



**SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC )**  
**OF THE PHILIPPINES )**  
Third Regular Session )

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**SENATE**  
**P. S. Res No. 1018**

REC. 11

Introduced by Senator Maria Lourdes Nancy S. Binay

**RESOLUTION**  
**DIRECTING THE PROPER SENATE COMMITTEES TO CONDUCT AN**  
**INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, TO ADDRESS THE MEASLES**  
**OUTBREAK IN METRO MANILA AND OTHER PARTS OF THE COUNTRY**

1 WHEREAS, Article II, Section 15 of the 1987 Philippine Constitution provides  
2 the State shall protect and promote the right to health of the people and instill  
3 health consciousness among them;

4 WHEREAS, Article XIII, Section 12 of the 1987 Philippine Constitution provides  
5 the State shall establish and maintain an effective food and drug regulatory system  
6 and undertake appropriate health, manpower development, and research,  
7 responsive to the country's health needs and problems;

8 WHEREAS, according to the World Health Organization (WHO), measles is  
9 caused by a virus in the paramyxovirus family and is normally passed through direct  
10 contact and through the air. The virus infects the respiratory tract which then  
11 spreads throughout the body;

12 WHEREAS, the WHO provided that the signs and symptoms of measles  
13 include a high fever, a runny nose, a cough, red and watery eyes, and small white  
14 spots inside the cheeks during the initial stage of infection which is followed by a  
15 rash starting on the face and upper neck that gradually spreads downwards;

16 WHEREAS, according to the WHO, unvaccinated young children are at highest  
17 risk of measles and its complications;

18 WHEREAS, according to the WHO, there is no specific antiviral treatment for  
19 the measles virus. However, routine measles vaccination for children, combined with  
20 mass immunization campaigns are effective in reducing outbreaks;

21 WHEREAS, an article from the Philippine Daily Inquirer, dated on February 6,  
22 2019, reported on the declaration of the Department of Health (DOH) of a measles  
23 outbreak in the National Capital Region (NCR) or Metro Manila on February 6, 2019;

24 WHEREAS, the article from the Philippine Daily Inquirer further reported that  
25 the DOH has recorded 3,646 cases of measles in Metro Manila for the year 2018  
26 compared to the 351 cases in 2017;

27 WHEREAS, the article from the Philippine Daily Inquirer lastly reported that  
28 there have already been 196 cases of measles from January 1 to 19, 2019;

29 WHEREAS, an article from the Philippine Star, dated February 7, 2019,  
30 reported that one of the DOH's referral centers for measles, the San Lazaro Hospital,  
31 has seen 1,355 cases of measles as of February 5, 2019. Of which, 1,240 patients  
32 were admitted in January in which forty-seven (47) of the 1,114 pediatric patients  
33 died;

34 WHEREAS, the article from the Philippine Star further reported that for the  
35 month of February, the San Lazaro Hospital has already recorded at least 264 cases  
36 of measles, including 241 children, eight of whom have died;

37 WHEREAS, an article from Rappler, dated on February 7, 2019, reported on  
38 the DOH recorded cases of measles in other parts of the country in 2019 and are as  
39 follows:

- 40 • 575 cases with 9 deaths in CALABARZON
- 41 • 192 cases with 4 deaths in Central Luzon
- 42 • 104 cases with 3 deaths in Western Visayas
- 43 • 71 cases with 1 death in Central Visayas;

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45 WHEREAS, it is necessary to conduct a full review of the government's  
46 measles prevention program with the purpose of improving public health strategies,  
47 informing and encouraging immunization in order to prevent and control measles in  
48 our country;

49 BE IT RESOLVED, AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, to direct the proper Senate  
50 Committees to conduct an inquiry, in aid of legislation, to address the measles  
51 outbreak in Metro Manila and other parts of the country.

Adopted,

  
**MARIA LOURDES NANCY S. BINAY**  
Senator