

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



Senate
Office of the Secretary

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SENATE
P. S. R. No. 1584

RECEIVED BY: 

Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

RESOLUTION
DIRECTING THE PROPER SENATE COMMITTEE
TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION,
ON THE REPORT THAT SOME 10,000 FILIPINOS ARE AFFLICTED WITH DISEASES
THAT ARE DIFFICULT TO DIAGNOSE AND COSTLY TO TREAT

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 3 September reported that some 10,000 Filipinos are
4 afflicted with rare diseases, that are difficult to diagnose and require expensive treatment;

5 WHEREAS, Dr. Mary Ann Abacan of the Institute of Human Genetics, University of the
6 Philippines, Manila, National Institute of Health, reportedly used measures for rare disease
7 incidence made by the World Health Organization to estimate that the Philippines, with a
8 population of 100 million, would have 6,000 to 10,000 Filipinos suffering from rare diseases;

9 WHEREAS, Abacan claimed that 75 percent of the afflicted are likely children, and 30
10 percent of infant deaths are probably due to rare diseases;

11 WHEREAS, Congress, through relevant legislation, should improve health services, with
12 the goal of making early detection of rare diseases possible and treatment for such conditions
13 more accessible;

14 WHEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED BY THE PHILIPPINE SENATE to direct
15 the proper Senate committee to conduct an inquiry, in aid of legislation, on the report that some
16 10,000 Filipinos are afflicted with diseases that are difficult to diagnose and costly to treat.

Adopted,


MIRIAM DEFENSOR SANTIAGO
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