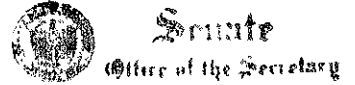


SIXTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC)
OF THE PHILIPPINES)
Second Regular Session)



15 MAR -3 P4 24

SENATE
P. S. R. No. 1208

RECEIVED BY: *Jr.*

Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

RESOLUTION
DIRECTING THE PROPER SENATE COMMITTEE TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID
OF LEGISLATION, ON THE REPORT THAT A CHILD WITH DOWN SYNDROME IS
BORN EVERY FOUR HOURS IN THE PHILIPPINES

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, the *Philippine Star* on 23 February 2015 reported that a Filipino with Down syndrome is born in the country every four hours according to the Down Syndrome Association of the Philippines (DSAP);

WHEREAS, Down syndrome, also called Trisomy 21, is a condition in which an extra genetic material called chromosome 21 causes delays in the way a child develops, both mentally and physically;

WHEREAS, the news said that 80 percent of babies with the condition are born to mothers aged 35 and below, but added that the risk of having a baby with Down syndrome increases as women get older;

WHEREAS, the government must formulate policies to protect the rights and ensure the welfare of children born with Down syndrome;

WHEREAS, the Department of Health, in coordination with relevant agencies, must ramp up awareness campaigns for Down syndrome;

WHEREAS, Congress, through relevant legislation, must facilitate the integration of children with special needs into society;

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 a child with Down syndrome is born every four hours in the Philippines.

Adopted,

Miriam Defensor Santiago
MIRIAM DEFENSOR SANTIAGO
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