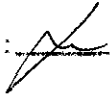


FOURTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE)
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
Second Regular Session)

9 APR 23 P 3:14

S E N A T E

RECEIVED BY: 

P. S. Res. No. **1013**

INTRODUCED BY SENATOR VILLAR

RESOLUTION

URGING THE SENATE COMMITTEES ON HEALTH AND DEMOGRAPHY AND YOUTH, WOMEN AND FAMILY RELATIONS TO CONDUCT A STUDY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE ALARMING INCREASE IN DEATH OF WOMEN RESULTING FROM PREGNANCY-RELATED COMPLICATIONS AND CHILDBIRTH DEATHS TAKING INTO CONSIDERATION THE UNICEF'S STATE OF THE WORLD'S CHILDREN REPORT 2009

Whereas, the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) in this year's "State of the World's Children Report" revealed that pregnancy in developing countries is 300 times deadlier compared to those in developed countries;

Whereas, approximately 99 percent of deaths that are linked to pregnancy and complications of childbirth worldwide occur in developing countries, to where the Philippines forms part of;

Whereas, despite the Philippines' high fertility rate, reports reveal that the risk of pregnancy-related complications and childbirth deaths have been threatening mothers and their newly-born child;

Whereas, 11 Filipino women die of childbirth everyday, significantly that the lifetime risk of maternal health is 1 in every 140 childbirths, as sourced from the UNICEF report;

Whereas, it has been accepted in medical science that the first days and early weeks subsequent to the child's delivery are usually the most crucial in sustaining the life of the mother and her child, aptly that essential lifesaving care and quality reproductive health care practices must be provided to secure the lives of the mother and the child;

Whereas, fortunately however, there has already been an emerging progress in the improvement of child survival rate in many developing countries and yet, the rate of maternal mortality does not show progressive improvement;

Whereas, factors that attribute to the increase of maternal deaths that were included in the UNICEF report pertains to the shortage of trained personnel who could assist in the proper procedure of childbirth, the employment of weak health systems in the country, and the lack and inaccessibility by the mothers of sufficient education on proper maternal health during pregnancy and childbirth;

Whereas, an article in the Philippine Daily Inquirer (PDI) on January 26, 2009 presented the comparison illustrating that a child born as quoted from the article, in the “dirt-poor” province of Tawi-Tawi is almost five times more likely to die than a child born in Manila;

Whereas, a comprehensive assessment must be made to forestall the increasing extreme risks suffered by Filipino women and new-born babies in the country; NOW THEREFOR BE IT

RESOLVED, as it is hereby resolved, to urge the Senate Committees on Health and Demography and Youth, Women and Family Relations to conduct A study, in aid of legislation, on the alarming increase in death of women resulting from pregnancy-related complications and childbirth deaths.

Adopted,



MANNY VILLAR
Senator