

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

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SENATE
P. S. R. No. 1707

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 THE ₱1-BILLION ALLOCATION FOR REPRODUCTIVE
HEALTH SERVICES WAS STRICKEN OFF THE 2016 BUDGET BY THE SENATE

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

3 WHEREAS, the *Philippine Daily Inquirer* on 8 January 2016 reported that the ₱1-billion
4 allocation for family planning commodities was removed during the deliberations of the
5 bicameral conference committee on the 2016 budget;

6 WHEREAS, the *Inquirer* was quoting Department of Health (DOH) Secretary Janette
7 Garin who said that the ₱1-billion budget covers the free provision of condoms, intrauterine
8 devices, and birth control pills, particularly for breastfeeding mothers, at health centers;

9 WHEREAS, the Reproductive Health (RH) Law gives beneficiaries determined by the
10 National Household Targeting System for Poverty Reduction universal access to medically safe,
11 non-abortifacient and effective quality reproductive health care services, methods and supplies;

12 WHEREAS, the budget cut allegedly threatens to deprive some seven million Filipino
13 women of RH services, and cripples the government in addressing the maternal mortality rate in
14 the country, pegged at some 200 out of 100,000 women who give birth;

15 WHEREAS, it is irreconcilable that Congress, which enacted the RH Law after much
16 hardship in 2012, would three years later render the same law inutile by failing to allocate funds
17 for its implementation;

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 report that the ₱1-
20 billion allocation for reproductive health services was stricken off the 2016 budget by the Senate.

Adopted,


MIRIAM DEFENSOR SANTIAGO
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