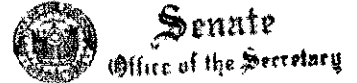


SIXTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC )  
OF THE PHILIPPINES )  
First Regular Session )



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SENATE  
P.S.R No. 604

RECEIVED BY: *[Signature]*

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Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

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RESOLUTION

DIRECTING THE PROPER SENATE COMMITTEE TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION ON THE REPORT THAT THE LEGAL SYSTEM IN MANY COUNTRIES, INCLUDING THE PHILIPPINES, COULD NOT REACT FAST ENOUGH TO THE EMERGENCE OF ILLEGAL SYNTHETIC DRUGS IN ASIA

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

WHEREAS, the Associated Press reported on 01 April 2014 that synthetic drugs are emerging in Asia;

WHEREAS, international drug enforcement officials reportedly said that methamphetamine is the drug of choice in Asia but new synthetic drugs have found their way in the region, with authorities constantly playing catch up with traffickers;

WHEREAS, it was reported that Joseph Reagan, U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration regional director for the Far East, said during his visit to the country, that the legal system in many countries could not react fast enough to synthetic marijuana and synthetic cathinones, sometimes called bath salts; he also claimed that once legislatures address the specific substance, traffickers change one chemical molecule to make a drug that is temporarily legal;

WHEREAS, Reagan also reportedly said that the United States has a significant problem with synthetic drugs, which have also been found in Indonesia, Malaysia, Japan, South Korea and the Philippines;

WHEREAS, given the rising problem of drug abuse in the country, it is imperative that the government exhaust all efforts to prevent the trade, use, and manufacture of synthetic drugs in the Philippines;

WHEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE PHILIPPINE SENATE to direct the Senate Committee to conduct in aid of legislation on the report that the legal system in many countries, including the Philippines, could not react fast enough to the emergence of illegal synthetic drugs in Asia.

Adopted,

*[Signature]*  
MIRIAM DEFENSOR SANTIAGO

/rjd