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First Regular Session)



Senate
Office of the Secretary

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SENATE
P. S. R. No. 485

RECEIVED BY: ja

Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

RESOLUTION

DIRECTING THE PROPER SENATE COMMITTEE TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID
OF LEGISLATION, ON THE PROLIFERATION OF SLIMMING UNDERWEAR
PRODUCTS WITHOUT ANY CLINICAL STUDIES TO SUPPORT THE THERAPEUTIC
CLAIMS

WHEREAS, the Constitution, Article 2, Section 15 provides: "The State shall protect and promote the right to health of the people and instill health consciousness among them";

WHEREAS, the Constitution, Article 13, Section 12 further provides: "The State shall establish and maintain an effective food and drug regulatory system and undertake appropriate health, manpower development, and research, responsive to the country's health needs and problems.

WHEREAS, based on a 20 January 2014 article in the *Philippine Daily Inquirer*, Director General Kenneth Hartigan Go of the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) through Advisory 2014-005, warned consumers against buying Onami slimming underwear that are advertised in print and online;

WHEREAS, based on ads, these products reportedly detoxify and burn fat, strengthen the immune system, boost metabolism, increase mental alertness, reduce fatigue and stress, reduce aches and pains and prevent body odors;

WHEREAS, according to Go, there were no clinical or scientific studies to back the therapeutic claims, adding that the slimming underwear was not registered with the FDA which regulates all devices that have therapeutic or health claims to ensure that they meet safety, efficacy and quality standards;

WHEREAS, Go further explained that only health products that meet the FDA standards are issued the Certificate of Product Registration and only FDA-registered health products may be offered for sale or use and advertised, among other promotional and marketing activities;

WHEREAS, Go reportedly instructed manufacturers and distributors of Onami products to remove these from the market and warned mall owners and outlets not to sell these in their establishments;

WHEREAS, food and drug regulation officers in the field were also directed to seize the slimming underwear and investigate the manufacturer or distributor;

WHEREAS, according to the FDA advisory, peddlers and advertisers claim that the black tourmaline embedded in the underwear generates a weak electric current when heated or when the right amount of pressure is applied and that tourmaline produces far infrared rays and converts moisture in the air to negative ions;


WHEREAS, peddlers of this product allegedly claim that the semiprecious gemstone is capable of delivering several health benefits although there were no studies to back these up;

WHEREAS, FDA requires that manufacturers or distributors of such products have to apply for a License to Operate as a manufacturer or distributor with the government agency;

WHEREAS, it is imperative for the State to impede the distribution of these products and ban it altogether before it can cause further harm to unsuspecting consumers;

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 proliferation of slimming underwear products without any clinical studies to support the therapeutic claims.

Adopted,


MIRIAM DEFENSOR SANTIAGO
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