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Office of the Secretary

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SENATE
P.S. RES NO. 705

RECORDED BY: *Car*

Introduced by SENATOR PIA S. CAYETANO

A RESOLUTION

DIRECTING THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH AND DEMOGRAPHY TO LOOK INTO, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, THE EXISTING GOVERNMENT PROGRAMS TO INCREASE AWARENESS AND ADDRESS THE PROBLEM OF OSTEOPOROSIS IN THE PHILIPPINES

WHEREAS, Osteoporosis is an illness where the density and quality of bone are reduced, leading to weakness of the skeleton and increased risk of fracture, specifically in the wrist, upper arm, hip, pelvis and spine;

WHEREAS, Osteoporosis is often referred to as the silent epidemic because bone loss occurs without having any signs. People may not be aware of the disease until their bones become so weak that a sudden strain, bump or fall causes a fracture;

WHEREAS, there is a misconception that osteoporosis is a disease for the old but in fact, it can also strike at an early age. In fact, bone loss in women starts as early as 25 years old.

WHEREAS, Osteoporosis is estimated to affect two hundred million (200,000,000) women worldwide – approximately one-tenth (1/10) of women aged sixty (60), one-fifth (1/5) of women aged seventy (70), two-fifths (2/5) of women aged eighty (80) and two-thirds (2/3) of women aged ninety (90);

WHEREAS, one out of every three Filipino women, as well as one in every five Filipino men, is likely to suffer from osteoporosis;

WHEREAS, in the Philippines, data has shown that hip fractures are the leading osteoporosis-related fractures since they are easily recognized due to associated pain and minimal trauma, unlike the vertebral or spine fractures, which usually go unrecognized;

WHEREAS, osteoporosis is deadly as twenty percent (20%) of those who have hip fracture die within six to twelve (6-12) months while thirty percent (30%) never walk again;

WHEREAS, hip fractures pose economic burden to society. According to a 2004 study, direct costs of hospitalization among patients who sustained hip fracture was estimated to be Php 92,000.00 in a government facility to around Php 300,000.00 in a privately owned health facility;

WHEREAS, according to the same study, the direct cost of hospitalization for patients with hip fracture, having a prevalence of 160/ 10,000, would amount to Php 3.2 billion in 2020 and Php 8.55 billion in 2050;

WHEREAS, hip fracture is the fourth or fifth most common claim with the highest number of admission days for members of the Philippine Health Corporation (Philhealth);

WHEREAS, because osteoporosis is deadly and has no cure, it is important for the government to address and prevent osteoporosis from further affecting not only ones health but as well as the economic welfare of our people;

WHEREAS, prevention involves a healthy diet which includes sufficient intake of calcium, weight-bearing exercise and a healthy lifestyle;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, at the Senate of the Philippines direct the Committee on Health and Demography to look into, in aid of legislation, the existing government programs to increase awareness and address the problem of osteoporosis in the Philippines.

Adopted,


PIA S. CAYETANO
Senator