



PHILIPPINE SOCIETY FOR MICROBIOLOGY, INC.

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Statement to Support Legislation of the Philippine Microbiology Bill and The Virology Science and Technology Institute of the Philippines

03 August 2020

The **Philippine Society for Microbiology (PSM)** is one with our nation as we work together to control SARS-CoV-2 transmission to end the COVID-19 pandemic.

In light of the impacts of microorganisms, PSM encourages the legislation of the Philippine Microbiology Bill (House Bill 1485 authored by Cong. Joaquin Chipeco Jr. and Senate Bill No. 1058, Philippine Microbiology Act of 2019 filed by Sen. Juan Miguel Zubiri) to create a Board of Microbiology and administer licensure tests to institute microbiology professionals and a regulatory system to promote food safety, improve quality of goods and prevent spread of diseases.

In the same way, PSM declares its support for the Senate Bill No. 1543 Virology Science and Technology Institute of the Philippines (VIP) Act of 2020 (by Sen. Panfilo M. Lacson) to support science and technology activities related to viruses to address the nation's diagnostic, disease management and prevention as well as viral disease treatment needs.

These measures shall contribute to our security and safety with regard to the management of microbial agents including viruses in the Philippines.

Joel C. Cornista, MSc, SMicro
President