

SENATE

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Introduced by **SENATOR RAMON BONG REVILLA, JR.**

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RESOLUTION

URGING THE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH AND DEMOGRAPHY OR THE APPROPRIATE SENATE COMMITTEE TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE CALL OF A GROUP OF DOCTORS, SCIENTISTS AND HEALTH PROFESSIONALS TO LIFT THE BAN ON THE DENGVAXIA VACCINE AND TO ALLOW ITS LIMITED PRIVATE USE

1 WHEREAS, the National Government, through the Department of Health, has
2 been implementing an anti-dengue program;

3 WHEREAS, during the administration of President Simeon Benigno Aquino, the
4 Department of Health under then Secretary Janette Garin, purchased P3.5 billion
5 worth of Dengvaxia vaccine as part of the government's campaign against dengue;

6 WHEREAS, the dengvaxia vaccine, under the said anti-dengue program, was
7 administered to more than 730,000 schoolchildren in Metro Manila, Central Luzon, and
8 the regions of Cavite, Laguna, Batangas, Rizal, and Quezon, of which more than
9 70,000 have not had dengue;

10 WHEREAS, after the vaccine has been administered, Sanofi Pasteur, the
11 distributor of dengvaxia, announced that results of new clinical data analysis found
12 that the vaccine is more risky for people not previously infected by the dengue virus
13 since in the longer term, more cases of severe disease could occur following
14 vaccination upon a subsequent dengue infection, thus, for those individuals who have
15 not been previously infected by the dengue virus, vaccination should not be
16 recommended;

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1 WHEREAS, following Sanofi Pasteur’s announcement, the Department of Health
2 ordered the temporary suspension of the dengue vaccination program;

3 WHEREAS, after the dengvaxia controversy, immunization rates across the
4 country decreased and even said to have led to outbreak of measles;

5 WHEREAS, on 15 July 2019, the Department of Health declared a national
6 dengue alert because of the rise of dengue infections, wherein from January to June
7 2019 there have been at least 106,630 reported dengue cases;

8 WHEREAS, a group of doctors, scientists and health professionals are now
9 calling on the government to lift the ban on the dengvaxia vaccine and allow its limited
10 private use;

11 WHEREAS, there is an urgent need first to inquire and investigate into the
12 safety and efficacy of the dengvaxia vaccine as well as on all the risks involved
13 considering that it is the health and even the life of our children that are at stake;

14 NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, as it is hereby resolved, to direct the
15 Committee on Health and Demography or the appropriate Senate Committee to
16 conduct an inquiry, in aid of legislation, on the call of a group of doctors, scientists
17 and health professionals to lift the ban on the dengvaxia vaccine and allow its limited
18 use.

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20 *Adopted,*


RAMON BONG REVILLA, JR.