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SENATE
P.S.R No. 1716

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 MORE FILIPINOS AGED 15 TO 24
ARE CONTRACTING THE HUMAN IMMUNODEFICIENCY VIRUS

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 30 November 2015 reported that based on records of
4 Department of Health (DOH), the youth age group represents the fastest growing number of
5 Filipinos afflicted with the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) which causes acquired
6 immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS);

7 WHEREAS, the latest HIV data allegedly showed that while half or 14,785 of the
8 registered 29,079 HIV patients in the country since 1984 are in the 25 to 35 age group, incidence
9 in the youth, or those in the 15 to 24 age group, is quickly catching up;

10 WHEREAS, the report added that the proportion of people living with HIV in the 15-24
11 year age group increased to 28 percent in 2010-2015 from 20 percent in 2005-2009 ;

12 WHEREAS, according to DOH, from January 1984 to October 2015, 974 of the reported
13 cases were 19 years old and below, 86 percent of whom were reported in the past five years;

14 WHEREAS, 89 percent of the teenagers were infected with HIV through sexual contact,
15 while 9 percent were infected by sharing of needles from drug use and mother-to-children
16 infection;

17 WHEREAS, the government should strengthen its campaign on the prevention, control,
18 and treatment of HIV infections;

19 WHEREAS, the Congress must immediately review existing legislation on HIV-AIDS to
20 strengthen its impact in preventing youth infections;

- 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 more
- 3 Filipinos aged 15 to 24 are contracting the Human Immunodeficiency Virus.

Adopted,

Miriam Defensor Santiago
MIRIAM DEFENSOR SANTIAGO
SP

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