

THIRTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC)
OF THE PHILIPPINES)
First Regular Session)

5 APR 27 A3:45

SENATE
P. S. R. No. 240

RECEIVED BY: _____

Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

RESOLUTION
DIRECTING THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON LABOR, EMPLOYMENT
AND HUMAN RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY
IN AID OF LEGISLATION ON THE WORKING CONDITIONS OF FILIPINO
CAREGIVERS IN OTHER COUNTRIES TO ENSURE THAT THEY ARE NOT SUBJECTED
TO HARSH AND EXPLOITATIVE CONDITIONS AND THAT THEY ARE GIVEN
COMMENSURATE COMPENSATION FOR THEIR LABOR

WHEREAS, the *Manila Bulletin* dated 21 March 2005 reported that many Filipinos employed as caregivers in Canada are allegedly being subjected to harsh and exploitative conditions;

WHEREAS, Bayan Muna Rep. Crispin Beltran claimed having received complaints that caregivers working in Canada are underpaid yet overworked; some are allegedly being ordered to do household chores that are not covered by the caregiver contracts they entered into with their employers; one caregiver complained that he was being made to work almost 17 hours a day;

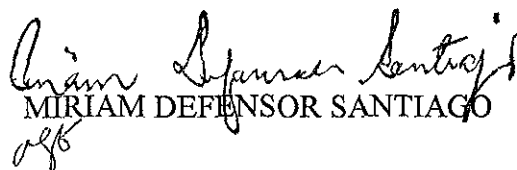
WHEREAS, it was reported that although the estimated cost of getting a caregiver to attend to a child has been pegged at \$15,000 annually, many of our compatriots working as caregivers in Canada get much less than that amount considering that they take care of three or more children;

WHEREAS, appeals have been made to the government agencies concerned to conduct an inquiry into reports that Filipinos working under the live-in caregiver program (LCP) in Canada are being treated as modern-day slaves;

WHEREAS, appeals have also been made to the concerned government agencies to look deeply into the complaints aired by Filipino caregivers working not only in Canada but also in other foreign countries.

WHEREFORE, be it resolved, as it is hereby resolved by the Philippine Senate, to direct the Senate Committee on Labor, Employment and Human Resources Development to conduct an inquiry in aid of legislation on the working conditions of Filipino caregivers in other countries to ensure that they are not subjected to harsh and exploitative conditions and that they are given commensurate compensation for their labor.

Adopted,


MIRIAM DEFENSOR SANTIAGO