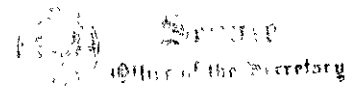


SIXTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC)
OF THE PHILIPPINES)
Second Regular Session)



75 FEB 10 P1 52

SENATE
P.S.R. No. 1166

FILED BY *J*

Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

RESOLUTION
DIRECTING THE PROPER SENATE COMMITTEE TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID
OF LEGISLATION, ON THE REPORT THAT ELDERLY WOMEN ARE USED AS DRUG
MULES BY DRUG SYNDICATES

WHEREAS, Republic Act No. 1965, also known as the Comprehensive Dangerous Drugs Act of 2002, provides: "...The government shall pursue an intensive and unrelenting campaign against the trafficking and use of dangerous drugs and other similar substances through an integrated system of planning, implementation and enforcement of anti-drug abuse policies, programs, and projects";

WHEREAS, Manila Bulletin, in a news article posted on 21 January 2015, reported that a pair of elderly women were busted by the Pilar, Bataan police recently, raising the possibility that drug syndicates have turned to using old people, regarded as respectful by the general public, as drug mules;

WHEREAS, Pilar police chief Sr. Insp. Leobaldom R. Bacon reportedly said that Virgilia Salazar, 62, and Virginia Guzman, 52, were arrested in separate buy-bust stings at Barangay Bustos, Bataan;

WHEREAS, Bacon reportedly claimed that Salazar was arrested after handing over to a policeman, who acted as buyer, a small heat-sealed transparent plastic sachet of shabu in exchange for ₱500;

WHEREAS, in a separate operation, Bacon reportedly said that his deputy, Insp. Karl Marlo Sanchez, conducted a buy-bust deal against Guzman;

WHEREAS, it was stated that with the arrest of Salazar and Guzman, it has become more apparent that drug dealers have become more bold in peddling illegal drugs despite the heavy penalties of drug pushing;

WHEREAS, drug pushing is a non-bailable offence;

WHEREAS, an intelligence officer, who asked not to be named, revealed that a suspected drug peddler had attempted to bribe authorities who arrested him with ₱60,000, right after he was caught during a buy-bust operation in a northern Bataan town;

WHEREAS, the report said that when the apprehending policemen turned down the bribe money, the suspect's wife suddenly arrived and also offered ₱100,000 cash in exchange for her husband's immediate release

WHEREAS, they were both arrested for additional case of bribery;

WHEREAS, the use of old people as drug mules is detestable;

WHEREAS, drug pushing is an offense that needs to be addressed immediately and effectively to prevent the prevalence of illegal drugs;

WHEREAS, concerned authorities must be more vigilant in recognizing drug mules;

WHEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE PHILIPPINE SENATE to direct the proper Senate committees to investigate in aid of legislation, on the report that elderly women are used as drug mules by drug syndicates.

Adopted,


MIRIAM DEFENSOR SANTIAGO
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