

SENATE
P. S. R. No. 1158



Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

RESOLUTION
DIRECTING THE PROPER SENATE COMMITTEE TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY,
IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE FEASIBILITY OF ESTABLISHING A
COMPREHENSIVE CHILD INJURY PREVENTION PROGRAM TO MINIMIZE THE
INCIDENCE OF CHILD INJURIES

WHEREAS, the Constitution, Article 2, Section 13 provides: "The State recognizes the vital role of the youth in nation-building and shall promote and protect their physical, moral, spiritual, intellectual, and social well-being";

WHEREAS, according to Dr. Rafael Consunji of the United Nations Children's Fund (Unicef), a Filipino child dies every hour from accidental injuries, some 200,000 others get hospitalized for the same reasons and 8.2 million more youngsters need medical attention;

WHEREAS, based on a Unicef study, the top causes of deaths among children are drowning, road accidents, falls, poisoning and burns;

WHEREAS, these statistics illustrate that we are not doing enough in creating safe places for children from one to 14 years old;

WHEREAS, unlike other countries that have taken steps to prevent child injuries, the Philippines has yet to show a successful case in this respect;

WHEREAS, Barangay Maliwalo in Tarlac City should be commended for adopting and implementing the child injury prevention program since it has already been promoting child safety;

WHEREAS, according to Dr. Rodolfo Albornoz, program manager of the Family Health Office of the National Center for Disease Prevention and Control, Tarlac City was chosen as a pioneer site because injuries ranked ninth among the causes of deaths of children here and it has also successfully implemented programs against violence on women and illegal drugs;

WHEREAS, the Maliwalo council, Department of Education and private groups in the village have done a checklist of safety measures to make homes, schools and communities accident free; the program includes training for health workers, teachers and parents;

WHEREAS, the effort of this locality should serve as an example for other communities to adopt and implement their own child injury prevention program in order to reduce the incidents of accidents involving children;

WHEREFORE, be it hereby resolved by the Philippine Senate, to direct the proper Senate Committee to conduct an inquiry in aid of legislation, on the feasibility of establishing a comprehensive child injury prevention program to minimize the incidence of child injuries.

Adopted,


MIRIAM DEFENSOR SANTIAGO

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