

Republic of the Philippines  
**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**  
Quezon City

First Regular Session  
**EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS**

House Resolution No. 362



**Introduced by the Honorable Precious Hipolito Castelo**

**A RESOLUTION**

**DIRECTING THE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH TO CONDUCT AN INVESTIGATION, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, INTO THE RE-EMERGENCE OF POLIO IN OUR COUNTRY NINETEEN (19) YEARS AFTER THE WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION (WHO) DECLARED THE PHILIPPINES POLIO-FREE**

WHEREAS, since October 2000, the country was declared polio-free by the World Health Organization (WHO), with the last case of polio virus reported in 1993;

WHEREAS, most recently, the Department of Health (DOH) confirmed the re-emergence of polio virus in our country, after finding one (1) positive case of the disease in Lanao del Norte and two (2) positive cases of poliovirus from environmental samples obtained from Manila and Davao;

WHEREAS, Health Secretary Francisco Duque III confirmed that there is already an outbreak or epidemic of polio since according to him, a single confirmed polio case of vaccine-derived polio virus type 2 or two (2) positive environmental samples that are genetically linked and isolated in two (2) different locations is already considered an epidemic in a polio-free country;

WHEREAS, the DOH also found that polio vaccination for children below five (5) years old dropped to less than 95% in 2018;

WHEREAS, countermeasures must be undertaken in order to curb the spread of this highly contagious disease;

WHEREAS, it is within the jurisdiction of the Committee on Health to investigate all matters directly and principally relating to public health and hygiene, and quarantine, medical, hospital and other health facilities and services;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives to direct the Committee on Health to conduct an investigation, in aid of legislation, into the re-emergence of polio virus in our country, nineteen (19) years after the declaration of its eradication in October 2000.

ADOPTED,

A large, stylized handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to be 'Precious Hipolito Castelo'. The signature is written over a circular stamp that is partially visible and overlaps with the printed name below it.

**PRECIOUS HIPOLITO CASTELO**

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