

Republic of the Philippines  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
Quezon City

EIGHTEENTH (18TH) CONGRESS  
First Regular Session

House Res. No. 183



Introduced by Rep. BERNADETTE R. HERRERA-DY

**RESOLUTION**

**URGING THE APPROPRIATE HOUSE COMMITTEE TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, INTO THE ACTIONS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH (DOH) ON THE OVER-STOCKING OF NEAR EXPIRY DRUGS.**

**WHEREAS**, the 1987 Constitution provides that "The State shall protect and promote the right to health of the people and instill health consciousness among them" (Sec. 15, Art. II);

**WHEREAS**, the 1987 Constitution further provides that "The State shall establish and maintain an effective food and drug regulatory system and undertake appropriate health manpower development and research, responsive to the country's health needs and problems" (Sec. 12, Art. XIII);

**WHEREAS**, the 1987 Constitution established the Commission of Audit (hereinafter, "COA"), providing that it "shall have the power, authority, and duty to examine, audit, and settle all accounts pertaining to the revenue and receipts of, and expenditures or uses of funds and property, owned or held in trust by, or pertaining to, the Government, or any of its subdivisions, agencies, or instrumentalities, including government-owned or controlled corporations with original charters, and on a post-audit basis" [Sec. 2 (1), Art. IX-D];

**WHEREAS**, the Department of Health (hereinafter, "DOH") is the "principal health agency in the Philippines responsible for ensuring access to basic public health services through the provision of quality health care and regulation of providers of health and good services"<sup>1</sup>;

**WHEREAS**, the DOH is both a stakeholder in the health sector and a policy and regulatory body for health;

**WHEREAS**, on 31 December 2018, the COA annual audit report found Eighteen Billion, Four Hundred Forty-Nine Million Pesos (PhP 18,449,000,000) worth of medicine purchased from 2015 to 2018, which have yet to be distributed to government hospitals, health centers and other government treatment facilities<sup>2</sup>;

**WHEREAS**, on 31 January 2019, the COA reported that Two Hundred Ninety-Four Million, Seven Hundred Sixty-Seven Thousand Pesos (PhP 294,767,000) worth of drugs and medicine remaining in the DOH warehouses were found to be nearing expiration as of;

**WHEREAS**, on 24 July 2019, the COA announced that the DOH failed to distribute Three Hundred Sixty-Seven Million, One Hundred Thousand Pesos (PhP 367,100,000) worth of drugs and medicines nearing its expiration dates<sup>3</sup>;

<sup>1</sup><https://www.doh.gov.ph/about-us>

<sup>2</sup><https://www.philstar.com/headlines/2019/07/25/1937710/coa-flags-doh-over-poor-distribution-medicine>

<sup>3</sup><https://newsinfo.inquirer.net/1145874/doh-hasnt-distributed-expiring-vaccines-diabetes-drugs-coa>

**WHEREAS**, medicines and medical supplies worth Thirty Million, Three Hundred Fifty Thousand Pesos (PhP 30.35 million), distributed by the DOH to various hospitals and centers for health and development (CHDs) have already expired<sup>4</sup>;

**WHEREAS**, the risk of expiration of drugs prior to reaching its intended beneficiaries, decreases the immediate, efficacy, and maximum usage of said drugs, resulting in the wastage of government funds;

**WHEREAS**, expired or nearly expired drugs and medicines deprive the Filipino people, most especially the marginalized and vulnerable, to avail of the intended benefits to be provided of said drugs;

**BE IT RESOLVED, AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED**, by the members of the House of Representatives of the Philippines, urging the appropriate house committee to conduct an inquiry, in aid of legislation, into the actions of the Department of Health (DOH) on the overstocking of near expiry drugs.

*Adopted,*

  
**BERNADETTE HERRERA-DY**

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<sup>4</sup><https://www.philstar.com/headlines/2019/07/25/1937710/coa-flags-doh-over-poor-distribution-medicine>