



REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao
BANGSAMORO TRANSITION AUTHORITY
BARMM Compound, Cotabato City

Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao
Parliament
BILLS AND INDEX DIVISION
RECEIVED
Name: NORMIDA ENLIG Signature: [Signature]
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PROPOSED RESOLUTION NO. 613

Introduced by MP DR. SAFFRULLAH M. DIPATUAN

**RESOLUTION URGENTLY DIRECTING THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH (MOH)-
BARMM TO PREPARE A CONTINGENCY PLAN IN RESPONSE TO THE
EMERGING UPSURGE OF COVID 19 – OMICRON VARIANT IN THE COUNTRY TO
PREVENT ITS FURTHER SPREAD WITHIN BARMM**

WHEREAS, Section 22, Article IX of RA No. 11054, otherwise known as the “*Organic Law of the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao*” provides, among others, that the Bangsamoro Government shall protect and promote the right to health of the people and instill health consciousness among them;

WHEREAS, Section 2, Chapter 1, Title V of the Bangsamoro Administrative Code provides that the Ministry of Health (MOH) shall be primarily responsible for the formulation, planning, implementation and coordination of policies and programs for health. It shall promote, protect, preserve and restore the health of the people through the provision and delivery of health services through regulation and encouragement of providers of health goods and services;

WHEREAS, in November 2021, while the COVID 19- Delta variant still continues to cause havoc with people across the globe, a new variant of the novel coronavirus emerged and the World Health Organization (WHO) designated this new B.1.1.529, named Omicron, a variant of concern;

WHEREAS, on December 31, 2021, the Department of Health (DOH) confirmed the detection of 14 cases of Omicron variant in the country, seven (7) of which are imported cases. The department further stressed that there is already a “high possibility” of local transmission of this Omicron variant in the country;

WHEREAS, in an article, entitled “*Enhancing Readiness for Omicron (B.1.1.529): Technical Brief and Priority Actions for Member States*,” published by the WHO on its official website on December 10, 2021, the organization stated that there is consistent evidence that Omicron has a substantial growth advantage over Delta; it is spreading significantly faster than the Delta variant in countries with documented community transmission, with a doubling time of 1.5-3 days. (<https://www.who.int/>);

WHEREAS, DOH confirmed that vaccinated people and even those who have already received booster shots can still be infected by the Omicron variant;

WHEREAS, WHO also reported that there may be an increased risk of reinfection with Omicron (ie, people who have previously had COVID-19 could become reinfected more easily with Omicron) as compared to other variants of concern;

WHEREAS, the pediatric group is at a higher risk of infection since they are less protected being unvaccinated. In fact, in recent international and local news, there have been reports of increasing number of children hospitalized with COVID 19 as the Omicron variant’s dominance intensifies;

WHEREAS, a well-planned and well-implemented response and measures must be put in place to prevent and/or minimize the spread or transmission of omicron variant within the BARMM Region;

NOW, THEREFORE, be it

RESOLVED, as it is hereby resolved, by the Bangsamoro Transition Authority, to urgently direct the MOH-BARMM to immediately prepare a Contingency Plan in response to the emerging upsurge of COVID 19 – Omicron variant in the country to prevent its further spread within BARMM;

RESOLVED FURTHER, to forward the foregoing Resolution to the MOH-BARMM, for further information and for urgent and appropriate consideration.

Adopted,

AUTHOR:


DR. SAFFRULLAH M. DIPATUAN
Member of Parliament

Certified Correct:

PROF. RUBY B. ANGKAL
Secretary General

Attested:

HON. PANGALIAN M. BALINDONG
Speaker