reasons, any part or
15 provision of this Act shall be declared as unconstitutional or invalid, the other parts or
16 provisions hereof which are not affected thereby shall continue to be in full force and
17 effect.

18 SEC. 8. *Effectivity.* – This Act shall take effect immediately upon its publication.

19

20 Approved,