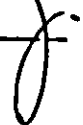


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SENATE  
P. S. R. No. 1656

RECEIVED BY: 

Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

RESOLUTION  
DIRECTING THE PROPER SENATE COMMITTEE  
TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION,  
ON THE REPORTED HEALTH HAZARDS OF THE HAZE IN MINDANAO

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 *Philippine Daily Inquirer* on 25 October 2015 reported that health  
4 authorities in Mindanao have cautioned people suffering from lung illnesses, or those with weak  
5 immune systems, from venturing outdoors amid the haze caused by the Indonesian forest fires  
6 and which has blanketed many areas since October 17;

7 WHEREAS, the warning was issued as environment officials from different regions  
8 reported that the air in areas covered by the haze, from General Santos City to Iligan City,  
9 remains contaminated with particulate matter;

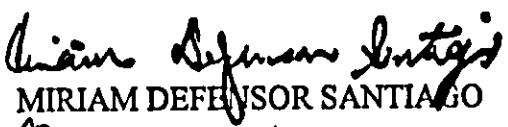
10 WHEREAS, officials from the Department of Health (DOH) claimed that the haze might  
11 cause coughing; nose and throat irritation; and trigger asthma attacks;

12 WHEREAS, the haze also allegedly contains hazardous chemicals and compounds,  
13 including sulfur dioxide, carbon monoxide, and nitrogen dioxide;

14 WHEREAS, Congress, in consultation with the DOH, the Department of Environment  
15 and Natural Resources, and other concerned agencies, must put in place mechanisms to  
16 immediately and effectively address haze in the future;

17 WHEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED BY THE PHILIPPINE SENATE to direct  
18 the proper Senate committee to conduct an inquiry, in aid of legislation, on the reported health  
19 hazards of the haze in Mindanao.

Adopted,

  
MIRIAM DEFENSOR SANTIAGO  
RP