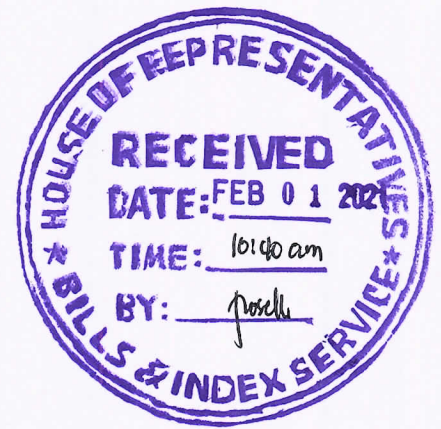


Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
Second Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 8592



Introduced by **HON. JOY MYRA S. TAMBUNTING**

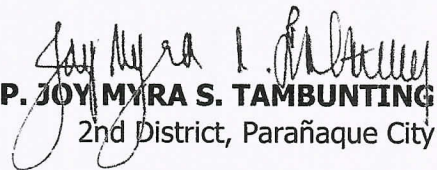
EXPLANATORY NOTE

The COVID-19 posed numerous challenges to the public with the numerous travel restrictions that were imposed to prevent further transmission of disease. As the country gear towards the procurement of vaccines, it is important that programs are in place to ensure the efficient distribution of vaccines to hasten the resumption of normal activities which would greatly help our economy's recovery.

This measure shall create a Vaccine Passport Program wherein all Filipinos are issued vaccine passports which shall contain the record of COVID-19 vaccinations received by an individual. This vaccine passports shall contain details such as the manufacturer, brand name, and batch number of COVID19 vaccine; date of vaccination; name of hospital, health center or facility where vaccine was received; and the name signature and license number of the person who administered the vaccine.

This Vaccine Passport Program shall be also adopted other immunization programs by the Department of Health to ensure that we could maintain the progress our country has made towards the elimination of vaccine-preventable diseases.

On behalf of the people of Parañaque City's Second District, and for the common good of the Filipino people, the approval of the said measure is earnestly sought.


REP. JOY MYRA S. TAMBUNTING
2nd District, Parañaque City

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EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
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HOUSE BILL NO. 8592

Introduced by **HON. JOY MYRA S. TAMBUNTING**

AN ACT
CREATING A VACCINE PASSPORT PROGRAM, AND PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFOR

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 "Vaccine Passport Program Act".

Sec. 2. Declaration of Policy. – The Constitution mandates that the State shall protect and promote the right to health of the people and instill health consciousness among them.

The State recognizes the importance of preventive healthcare and the need to take proactive measures in the fight against diseases, particularly COVID-19. It acknowledges that a comprehensive, mandatory and sustainable immunization program for vaccine-preventable diseases is indispensable to achieve the objectives of universal healthcare and the country's commitments to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), particularly on SDG 3 (Good Health and Well-Being). A Vaccine Passport Program can help facilitate COVID-19 immunization and future immunization programs by allowing the State to track who has been vaccinated and where priority vaccinations should take place. It also serves as a means to monitor the vaccines' effects and the effectivity of immunization programs. Towards this end, the State shall adopt and implement a Vaccine Passport Program to facilitate its COVID-19 and future immunization programs against vaccine-preventable diseases.

Sec. 3. Vaccine Passport Program. – Subject to the provisions of Republic Act No. 10173 or the "Data Privacy Act of 2012", the COVID-19 Inter-Agency Task Force for the Management of Emerging Infectious Diseases (IATF) shall issue a Vaccine Passport to all Filipinos, which shall be a record of the COVID-19 vaccinations received by an individual. The Vaccine Passport shall take into account internationally- recognized standards, and shall contain the following:

- a) Manufacturer, brand name, and batch number or other identifier of the COVID-19 vaccine;
- b) Date of vaccination;
- c) Name of the hospital, health center, or health facility where the vaccine was received; and
- d) Name, signature, and license number of the duly licensed physician, nurse or other health worker administering the vaccine.

The Vaccine Passport Program shall primarily be digital, but shall remain accessible through other means such as printed passports. The IATF, through the Department of Information and Communications Technology, shall develop the digital systems and applications that will meet the objectives of the Program while maintaining quality, safety, ease of use, and accessibility for all Filipinos.

Sec. 4. Benefits of Receiving the COVID-19 Vaccine. – Individuals vaccinated against COVID-19 may be granted certain benefits or exemptions, subject to guidelines issued by the IATF, which shall be clearly stated in the individual's Vaccine Passport, such as but not limited to:

- a) International travel, as may be allowed in foreign jurisdictions;
- b) Non-essential domestic travel;
- c) Local checkpoint and quarantine exemptions; and
- d) Access to business establishments allowed to operate based on IATF guidelines.

Individuals vaccinated against COVID-19 as indicated in the Vaccine Passport shall not be considered immune from COVID-19, unless otherwise declared by the DOH based on reliable scientific evidence and consensus.

Sec. 5. Adoption of the Vaccine Passport Program for Other Immunization Programs. – The Department of Health (DOH) shall adopt the Vaccine Passport Program to facilitate other immunization programs, including but not limited to mandatory basic immunization as provided by Republic Act No. 10152 or the "Mandatory Infants and Children Health Immunization Act of 2011", subject to guidelines to be issued by the DOH.

Sec. 6. Implementing Rules and Regulations. – Within 30 days from the effectivity of this Act, the DOH shall promulgate and issue the necessary guidelines for the effective implementation of this Act. The implementing rules and regulations issued pursuant to this Section shall take effect upon its publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Sec. 7. Appropriations. – The funds necessary for the implementation of this Act shall be sourced from reallocations of the 2019 and 2020 General Appropriations Act for the COVID-19 response. Appropriations for the succeeding years shall be included in the annual appropriations of the DOH under the General Appropriations Act.

Sec. 8. Separability Clause. – If any provision of this Act is declared unconstitutional or otherwise invalid, the validity of the other provisions shall not be affected thereby.

Sec. 9. Repealing Clause. – All other laws, decrees, orders, rules and regulations, other issuances, or parts thereof inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

Sec. 10. Effectivity. – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,