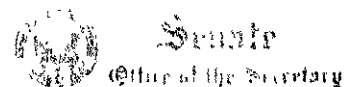


SIXTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC )  
OF THE PHILIPPINES )  
Second Regular Session )



15 MAR 24 P4:42

SENATE  
P. S. R. No. 1259

RECEIVED BY: *lv*

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Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

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1 RESOLUTION

2 DIRECTING THE PROPER SENATE COMMITTEE TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY,  
3 IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE REPORT THAT LEAD-TAINTED  
4 REFRIGERATOR MAGNETS CONTAINING HIGH LEVELS OF LEAD ARE SOLD  
5 IN DIVISORIA, MANILA

6 WHEREAS, the Constitution, Article 12, Section 15 provides: "The State shall  
7 protect and promote the right to health of the people and instill health consciousness  
8 among them";

9 WHEREAS, Republic Act No. 7394, or the Consumer Act of the Philippines,  
10 Article 2, paragraphs (a), (b), and (c) state that:

11 It is the policy of the State to protect the interests of the consumer,  
12 promote his general welfare and to establish standards of conduct for  
13 business and industry. Towards this end, the State shall implement  
14 measures to achieve the following objectives:

15 a) protection against hazards to health and safety;

16 b) protection against deceptive, unfair and unconscionable sales acts  
17 and practices;

18 c) provision of information and education to facilitate sound choice  
19 and the proper exercise of rights by the consumer;

1           WHEREAS, the *Philippine Daily Inquirer*, on 16 March 2015, reported that the  
2 EcoWaste Coalition warned the public that refrigerator magnets sold in Divisoria, Manila  
3 allegedly contain high levels of lead;

4           WHEREAS, lead is a toxic chemical added to some paints and polyvinyl chloride  
5 (PVC) plastics;

6           WHEREAS, the EcoWaste Coalition reportedly bought and tested six refrigerator  
7 magnets for ₱10 each and 15 cord holders for ₱35 each;

8           WHEREAS, the brightly painted magnets shaped like animals and cord holders  
9 featuring cartoon characters were tested and found to be positive for lead;

10           WHEREAS, the EcoWaste Coalition's Project Protect coordinator Thony Dizon  
11 reportedly explained that they used a portable X-ray fluorescence device to test the  
12 samples which were found to contain up to 18,100 parts per million (ppm) of lead, which  
13 is beyond the 90 ppm limit set for decorative paints;

14           WHEREAS, Dizon further claimed that the colorful animal figures attached to  
15 round magnets were individually packed in a clear plastic with no labeling details, while  
16 the cord holders designed with iconic cartoon characters were incompletely labeled; these  
17 products reportedly did not indicate lead as an active ingredient, which is in violation of  
18 R.A. 7394;

19           WHEREAS, concerned agencies should ensure that product distributors adhere to  
20 R.A. No. 7394 to ensure that consumers are properly informed against ingredients that  
21 are potentially harmful to the public's health;

22           WHEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED BY THE PHILIPPINE SENATE  
23 to direct the proper Senate committee to conduct an inquiry, in aid of legislation, on the

- 1 report that refrigerator magnets containing high levels of lead are sold in Divisoria,
- 2 Manila.

Adopted,

  
MIRIAM DEFENSOR SANTIAGO  
RP

/rjd