

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



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SENATE  
P. S. R. No. 706

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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 ADULTERATED ANTI-DEPRESSANT  
DRUGS WERE IMPORTED INTO THE PHILIPPINES

WHEREAS, the Constitution Article 11, Section 14 of the Constitution provides that the "State shall protect and promote the right to health of the people and instill health consciousness among them";

WHEREAS, in an article by the *Philippine Star* on 29 May 2014, it was reported that the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) advised the public of the recall of certain batches of a drug used to treat some mental conditions;

WHEREAS, according to FDA director general Kenneth Hartigan-Go, GlaxoSmithKline (GSK) Phil. Inc. initiated the recall of batch nos. 601, 602M and 603 of Paroxetine 20 mg tablet (Seroxat);

WHEREAS, FDA's monitoring reportedly showed that the product is being advertised to have benefits as it will detoxify the body and burn fats, strengthen the immune system, boost metabolism, increase mental alertness, reduce fatigue and stress, reduce aches and pains, and prevent body odors;

WHEREAS, Hartigan-Go reportedly said in an advisory that a warning was issued by the United States (US)-FDA to GSK USA because the active pharmaceutical ingredients (API) of the manufacturer, SmithKline Beecham (Cork) Ltd. in Currabinny Carriagaline Cork in Ireland, has critical deviations which caused the Paroxetine API to be adulterated in violation of the current Good Manufacturing Practice (GMP), which is being enforced by the US FDA;

WHEREAS, it was reported that the US FDA provides the system that ensures the proper design, monitoring and control of manufacturing processes and facilities for medicine;

WHEREAS, the report added that Paroxetine is used to treat depression, obsessive-compulsive disorder and panic disorder with or without agoraphobia;

WHEREAS, Go reportedly advised consumers to buy medicine from legitimate pharmacies and drug outlets and ask for an official receipt;

WHEREAS, every individual should be aware of the ill effects of adulterated medicine; thus, there is a need for stricter implementation and refining of existing laws to prevent the unauthorized or unlicensed importation, distribution and sale of adulterated drugs;

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 report that adulterated anti-depressant drugs were imported into the Philippines.

Adopted

*ccr*  
*Miriam Defensor Santiago*  
SEN. MIRIAM DEFENSOR SANTIAGO

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