EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS  
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES  
Third Regular Session  

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  

Introduced by Representative Rufus B. Rodriguez

House Resolution No. 2164

A RESOLUTION
DIRECTING THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC AFFAIRS TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE PROCUREMENT OF COVID-19 VACCINES BY THE PRIVATE SECTOR AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNITS THROUGH THE MULTI-PARTY AGREEMENTS, WITH THE END IN VIEW OF RAMPING UP VACCINATION IN THE PRIVATE SECTOR AND IN THE RURAL AREAS, AND ACHIEVING HERD IMMUNITY AGAINST COVID-19 FOR THE COUNTRY

WHEREAS, Republic Act No. 11525 or the COVID-19 Vaccination Program Act of 2021 was enacted into law on February 26, 2021 to address the adverse impact of COVID-19 through the procurement and administration of safe and effective COVID-19 vaccines by the National Government;

WHEREAS, RA11525 was also enacted to provide the legal mechanism for the private sector and local government units (LGUs) to source and procure, through the Department of Health (DOH) and the National Task Force Against COVID-19 (NTF), safe and effective COVID-19 vaccines;

WHEREAS, based on the NTF data as of August 2, 2021, there have been 42,091,150 vaccine doses received by the country, of which 26.67 million doses have been administered, and from these administered doses, 14 million have received their first shot of the vaccine and 12.18 million Filipinos are fully-vaccinated;

WHEREAS, based on the Inter-Agency Task Force Against Emerging Infectious Diseases (IATF) revised target of 77 million Filipinos to be vaccinated, 63 million are yet to receive their first dose of the COVID-19 vaccine;

WHEREAS, RA11525 recognizes the role of the private sector and the LGUs in the COVID-19 vaccination program and allows the private sector and LGUs to procure COVID-19 vaccines through the DOH and NTF via Multi-Party Agreements (MPAs);

WHEREAS, there are 300 private sector companies and a number of LGUs which have availed and signed the Multi-Party Agreements through the DOH and NTF to procure COVID-19 vaccines with an estimated 10 million doses for their employees (and dependents) and their constituencies, respectively, as provided for in RA11525;

WHEREAS, there have been reports that these MPAs submitted by the private sector and the LGUs have been left unsigned and are languishing in the NTF, directly affecting the speedy vaccine roll-out in the country;

WHEREAS, the MPAs submitted by the private sector and the LGUs are left unacted upon, and the National Government has discouraged LGUs from further applying for the approval of MPAs which is contrary to the provisions of Section 6 of RA 11525;
WHEREAS, there is a need for more transparency and more government information as to the allocation and coverage of the COVID-19 vaccination roll-out, particularly in the provinces and in rural areas;

WHEREAS, with the recent surge of COVID-19 cases attributed to the more transmissible Delta variant and the confirmation of the first local case of the Lambda variant in the country, all efforts and support to ramp-up vaccination against COVID-19 should be welcomed and acted upon promptly by the concerned government agencies;

WHEREAS, the current strategy of the National Government to defeat COVID-19 is based on various degrees of lockdowns and quarantines, and the vaccination of around 70% of the population;

WHEREAS, the lockdowns and quarantines have negatively affected the economy with businesses and employees suffering;

WHEREAS, to help in the vaccination program, various private sector companies have taken it upon themselves to purchase and provide vaccines for their employees and dependents to ensure that they are protected;

WHEREAS, with employees being vaccinated, it can help speed up the recovery of businesses and spur the economy back;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives, to direct the Committee on Economic Affairs to conduct an inquiry, in aid of legislation, on the procurement of COVID-19 vaccines by the private sector and local government units through the multi-party agreements, with the end in view of ramping up vaccination in the private sector and rural areas, and achieving herd immunity against COVID-19 for the country.