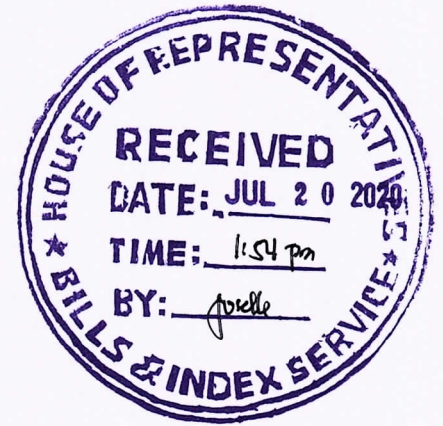


Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
Second Regular Session

HOUSE BILL No. 7127



Introduced by the Honorable Deogracias Victor 'DV' B. Savellano

EXPLANATORY NOTE

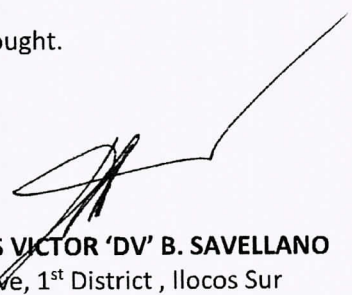
Article II of the Constitution's Declaration of Principles and State Policies, Section 15 stipulates that "The State shall protect and promote the right to health of the people and instill health consciousness among them." This provision in our fundamental law is now one of the main priorities of our government especially during this Global COVID-19 Pandemic Crisis.

Most of the Philippines have been placed under some sort of quarantine because of the COVID-19 pandemic and there was a pressing need to isolate individuals suspected of being infected with the virus. Thus, there was a need to create quarantine facilities all over the Philippines for individuals who are symptomatic or asymptomatic of the disease, either returning from abroad or citizens traveling to another region of the country.

A community-based quarantine facility will be particularly important during a large disease outbreak. Much of the work in identifying and appraising potential sites for such quarantine facilities should be conducted in advance of an outbreak as part of preparedness planning. Each legislative district should assemble a team to identify appropriate locations and resources for community isolation facilities, establish procedures for activating them, and coordinate activities related to patient management.

The legislative district shall have at least one permanent quarantine facility in its jurisdiction and if not practicable shall consider the use of both existing and temporary structures.

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


DEOGRACIAS VICTOR 'DV' B. SAVELLANO
Representative, 1st District, Ilocos Sur

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AN ACT

INSTITUTIONALIZING A QUARANTINE FACILITY IN EVERY LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT IN THE PHILIPPINES

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

SECTION 1. *Declaration of Policy* - The State recognizes Article II, Section 15 of the Constitution which pronounces that "The State shall protect and promote the right to health of the people and instill health consciousness among them. " It is this statement from the Constitution that has compelled us to pass a law that will require a quarantine facility to be set up in each legislative district.

SECTION 2. *Basic Infrastructure Requirements*. – The construction of a quarantine facility or the selection of an existing or setting up of a temporary isolation area in a legislative district should consider the following basic requirements:

- a) Meets all local code requirements for a public facility
- b) Functioning communication system
- c) Electricity
- d) Heating, ventilating and air conditioning
- e) Potable water
- f) Bathroom with commode and sink
- g) Waste and sewage disposal (septic tank and sewage line)
- h) Adequate parking space

SECTION 3. *Accessibility Considerations*. – The quarantine facility must be close to a hospital; have multiple separate rooms; have services for waste removal; have ambulance service and other necessary transportation; easy access to delivery of food and medical supplies; have offices for clinical staff; and laundry services .

SECTION 4. Appropriations – The amount necessary to carry out the provisions of this Act shall be included in the budget of the concerned departments and agencies. For the concerned local government units, the amount shall be taken from the internal revenue allotment.

SECTION 5. Implementing Rules and Regulations– Within sixty (60) days of the effectivity of this Act, the Department of Public Works and Highways, in consultation with the Department of Health and the local chief executive shall formulate the guidelines to fully implement the provisions of this Act .

SECTION 6. Separability Clause - If any provision of this Act is held invalid or unconstitutional, the same shall not affect the validity and effectivity of the other provisions hereof.

SECTION 7. Repealing Clause – All laws, decrees, executive orders, rules and regulations contrary or inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SECTION 8. Effectivity – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the *Official Gazette* or in two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,