

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

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SENATE  
P.S.R No. 610

RECEIVED BY: JNV

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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 SOME SWIMMING FLOATS CONTAIN  
TOXIC CHEMICALS

WHEREAS, the Constitution, Article 12, Section 12 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, *Manila Bulletin* on 22 April 2014 reported that EcoWaste Coalition warned the public that swimming toys may contain health-damaging chemicals called phthalates;

WHEREAS, the group reportedly said that these toys may be loaded with phthalates, which are used to make PVC more flexible;

WHEREAS, EcoWaste claimed that eight European countries ordered the market withdrawal of various types of swim rings because of the chemical risk attributed to phthalates;

WHEREAS, the report claimed that according to EcoWaste, 41 notifications were filed from 2007 to 2013 by Cyprus, Czech Republic, France, Germany, Hungary, Italy, Latvia and Slovakia against swim rings laced with phthalates with the European Union's Rapid Alert System for Non-Food Dangerous Products;


WHEREAS; EcoWaste reportedly said that exposure to phthalates have been linked to health problems including cleft palate, deformed penises and undescended testicles and development abnormalities, premature puberty, shorter pregnancy duration and birth defects;

WHEREAS; according to the group, the Department of Health's Order 2009-0005 A amended in 2011 reportedly said that children's toys containing over 1 percent of phthalates DEHP (Di(2-ethylhexyl)phthalate), DBP (Dibutyl phthalate) and BBP (Butyl benzyl phthalate) are prohibited;

WHEREAS; according to Thony Dizon of EcoWaste, parents can use their purchasing power to compel manufacturers to offer toys that are safe from phthalates in line with the DOH policy;

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 on the report that some swimming floats contain toxic chemicals.

Adopted,

  
MIRIAM DEFENSOR SANTIAGO