

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



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SENATE
P. S. R. No. 702

RECEIVED BY: *ji*

Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

RESOLUTION

DIRECTING THE PROPER SENATE COMMITTEE, TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE REPORT OF WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION ON THE HARMFUL EFFECTS OF SECOND HAND SMOKING TO CHILDREN

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, *Philstar.com* posted a news article on 2 June 2014 based on a World Health Organization (WHO) report warning the public of the harmful effects of second-hand cigarette smoke to children who could suffer various debilitating and life-threatening illness;

WHEREAS, it was reported that WHO Country Representative Julie Hall said that while it is more dangerous to smoke cigarettes yourself, inhaling someone else's smoke also has its danger, particularly among children;

WHEREAS, children exposed to second-hand smoke reportedly tend to develop *otitis media* or ear infection, throat infection, and pneumonia among other illnesses;

WHEREAS, Hall claimed that it is more alarming that these conditions are much more common in children who live in households that are exposed to smoke all the time;

WHEREAS, second-hand smoking is reportedly dangerous particularly to children, as it could cause acute coronary diseases, chronic respiratory condition, exacerbate asthma, and reduce lung function;

WHEREAS, every year, around six million people reportedly die from smoking while half a million others die from second hand smoke;

WHEREAS, there is an urgent need to address and study the report in order to initiate the necessary legislative measures to protect our citizens, particularly Filipino children from the harmful and deadly effects of smoking and second-hand smoke;

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 recent World Health Organization report warning the public of the harmful effects of second-hand cigarette smoke to children.

Adopted,

Miriam Defensor Santiago
MIRIAM DEFENSOR SANTIAAGO