Republic of the Philippines  
House of Representatives  
Quezon City, Metro Manila

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS  
Second Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 1711

Introduced by Representatives LORD ALLAN JAY Q. VELASCO  
and BERNADETTE HERRERA-DY

RESOLUTION  
URGING THE COMMITTEE ON GOOD GOVERNMENT AND PUBLIC ACCOUNTABILITY TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE POLICIES AND GUIDELINES OF THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND THE FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION FOR THE REGISTRATION, UTILIZATION, MANUFACTURE, DISTRIBUTION OR SALE OF DRUG PRODUCTS FOR THE CORONAVIRUS DISEASE, PARTICULARLY POLICIES AND GUIDELINES WHICH APPEAR TO BE DETRIMENTAL TO PUBLIC INTEREST

WHEREAS, Section 15, Article II of the Philippine Constitution declares it the policy of the State to protect and promote the right to health of the people and instill health consciousness among them;

WHEREAS, under Section 9, Article II of the Philippine Constitution, it is likewise declared a policy of the State to promote a just and dynamic social order that …will free the people from poverty through policies that provide adequate social services, promote full employment, and an improved quality of life for all;

WHEREAS, Section 7 of Republic Act No. 11332 (RA 11332) provides that the President of the Philippines shall declare a State of Public Health Emergency in the event of an epidemic of national and/or international concern which threatens national security;
WHEREAS, on 8 March 2020, the President issued Proclamation No. 922, declaring a State of Public Health Emergency throughout the Philippines because of the coronavirus disease (COVID-19), which shall remain in force and effect until lifted or withdrawn by the President;

WHEREAS, the COVID-19 pandemic has continued practically uncontrolled and unabated for more than a year now, severely affecting the efficiency and capacity of our public and private health system, negatively impacting our economy, and compromising the health and safety of the Filipino people;

WHEREAS, while there is no actual cure for COVID-19, health, drug and medical experts have come up with a treatment protocol including the administration of certain drugs and therapeutics currently allowed for use and treatment of COVID-19;

WHEREAS, in our efforts to examine and help propose possible solutions to help alleviate the effects of this public health crisis, the House of Representatives has followed the developments on the registration, utilization, manufacture, distribution or sale of drugs for emergency use authorization or for use of drugs under compassionate special permit against COVID-19;

WHEREAS, the Department of Health issued Department Memorandum No. 2020-0138 on 31 March 2020, adopting clinical practice guidelines on COVID-19;

WHEREAS, the Food and Drug Administration issued FDA Circular No. 2020-12, entitled “Guidelines for the Registration of Drug Products under Emergency Use (DEU) for the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19);”

WHEREAS, said FDA Circular and other related guidelines have been questioned for being arbitrary, bureaucratic, and inhumane for causing unnecessary delays in the approval and clearance of drugs and therapeutics for emergency use authorization or for use of drugs under compassionate special permit against the dread COVID-19 disease; NOW THEREFORE, be it

RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, to direct the Committee on Good Government and Public Accountability to conduct an inquiry, in aid of legislation, on the policies and guidelines of the Department of Health and the Food and Drug Administration for the registration, utilization, manufacture, distribution or sale of drug products for the coronavirus disease, particularly policies and guidelines which appear to be detrimental to public interest.

Adopted,

BERNADETTE “BH” HERRERA-DY

LORD ALLAN J. Q. VELASCO