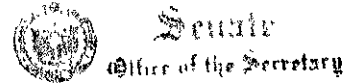


SIXTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC )  
OF THE PHILIPPINES )  
Third Regular Session )



15 JUL -1 P6:25

SENATE  
P. S. R. No. 1424

RECEIVED BY: *J*

Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

RESOLUTION  
DIRECTING THE PROPER SENATE COMMITTEE  
TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION,  
ON REPORTED BUDGET CUTS AND PRIVATIZATION SCHEMES  
UNDER THE UNIVERSAL HEALTH PROGRAM

1 WHEREAS, the Constitution, Article 2, Section 15 provides: "The State shall protect and  
2 promote the right to health of the people and instill health consciousness among them";

3 WHEREAS, the *Manila Bulletin* on 19 June 2015 reported that a health advocacy group  
4 is protesting the administration's Universal Health Care program which has reportedly made  
5 health services inaccessible to people;

6 WHEEAS, the news quoted the Alliance of Health Workers (AHW), which said that  
7 budget cuts and privatization schemes under the Kalusugang Pangkalahatan (Universal Health  
8 Care) program has reduced the Department of Health into a regulatory and monitoring body  
9 instead of a social service provider;

10 WHEREAS, reduced budget for medicine, supplies, and operating expenses in public  
11 hospitals have allegedly led to increase in payments even among indigent patients;

12 WHEREAS, more and more public hospitals, including the Jose Reyes Memorial  
13 Medical Center, San Lazaro Hospital, and Dr. Jose Fabella Memorial Hospital, are also  
14 purportedly being privatized;

15 WHEREAS, Congress, in consultation with the Department of Health, the Department of  
16 Social Welfare and Development, and other concerned agencies, must strengthen existing laws to  
17 ensure that universal public access to health services remains a top government priority;

18 WHEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED BY THE PHILIPPINE SENATE to direct  
19 the proper Senate committee to conduct an inquiry, in aid of legislation, on the reported budget  
20 cuts and privatization schemes under the Universal Health Program.

Adopted,

*Miriam Defensor Santiago*  
MIRIAM DEFENSOR SANTIAGO  
70