## EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES

First Regular Session

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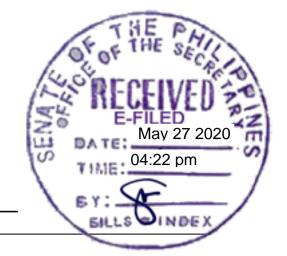
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P. S. Res No.	428



Introduced by Senator Maria Lourdes Nancy S. Binay

## **RESOLUTION**

DIRECTING THE APPROPRIATE SENATE COMMITTEE TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE REPORTED ILLEGAL HOSPITALS EXCLUSIVELY FOR CHINESE NATIONALS INFECTED WITH COVID-19

WHEREAS, the multiple government crackdown on alleged makeshift hospitals and pharmacies serving Chinese nationals infected with COVID-19 has confirmed their existence in the country;

WHEREAS, according to news reports, the sprawling 300-hectare property of Fontana Leisure Parks in Clark Freeport was ordered closed and under full lockdown by the Clark Development Corporation (CDC) after the discovery of an illicit hospital and pharmacy exclusively serving Chinese COVID-19 patients in one of its villas<sup>1</sup>;

WHEREAS, on May 19, 2020, the Criminal Investigation and Detection Group Regional Field Unit-3, the Food and Drug Administration, the CDC and a crew of GMA News 7 conducted a joint operation and raided the villa illegally operating as a makeshift medical facility<sup>2</sup>;

WHEREAS, according to Police Lt. Gen. Guillermo Eleazar, the illegal hospital and drugstore could endanger patients instead of saving them because they do not comply with government health regulations and standards<sup>3</sup>.

WHEREAS, another unlicensed medical facility in Makati, exclusively used for the treatment of Chinese COVID-19 patients, was discovered and raided by government authorities<sup>4</sup>;

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Ashley Manabat, Authorities bust 'underground' hospital for Chinese Covid-19 patients in Clark, Business Mirror (May 21, 2020), https://businessmirror.com.ph/2020/05/21/authorities-bust-underground-hospital-for-chinese-covid-19-patients-in-clark/.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Tonette Orejas, Illegal hospital treating COVID-19 patients shut, Philippine Daily Inquirer (May 21, 2020), https://newsinfo.inquirer.net/1278454/illegal-hospital-treating-covid-19-patients-shut.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Julia Maria Ornedo, Underground Chinese clinic discovered in Makati after waste clogs drainage, GMA News Online (May 26, 2020) https://www.gmanetwork.com/news/news/metro/739897/underground-chinese-clinic-discovered-in-makati-after-waste-clogs-drainage/story/.

WHEREAS, Makati Police Chief, Colonel Oscar Jacildo, said that the underground clinic had no business permit and the Chinese doctor working there had no license to practice in the Philippines<sup>5</sup>;

WHEREAS, the proliferation of illegal medical facilities for the treatment of contagious diseases, such as COVID-19, is a public health concern that the Senate urgently needs to look into considering that they impose serious health risk to the community, especially now that the country is in the middle of containing the spread of COVID-19;

- 9 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Senate directs the appropriate Senate
- committee to conduct an inquiry, in aid of legislation, on the reported illegal
- 11 hospitals exclusively for Chinese nationals infected with COVID-19.

Adopted,

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Ibid.