

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
Second Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 9419



Introduced by Hon. John Marvin "Yul Servo" C. Nieto

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The foreign exchange remittances and the overseas employment of our Migrant Filipino workers significantly contribute to our country in sustaining economic growth and achieving national development. The existence of the overseas employment program rests solely on the assurance that the dignity and fundamental human rights and freedoms of all Filipino migrant workers shall not, at any time, be compromised or violated.

The global pandemic halted a significant portion of the global economy. Several workers are left unemployed, unable to resume overseas work due to the restrictions imposed by several countries. It is the hope of this measure that we can provide our overseas worker with the much needed support in order for them to continue their livelihood.

The propose bill seeks to establish a free COVID-19 vaccination programs for Overseas Filipino Workers in the hopes that it can proved them with further government support and assistance to alleviate their current condition during this pandemic.

In light of the foregoing, the approval of this measure is earnestly sought.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John Marvin 'Yul Servo' C. Nieto". The signature is stylized and cursive.

JOHN MARVIN "YUL SERVO" C. NIETO

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AN ACT ESTABLISHING A FREE COVID-19 VACCINATION PROGRAM FOR OVERSEAS FILIPINO WORKERS (OFW) AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Philippines in Congress assemble

SECTION 1. Title. - This Act shall be known as the "COVID-19 VACCINATION PROGRAM FOR OVERSEAS FILIPINO WORKERS ACT."

SEC. 2. Declaration of Policy. It shall be the policy of the State to protect the rights of workers and promote their welfare.

It is likewise the policy of the State to promote a just and dynamic social order that shall ensure prosperity, promote full employment, a rising standard of living and an improved quality of life for all. In pursuit of this, the State shall endeavor to develop a program that will ensure that all of its citizens will benefit and will secure access to COVID – 19 vaccines and protect their health and welfare.

SEC. 3. Coverage of Program. Every OFWs around the world, whether displaced or not, shall be entitled free access to the COVID-19 vaccine

SEC. 4. Appropriations. The amount necessary for the implementation of this Act shall be charged against current appropriations of the Department of Health and Department of Foreign Affairs. Thereafter, such sums necessary for the continued implementation of this Act shall be included in the General-Appropriations Act.

SEC. 5. Implementing Rules and Regulations. - The Department of Health and the Department of Foreign Affairs, in consultation with the other relevant government agencies and stakeholders, shall issue necessary rules and regulations to implement the provisions of this Act.

SEC. 6. Separability Clause. - If any provision of this Act is declared unconstitutional, the same shall not affect the validity and effectivity of the other provisions hereof.

SEC. 7. Repealing Clause. - All laws, decrees, orders, issuances or portion thereof, which are inconsistent with the provisions of this-Act-are-repealed-or-modified accordingly

SEC. 8. Effectivity. - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,