

Republic of the Philippines  
**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

**EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS**  
Second Regular Session

**HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 1694**



---

**Introduced by HON. JESUS "BONG" C. SUNTAY**

---

**A RESOLUTION URGING HIS EXCELLENCY PRESIDENT RODRIGO ROA DUTERTE TO DIRECT THE REPURPOSING OF INOPERATIVE HOTEL AND OTHER ACCOMODATION FACILITIES TO HOST MILD COVID PATIENTS AND/OR OTHER NON-COVID PATIENTS TO DECONGEST HOSPITALS IN METRO MANILA**

**WHEREAS**, on 16 March 2020, the President issued Proclamation No. 929, s. 2020 declaring a State of Calamity throughout the Philippines due to Corona Virus Disease 2019;

**WHEREAS**, on 16 September 2020, the President issued Proclamation No. 1021, s. 2020 to extend the period of the State of Calamity throughout the Philippines due to the Corona Virus Disease, in order for the National Government and Local Government Units afford ample latitude in extending assistance to Filipinos;

**WHEREAS**, the country has continuously been afflicted by the Corona Virus Disease, reaching a total of 803,398 positive cases of which 143,726 are active cases, as of 5 April 2021. 97.5% of these total active cases are Mild, 1.1% are asymptomatic; 0.5% are critical, 0.6% are severe, while 0.34% are moderate;

**WHEREAS**, with the escalating number of cases, healthcare professionals are raising concerns over hospitals running at critical or near capacity level, while some are already over and beyond their capacity limit. The Department of Health, through their COVID Bulletin, has revealed that over 79% of ICU beds, 72% of Isolation Beds, and 60% of Ward Beds in the National Capital Region are already occupied;

**WHEREAS**, to slow down the surge in Covid-19 cases, stop the further spread of variants, allow the health system to cope, and protect more lives, the President signed Resolution No. 106-A, s. 2021 on 27 March 2021, effectively placing Bulacan, Cavite, Laguna, Rizal, and the National Capital Region under Enhanced Community Quarantine (ECQ);

**WHEREAS**, under ECQ's strict home quarantine protocols, only essential travel and activities are allowed, restricting other non-essential and leisure activities. Adjunct with prior quarantine and restriction protocols, this has already taken a toll on the hospitality industry causing an estimated loss of a staggering 170.5 billion pesos, just until the end of July 2020;

**WHEREAS**, with the continued restriction on the operations of hotel and accommodation establishments, requiring them to acquire DOT Accreditation and to only accommodate guests and clients with legitimate purposes under a state of a public health emergency, as stipulated in the Omnibus Guidelines on the Implementation of Community Quarantine in the Philippines, many hotels and other accommodation establishments remain inoperative;

**WHEREAS**, through RA 11494 or the “*Bayanihan to Recover as One Act*”, and Joint DOH-DOT-DILG Administrative Order No. 2020-001, DOT-accredited and Non-accredited accommodation establishments, may be identified as Quarantine Facilities;

**WHEREAS**, with the ballooning number of COVID cases and the critical status of our hospitals and other health facilities, the inoperative hotels and other accommodation establishments must be maximized to host mild COVID patients and other non-COVID patients;

**WHEREAS**, the repurposing of the hotels and other accommodation facilities as alternative health facilities can contribute in mitigating the effects of the pandemic in the industry. Accommodation Establishments shall be justly compensated by the government and/or by the persons undergoing quarantine, for the usage of their facilities. These chargeable rates may be regulated by the Department of Tourism;

**WHEREAS**, the transfer of mild COVID patients in these alternative facilities is pivotal in decongesting hospitals, where almost 41% of patients admitted in Metro Manila are mildly ill or even asymptomatic. These will consequently free up bed spaces, accommodating more severe cases to medical wards;

**WHEREAS**, as provided for by RA 11494 or the “*Bayanihan to Recover as One Act*”, under national emergency and when the public interest so requires, the State may temporarily take over or direct the operation of any privately owned public utility or business affected with public interest, subject to the limits enshrined in the Constitution under Article XII, Section 17.

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the House of Representatives, in session assembled, urge His Excellency President Rodrigo Roa Duterte, under the powers vested in him under the Constitution, to direct the repurposing of inoperative hotel and other accommodation facilities to host mild COVID patients and/or other Non-COVID patients in order to decongest hospitals in Metro Manila.

Adopted,



**ATTY. JESUS "BONG" C. SUNTAY**