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SENATE
S. No. 928

RECEIVED BY: _____

Introduced by Senator Richard J. Gordon

**AN ACT APPROPRIATING THE SUM OF ONE BILLION ONE HUNDRED
SIXTY-ONE MILLION SEVEN HUNDRED TEN THOUSAND PESOS
(P1,161,710,000.00) AS SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS FOR FY 2019
AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

On 4 April 2016, the Department of Health (DOH) commenced its school-based dengue mass immunization program using the vaccine Dengvaxia manufactured by Sanofi Pasteur, the largest company in the world devoted entirely to vaccines. Dengvaxia was mass vaccinated in Regions 3 (Central Luzon) and 4 (Southern Tagalog), and the National Capital Region, covering about 830,000 children aged nine (9) to twelve (12). Notably, Dengvaxia was vaccinated to children without prior screening for serostatus to determine whether they have been previously infected by dengue.

In July 2016, the World Health Organization released a paper stating, among others, that Dengvaxia "may be ineffective or may theoretically even increase the future risk of hospitalized or severe dengue illness in those who are seronegative at the time of first vaccination regardless of age."

The Blue Ribbon investigation into Dengvaxia fiasco uncovered possible adverse effects to persons vaccinated by the drug, undisclosed fully by Sanofi Aventis to the world, and by the previous administrators in the DOH to parents and children.

In 29 November 2017, Sanofi Pasteur release a statement saying that “[f]or those not previously infected by dengue virus, however, the analysis found that in the longer term, more cases of severe disease could occur following vaccination upon a subsequent dengue infection.” This recent declaration by Sanofi Pasteur has caused panic and despair among parents and guardians of those children who have been vaccinated.

There have already been a number of reports of deaths, and also cases of severe dengue, in children who were previously vaccinated with Dengvaxia. There is an urgent need for the DOH to monitor the health, diagnose whenever the children fall sick or ill, provide treatment when required, and rehabilitate all those who were adversely affected by Dengvaxia.


The DOH would require budget for its Medical Assistance Program for Dengvaxia Patients, in particular, for the monitoring, diagnosis, treatment and rehabilitation of possible victims of adverse events following the immunization of the Dengvaxia vaccine.



RICHARD J. GORDON
Senator

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

1 **Section 1.** *Appropriations.* – The sum of One Billion One Hundred Sixty-One Million
2 Seven Hundred Ten Thousand Pesos (P1,161,710,000.00) is hereby appropriated out
3 of any funds in the National Treasury of the Philippines not otherwise appropriated,
4 as supplemental appropriations for the FY 2019 Budget.

5

6 **Sec. 2.** *Assistance to 2016 Dengue Vaccinated Filipinos.* – The amount appropriated
7 herein to fund the assistance to the 2016 Dengue Vaccinated Filipinos shall be used
8 exclusively for the following programs, projects and activities:

- (a) Medical assistance program for 2016
Dengue Vaccinated Filipinos either
confined or outpatient P945,828,000.00
- (b) Public health management (assessment
and monitoring of 2016 Dengue
Vaccinated Filipinos, including the
acquisition of supplies and medicines,

provided that not more than Twenty-Five Million Pesos (P25,000,000.00) shall be used for the procurement of Dengue assistance cards)	148,296,000.00
(c) Human resources for health deployment	67,586,000.00
Total	P1,161,710,000.00

1 **Sec. 3. Use and Release of Funds.** – The amount appropriated shall be released by
2 the Department of Budget and Management (DBM) to the Department of Health
3 (DOH) in accordance with budgeting, accounting and auditing laws, rules and
4 regulations. The DOH shall issue the guidelines necessary for the proper
5 implementation of the foregoing activities and/or projects for the benefit of 2016
6 Dengue Vaccinated Filipinos.

7

8 **Sec. 4. Applicability of General and Special Provisions in the FY 2019 General**
9 **Appropriations Act.** – The amounts herein appropriated shall be used for the purposes
10 indicated and subject to the relevant special and general provisions under Republic
11 Act No. 11260 or the FY 2019 General Appropriations Act (GAA).

12

13 **Sec. 5. Availability of Appropriations.** – The appropriations authorized in this Act shall
14 be available for release and obligation for the purposes specified from the date of the
15 effectivity of this Act until fully spent.

16

17 **Sec. 6. Transparency Provisions.** – The DOH shall ensure that the details of activities
18 and/or projects are included as part of the information posted on their transparency
19 seals required under Section 106 of the General Provisions under Republic Act No.
20 11260 or the FY 2019 GAA.

21

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

25 **Sec. 8. Effectivity.** – This Act shall take effect immediately upon its publication.

1 *Approved,*