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SENATE
P. S. Res No. 566

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Introduced by Senator Maria Lourdes Nancy S. Binay

**RESOLUTION
CALLING FOR AN INVESTIGATION, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE
HEALTH CONDITION OF CHILDREN IN EVACUATION CENTERS IN
ZAMBOANGA CITY**

WHEREAS, thousands of families, displaced by the armed conflict between the government troops and the Moro National Liberation Front last September 2013, continue to stay in evacuation centers in Zamboanga City;

WHEREAS, according to the city health officer as of January 2014, Dr. Rodelyn Agbulos (Dr. Agbulos), causes of deaths ranged from acute respiratory tract infection, asthma, sepsis and malnutrition-dehydration;

WHEREAS, in a later statement, Dr. Agbulos said that the leading cause of the death was diarrhea for children while adults suffered from acute gastroenteritis and other respiratory ailments such as pneumonia and asthma leading to cardiac arrest¹;

WHEREAS, as of November 2013, local authorities have monitored 14,467 cases of acute respiratory infection, 4,649 cases of fever, 3,136 cases of acute water diarrhea, 1,962 cases of skin diseases and 1,075 cases of high blood pressure². As of January 2014, 23 cases of dengue have also been reported³;

WHEREAS, as of February 2014, the death toll among internally displaced persons in the Zamboanga siege reached 88⁴;

WHEREAS, Dr. Agbulos said 44 of the total dead were children below 5 years old, 24 were aged 5-60 years old and 20 others above 60 years old⁵.

WHEREAS, health condition of families specially children in evacuation centers displaced by armed conflict is a paramount concern that needs to be addressed;

¹ Philippine Star, Death toll in Zamboanga's evacuation camps hits 88, (February 24, 2014), <http://www.philstar.com/nation/2014/02/24/1294059/death-toll-zamboangas-evacuation-camps-hits-88>,

² Inquirer Mindanao, Kids die of illnesses in Zamboanga City evacuation centers, (November 04, 2013), <http://newsinfo.inquirer.net/520395/kids-die-of-illnesses-in-zamboanga-city-evacuation-centers>

³ ABS-CBN News Zamboanga, More evacuees die in Zamboanga, (January 19, 2014), <http://www.abs-cbnnews.com/nation/regions/01/19/14/more-evacuees-die-zamboanga>

⁴ Supra [Citation 1]

⁵ Supra [Citation 1]

BE IT RESOLVED, AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, to conduct an investigation, in aid of legislation, on the health condition of children in evacuation centers in Zamboanga City.

Adopted,


MARIA LOURDES NANCY S. BINAY
Senator