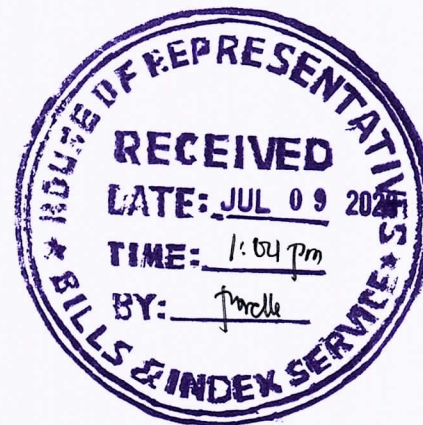


EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS )  
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES )  
Second Regular Session )



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

House Bill No. 7076

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Introduced by Representative Victor A. Yap

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EXPLANATORY NOTE

The COVID-19 pandemic has created a global health crisis which upended lives and disrupted economic activities around the world. The consensus among scientists estimate that it would take up to eighteen (18) months for a vaccine to be developed and made available to the public.<sup>1</sup>

To address the spread of the disease, the World Health Organization (WHO) suggested implementing public health measures that include quarantine, which involves the restriction of movement, or separation from the rest of the population, of healthy persons who may have been exposed to the virus, with the objective of monitoring their symptoms and ensuring early detection of cases.<sup>2</sup> In fact, the Philippine government has implemented community quarantine measures at the onset of the spread of the virus.

The COVID-19 pandemic has shown the need for proper health infrastructure to manage and prevent the spread of diseases. In fact, Republic Act No. 9271 or the "Quarantine Act of 2004" has mandated the Department of Health (DOH) to establish additional quarantine stations, grounds and anchorages to prevent the introduction of diseases of international concern into the country. Presently, the Philippines has eighteen (18) provincial quarantine stations under the management of DOH.<sup>3</sup>

Clearly, these facilities are inadequate to cover all eighty-one (81) provinces of the country, which may be affected by the spread of the disease.

This legislation seeks to establish quarantine facilities in all regions in the country in order to prevent the spread of communicable diseases such as COVID-19, and to provide adequate healthcare infrastructure throughout the country.

In view of the foregoing, the immediate passage of this bill is earnestly sought.

  
VICTOR A. YAP

Representative, 2nd District of Tarlac

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<sup>1</sup>Retrieved at <https://www.theguardian.com/world/2020/apr/06/when-will-coronavirus-vaccine-be-ready> on 19 May 2020.

<sup>2</sup>Retrieved at [https://www.who.int/publications-detail/considerations-for-quarantine-of-individuals-in-the-context-of-containment-for-coronavirus-disease-\(covid-19\)](https://www.who.int/publications-detail/considerations-for-quarantine-of-individuals-in-the-context-of-containment-for-coronavirus-disease-(covid-19)) on 19 May 2020.

<sup>3</sup>Retrieved at <http://quarantine.doh.gov.ph/bureau-quarantine-stations/> on 19 May 2020.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

House Bill No. **7076**

Introduced by Representative Victor A. Yap

AN ACT  
REQUIRING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF QUARANTINE FACILITIES IN EVERY  
REGION IN THE COUNTRY, PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER  
PURPOSES

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Philippines in Congress assembled:*

**SECTION 1. *Short Title.***-This Act shall be known as the "*Mandatory Quarantine Facilities Act.*"

**SEC. 2. *Declaration of Policy.***-It is the declared policy of the State to improve the delivery of health care services to the people, and to protect the people from public health threats during public health emergencies through the efficient and effective response system for emerging and re-emerging infectious diseases, diseases for elimination and eradication, epidemics, and health events including chemical, radio-nuclear and environmental agents of public health concern.

**SEC. 3. *Establishment of Quarantine Facilities.***- There shall be established quarantine facilities in every region in the country. The quarantine facilities shall be fully equipped to include the needs of individuals who are quarantined including, but not limited to, adequate food, clothing, means of communication, and competent medical care.

Each location for every quarantine facility shall be identified by the Department of Health (DOH) in close coordination with the Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH) and local government units (LGUs) concerned; *Provided*, that the quarantine facilities shall be easily accessible to a DOH hospital and shall be strategically located to ensure the safety of the community.

The DPWH, in coordination with LGUs, shall be in charge of the construction of quarantine facilities, formulation of building specifications based on standards, issuances and other guidelines.

**SEC. 4. *Operations and Management of the Quarantine Facilities.*** - The DOH shall be primarily responsible for the operation, supervision, and management of the quarantine facilities established under this Act. The DOH shall issue guidelines on the procedure and proper use of quarantine facilities within thirty (30) days from the effectivity this Act.

**SEC. 5. *Appropriations.*** - The amount necessary to establish and operate quarantine facilities shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

**SEC. 6. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.*** - Within sixty (60) days from the approval of this Act, the DOH, DPWH, Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG), and

1 Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), in consultation with relevant  
2 stakeholders, shall issue the implementing rules and regulations of this Act.

3  
4 **SEC. 7. *Separability Clause.*** - Any portion or provision of this Act that is declared  
5 unconstitutional shall not have the effect of nullifying other portions or provisions hereof as long as  
6 such remaining portions can still subsist and be given effect in their entirety.

7  
8 **SEC. 8. *Repealing Clause.***- All laws, ordinances, rules, regulations, other issuances or parts  
9 thereof, which are inconsistent with this Act, are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

10  
11 **SEC. 9. *Effectivity.*** - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the  
12 Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

*Approved,*