

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City, Philippines

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 512



Introduced by REP. ELPIDIO F. BARZAGA, JR.

RESOLUTION
TO A DRUG-FREE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
AND STRONGLY URGING ITS MEMBERS
TO VOLUNTARILY SUBMIT TO A RANDOM DRUG TEST
AND SHOW ITS COMMITMENT TO THE
WAR ON ILLEGAL DRUGS
AND TO FULFILL ITS CONSTITUTIONAL MANDATE
THAT PUBLIC OFFICE IS A PUBLIC TRUST

WHEREAS, the Philippines is one with the world in its deep concern with the threat of illegal drug use, trafficking, production and consumption that ail and threaten the health of its citizens, governance and stability as a nation.

WHEREAS, since 2018, Executive Order No. 66 otherwise known as "Institutionalizing the Philippine Anti-Illegal Drugs Strategy" has been enacted wherein it recognizes that the "proliferation of prohibited drugs and their precursors is a serious national concern, encompassing social, economic, psychological and economic interests, which necessitates the active and unified involvement of various government and non-government agencies"

WHEREAS, as stated in the Executive Order No. 66, "the 2009 Political Declaration and Plan of Action adopted by the United Nations (UN) Commission on Narcotic Drugs provides that UN Member States are fully aware that the drug problem remains a common and shared responsibility that requires effective and increased international cooperation."

WHEREAS, although the House of Representatives as a co-equal branch of government is not covered by Executive Order No.

66, it has the common and shared responsibility to the drug problem with the Executive Branch.

WHEREAS, by ensuring a drug-free House of Representatives and by the voluntary submission of its members to a drug test, it displays its commitment to the common and shared responsibility to the drug problem.

WHEREAS, ensuring a drug-free House of Representatives and the voluntary submission to a drug test are consistent with its constitutional mandate that "Public office is a public trust".

WHEREAS, by submitting to a drug test, the House of Representatives is signifying and assuring its constituents that it is free from the influence of illegal drugs and that, it is fulfilling its declared principle and policy that it is accountable to the people at all times and that it is performing its legislative mandate with utmost competence, efficiency, effectiveness, integrity and fidelity to the people's welfare as stated in its House Rules' Declaration of Principles and Policies.

WHEREAS, when the members of the House ran for public office and were subsequently elected, they have been subjected during the campaign period to unwavering inspection by the public and the press, thus, the submission to random voluntary drug testing is a small price to pay to give up so much of their privacy in the exercise of their job as public servants.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, as it is hereby resolved that the House of Representatives must ensure that it is drug-free and to urge its members to voluntarily submit to random drug testing.

Upon approval of this Resolution by a majority of the members of the House of Representatives, it is earnestly requested that Speaker Alan Peter S. Cayetano to issue the pertinent rules and regulations regarding the conduct and manner of the random voluntary drug testing to ensure the integrity and reliability of the results.

Members of the House of Representatives who are in conformity to this Resolution must send an official communication to the Office of the Speaker indicating his willingness to submit himself to random voluntary drug testing with a waiver of any of his constitutional rights which may have been affected by the random drug testing.

Done this 11th day of November, 2019 at Quezon City,
Philippines.



REP. ELPIDIO F. BARZAGA, JR.
Representative
Lone District of the City of Dasmariñas