



Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City, Metro Manila

18th Congress
First Regular Session

Office of the Minority Floor Leader

HOUSE RESOLUTION No. 218

**INTRODUCED BY REP. BIENVENIDO "BENNY" M. ABANTE, JR.
AND THE MINORITY BLOCK**

**RESOLUTION OF THE MINORITY
FOR THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH TO CONDUCT
INVESTIGATION ON THE ALLEGED OVERSTOCKING, UNUSED,
EXPIRED MEDICINES BY THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, IN AID
OF LEGISLATION, WITH THE VIEW OF INSTITUTING FISCAL
REFORMS WITHIN THE AGENCY, RELATIVE TO THE INVENTORY,
USE, CONTROL AND DISTRIBUTION OF MEDICINE BY THE
AGENCY**

WHEREAS, following news reports stating that that in 2018, the Department of Health (DOH) had about P3 billion worth of overstocked medicine remaining at the DOH, as verbally confirmed by Health Undersecretary Enrique Domingo in an interview with ANC's Early Edition;

WHEREAS, the 2018 Commission on Audit (COA) report stated that as of January 2018, the DOH had in its warehouses about P294.7 million worth of medicines and medical supplies with expiry dates on various days in January 2019, including P72.3 million worth of undistributed medicines languishing at the DOH regional offices with less than a year before its expiration;

WHEREAS, it is not news that medicines available to the public costs higher in the Philippines, to the detriment and prejudice of the Filipino people and the offered resolution of the DOH that it will prioritize the distribution of the remaining medicine is not enough and that the DOH owe the Filipino public an explanation as to what happened to this medicine and why it did not reach its intended beneficiaries;

WHEREAS, this worrisome development maybe considered a misuse of public funds, if not, outright graft and corruption on the part of DOH officials who are

45 tasked to implement the rules and regulations relative to the procurement, inventory,
46 use, control and distribution of medicine;

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48 **WHEREAS**, in line with the President's objective to rid government agencies of graft
49 and corruption and institute fiscal responsibility, as well as the upcoming House
50 deliberation on General Appropriations Act of 2020, there is a need for the House to
51 determine whether this overstocking of medicine is merely oversight or endemic in
52 the institution itself and prevalent within the government;

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54 **NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the House of Representatives
55 direct the House Committee on Health to conduct an investigation and inquiry, in aid
56 of legislation, on the reports stating that that in 2018, the DOH had about P3 billion
57 worth of overstocked medicine remaining at the DOH, as verbally confirmed by
58 Health Undersecretary Enrique Domingo, with the view of instituting fiscal reforms
59 within the agency relative to the inventory, use, control and distribution of medicine
60 by the DOH.

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62 Adopted,

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66 BIENVENIDO "BENNY" M. ABANTE, JR.

