

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. 1599

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Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

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RESOLUTION  
DIRECTING THE PROPER SENATE COMMITTEE  
TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION,  
ON THE REPORT THAT THE COMMISSION ON AUDIT ORDERED GOVERNMENT  
HOSPITAL OFFICIALS TO RETURN A TOTAL OF ₱21.9 MILLION IN BONUSES  
DISTRIBUTED TO ITS EMPLOYEES IN 2014

- 1 WHEREAS, the Constitution provides, in Article 2, Sections 27 and 28:
- 2 Section 27. The State shall maintain honesty and integrity in the public  
3 service and take positive and effective measures against graft and corruption.
- 4 Section 28. Subject to reasonable conditions prescribed by law, the State  
5 adopts and implements a policy of full public disclosure of all its transactions  
6 involving public interest.
- 7 WHEREAS, the *Philippine Star* on 10 September 2015 reported that the Commission on  
8 Audit (COA) has ordered officials and personnel of three government hospitals—the Philippine  
9 Heart Center (PHC), the National Kidney and Transplant Institute (NKTI), and the Lung Center  
10 of the Philippines (LCP)—to return a total of ₱21.9 million in bonuses granted to them in 2014;
- 11 WHEREAS, the *Star* quoted state auditors, who said that the grant of excessive longevity  
12 pay to officials and employees of the PHC, NKTI, and LCP was in violation of Republic Act No.  
13 7305 or the “Magna Carta for Public Health Workers,” which states that health workers shall be  
14 paid a monthly longevity pay equivalent to five percent of the monthly basic salary for every five  
15 years of continuous services rendered;
- 16 WHEREAS, the COA reportedly said that the longevity pay granted should have been  
17 five percent of the monthly salary of an employee at the time of the grant, but the management of  
18 the three hospitals allegedly computed the bonuses erroneously, resulting in excessive payments;
- 19 WHEREAS, the officials and employees of the PHC purportedly need to return ₱8.9  
20 million in excessive bonuses; of the NKTI, ₱6.9 million; and of the LCP, ₱6.1 million;
- 21 WHEREAS, Congress, in consultation with the COA and other concerned agencies, must  
22 strengthen legislation in order to command strict adherence to rules on salaries and bonuses;

1           WHEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED BY THE PHILIPPINE SENATE to direct  
2 the proper Senate committee to conduct an inquiry, in aid of legislation, on the report that the  
3 Commission on Audit ordered government hospital officials to return a total of ₱21.9 million in  
4 bonuses distributed to its employees in 2014.

Adopted,

  
MIRIAM DEFENSOR SANTIAGO  
JP

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