

Republic of the Philippines  
**House of Representatives**  
Quezon City, Metro Manila

**TWENTIETH CONGRESS**  
First Regular Session

House Bill No. 3769



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**INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVE PM VARGAS**

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**AN ACT**  
**EXPANDING THE COVERAGE OF THE MANDATORY BASIC**  
**IMMUNIZATION PROGRAM AND PROVIDING A SYSTEM IN THE**  
**DETERMINATION OF OTHER TYPES OF VACCINE-PREVENTABLE**  
**DISEASES, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 10152,**  
**OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE "MANDATORY INFANTS AND CHILDREN'S**  
**HEALTH IMMUNIZATION ACT OF 2011"**

**EXPLANATORY NOTE**

In 2016, the Department of Health (DOH) released a survey showing that there are around 3,670 cases of children aged 5 years and below hospitalized for Rotavirus Diarrhea in the Philippines. The agency also reported a total of 229 diarrheal cases received from regional hospitals as they performed an outbreak investigation.<sup>1</sup> Globally, there are 215,000 cases of deaths caused by the Rotavirus, which accounts for 3.4% of all child deaths.<sup>2</sup>

In Asia, Japanese Encephalitis (JE) is the leading cause of viral encephalitis, resulting in brain inflammation that also leads to brain infection with symptoms including high fever, chills, and headache. This disease is transmitted by Culex mosquitoes breeding in water pools or flooded rice fields. In the Philippines, families in nearby pig farms and rice fields are the most vulnerable. In Regions I, II, and III, there were 340 cases of Japanese Encephalitis in 2018.<sup>3</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Department of Health (2016). Status of Rotavirus and Rota vaccine in the Philippines. [https://preventrotavirus.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/04/Silva\\_Status-of-Rotavirus-and-Rota-vaccine-in-the-Philippines.pdf](https://preventrotavirus.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/04/Silva_Status-of-Rotavirus-and-Rota-vaccine-in-the-Philippines.pdf) (Accessed 26 October 2022)

<sup>2</sup> World Health Organization (2016). Immunization, Vaccines and Biologicals. [https://www.who.int/immunization/monitoring\\_surveillance/burden/estimates/rotavirus/en/](https://www.who.int/immunization/monitoring_surveillance/burden/estimates/rotavirus/en/) (Accessed 26 October 2022)

<sup>3</sup> Outbreak News Today (2019) Japanese encephalitis takes the life of Pangasinan teen. <http://outbreaknewstoday.com/japanese-encephalitis-takes-the-life-of-pangasinan-teen-87898/>. (Accessed 26 October 2022)

Pneumococcal Conjugate, just like the Rotavirus, mostly affects children below 5 years old and adults over 55 years old, especially those with heart diseases. It may come from indoor air pollution or overpopulated neighborhoods. In 2008, the Pneumococcal Conjugate became the 4th leading cause of death with 35,756 Filipinos, and 586,186 more Filipinos suffering from pneumonia and respiratory tract infections.<sup>4</sup>

As of 2018, there are 7,190 new cervical cancer cases diagnosed yearly in the Philippines, and it is the 2nd leading cause of female cancer in the country. This is very common in women aged 15 to 44 years old. In Asia, there are 62,456 cases annually and 569,847 cases globally.<sup>5</sup>

Under the 1987 Philippine Constitution, the State has to protect and promote the health of the Filipinos and instill health consciousness among them. It is significant for the State to adopt an integrated and comprehensive approach to health development and make health and social services accessible to all at the most affordable cost.

With recent data supporting the increase of infection rates of these diseases among Filipino children, our efforts to strengthen existing health policies must also keep up with the needs of the times.

This bill seeks to expand the measures of the Republic Act No 10152 which mandates infants and children health immunization by including Rotavirus, Japanese Encephalitis (JE), Pneumococcal Conjugate Vaccine, and Human Papillomavirus Vaccine to the coverage. More importantly, it seeks to further highlight the task of the Secretary of the Department of Health (DOH) to determine other types of vaccine-preventable diseases. In order to democratize the process, this legislation requires the recommendations of the Formulary Executive Council (FEC) and the National Immunization Committee prior to the determination of new vaccines to be included in the National Immunization Program.

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

  
**REP. PM VARGAS**  
Fifth District, Quezon City

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<sup>4</sup> Inquirer (2015) Preventing pneumococcal disease through vaccination.  
<https://business.inquirer.net/203995/preventing-pneumococcal-disease-through-vaccination>.  
(Accessed 26 October 2022)

<sup>5</sup> HPV Information Center (2019) Human Papillomavirus and Related Diseases Report.  
<https://www.hpvcentre.net/statistics/reports/PHL.pdf?t=1559474177321>. (Accessed 26 October 2022)

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DETERMINATION OF OTHER TYPES OF VACCINE-PREVENTABLE  
DISEASES, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 10152,  
OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE "MANDATORY INFANTS AND CHILDREN  
HEALTH IMMUNIZATION ACT OF 2011"**

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

**SECTION 1. Short Title.** – This Act shall be known as the “*Expanded  
Mandatory Infants and Children Health Immunization Act*”.

**SECTION 2.** Section 3 of Republic Act No. 10152 is hereby amended to read  
as follows:

“Section 3. *Coverage.* - The mandatory basic immunization for all  
infants and children provided under this Act shall cover the following vaccine-  
preventable diseases:

- (a) Tuberculosis;
- (b) Diphtheria, tetanus and pertussis;
- (c) Poliomyelitis;
- (d) Measles;
- (e) Mumps;
- (f) Rubella or German measles;
- (g) Hepatitis-B;
- (h) H. Influenza type B (HIB); [and]
- (i) ROTAVIRUS;**
- (j) JAPANESE ENCEPHALITIS;**
- (k) PNEUMOCOCCAL CONJUGATE VACCINE (PCV);**
- (l) HUMAN PAPILLOMAVIRUS (HPV); AND**

- (m) Such other types as may be determined by the Secretary of Health in a department circular[.] **IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE FORMULARY EXECUTIVE COUNCIL (FEC) AND THE NATIONAL IMMUNIZATION COMMITTEE (NIC) CREATED AS AN ADVISORY GROUP TO PROVIDE TECHNICAL SUPPORT TO THE SETTING OF A DOH POLICY DIRECTION ON THE NATIONAL IMMUNIZATION PROGRAM (NIP).**

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**SECTION 3.** A new section to be numbered as Section 7 is hereby added after Section 6 of the same Act to read as follows:

**"SEC. 7. ANNUAL REPORT. - THE DOH SHALL SUBMIT TO THE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE PHILIPPINES, THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH AND DEMOGRAPHY, AND THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES COMMITTEE ON HEALTH ON OR BEFORE THE END OF DECEMBER OF EVERY YEAR, OR UPON REQUEST OF ANY OF THE AFORESAID COMMITTEES OF CONGRESS, A REPORT GIVING A DETAILED ACCOUNT OF THE STATUS OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THIS ACT."**

**SECTION 4.** Sections 7, 8, 9, 10 and 11 of the same Act are hereby renumbered as Sections 8, 9, 10, 11 and 12, respectively.

**SECTION 5.** This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the *Official Gazette* or in any newspaper of general circulation.

*Approved,*