

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

**EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS**  
First Regular Session

**HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 694**



Introduced by **Representative Manuel Luis T. Lopez**

**A RESOLUTION**

**STRONGLY URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND OTHER APPROPRIATE GOVERNMENT AGENCIES TO ESTABLISH CABALLO ISLAND AS A PERMANENT QUARANTINE AREA FOR NOVEL CORONAVIRUS ACUTE RESPIRATORY DISEASE (nCoV ARD) AND OTHER INFECTIOUS DISEASES AND FOR THE APPROPRIATE HOUSE COMMITTEE TO MAKE A DETAILED REVIEW OF ITS VIABILITY AND FEASIBILITY**

1 **WHEREAS**, Article II Section 15 of the 1987 Constitution provides that "[T]he State shall  
2 protect and promote the right to health of the people and instill health consciousness  
3 among them;"  
4

5 **WHEREAS**, Section 2 of Executive Order No. 292 series of 1987 Instituting the  
6 Administrative Code of 1987 and signed on July 25, 1987 states that it is the mandate of  
7 the Department of Health to be " ... primarily responsible for the formulation, planning,  
8 implementation, and coordination of policies and programs in the field of health. The  
9 primary function of the Department is the promotion, protection, preservation or  
10 restoration of the health of the people through the provision and delivery of health  
11 services and through the regulation and encouragement of providers of health goods and  
12 services;"  
13

14 **WHEREAS**, Novel Coronavirus Acute Respiratory Disease (nCoV ARD) is of pandemic  
15 proportions with its presence not only in the Philippines but also globally and currently  
16 affecting more than 20,438 individuals according to the World Health Organization;  
17

18 **WHEREAS**, the country has previously been affected by Ebola Virus and other diseases  
19 such as Middle East Respiratory Syndrome-related coronavirus (MERS), Severe Acute  
20 Respiratory Syndrome-related coronavirus (SARS) at different times of our country's  
21 history;  
22

23 **WHEREAS**, with the repeated attacks of these respiratory diseases of unknown origins  
24 which are greatly affecting the health of the Filipinos, there is an imperative need to  
25 continuously take a proactive stance in stemming the fast-spread of these diseases  
26 through isolation and quarantine of individuals who are suspected carriers of these  
27 diseases;  
28

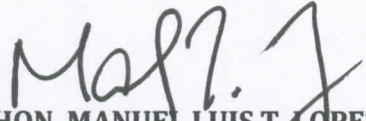
29 **WHEREAS**, there is a further need to dedicate an area for isolation and quarantine of  
30 these individuals suspected to have the symptoms of viruses and provide the necessary  
31 logistical related needs;

1 **WHEREAS**, the Caballo Islands has in 2014 been previously used by Filipino  
2 peacekeepers from Liberia as a quarantine area for 21 days due to concerns about the  
3 Ebola virus;  
4

5 **WHEREAS**, the Caballo Islands which is located off Manila Bay and beside the Corregidor  
6 Islands, and currently occupied as a military facility, is an ideal isolation and quarantine  
7 area both for its capability to house a big number of patients with its large area of at least  
8 20 hectares and for its accessibility to Metro Manila which has the best doctors and  
9 knowledge available;  
10

11 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, by the House of Representatives of the  
12 Philippines, to direct the Department of Health and other appropriate government  
13 agencies to establish the Caballo Islands as a permanent area for isolation and quarantine  
14 of individuals suspected to have the symptoms of the dreaded viruses, and for the  
15 appropriate House Committees to conduct a detailed review of its operational viability  
16 and feasibility in the long term.  
17

18 Adopted,

  
**HON. MANUEL LUIS T. LOPEZ**  
*Representative*  
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