

SIXTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC.)
OF THE PHILIPPINES)
First Regular Session)



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SENATE
P. S. R. No. 461

RECEIVED BY: *f*

Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

RESOLUTION

DIRECTING THE PROPER SENATE COMMITTEE TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID
OF LEGISLATION, ON THE REPORTS THAT PLASTIC FIESTA BUNTINGS CONTAIN
HIGHLY TOXIC CHEMICALS

WHEREAS, the Constitution Article 11, Section 14 of the Constitution provides: "The State shall protect and promote the right to health of the people and instill health consciousness among them";

WHEREAS, in a press release posted in their website last 15 January 2014, the waste and pollution watchdog EcoWaste Coalition reported that plastic fiesta buntings hanging in various streets of Tondo in Manila for the feast of Sto. Niño were discovered containing with highly toxic chemicals;

WHEREAS, using an X-Ray Fluorescence device, the group reportedly found that six of 10 samples of blue green, orange, red, and yellow polyvinyl chloride (PVC) plastic buntings contain lead in the range of 120 to 6,982 per million (ppm);

WHEREAS, the EcoWaste Coalition also reported that the three samples of yellow buntings also registered the highest concentrations of arsenic and chromium;

WHEREAS, according to the group, PVC buntings when burned will create toxic byproducts called dioxins that pose a cancer hazard and a long list of severe reproductive and developmental problems;

WHEREAS, the group further reported that the buntings are often made out of disposable plastic bags, cups and strips, packaging scraps and product advertisements that go straight to the dumps after the celebrations, the group observed;

WHEREAS, given the dangers of everyday exposure to toxic chemicals found in the plastic fiesta buntings, the government should to look into the unregulated practice of hanging fiesta buntings as these accessories do not only add to the volume but also to the toxicity of garbage generated from our community festivities;

WHEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE PHILIPPINE SENATE to direct the proper Senate committee to conduct an inquiry, in aid of legislation, on the reports that plastic fiesta buntings contain highly toxic chemicals.

Adopted,

Miriam Defensor Santiago
MIRIAM DEFENSOR SANTIAGO
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