

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

5 SEP -6 P 1 30

SENATE
P. S. R. No. 331

RECEIVED BY: _____

Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

RESOLUTION
DIRECTING THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH AND DEMOGRAPHY TO
CONDUCT AN INQUIRY IN AID OF LEGISLATION ON THE INCREASING
INCIDENCE OF DIABETES AMONG FILIPINO CHILDREN

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

WHEREAS, the Constitution, Article 15, Section 3(2) further provides: "The State shall defend: x x x The right of children to assistance, including proper care and nutrition, and special protection from all forms of neglect, abuse, cruelty, exploitation and other conditions prejudicial to their development x x x";

WHEREAS, according to Dr. Araceli Panelo of the Institute for Studies on Diabetes Foundation, Inc., the number of Filipino children afflicted with diabetes, specifically the "Type 2" variation, is increasing over the years;

WHEREAS, according to the Philippine Diabetes Association, 3.36 million Filipinos today are suffering from diabetes; the number of diabetics is expected to increase to 8.4 million in 20 years, around 400,000 of whom would be children;

WHEREAS, in the last five years, local doctors encountered children as young as eight years old getting sick with Type 2 diabetes;

WHEREAS, doctors blame the increasing incidence of diabetes among children on the tendency of many parents to overfeed their children with a steady diet teeming with fat and bad cholesterol on the assumption that showing love to their children means feeding them with too much food and making them fat;


WHEREAS, another reason cited is the "nintendoization" of the youth, where children sit for hours in front of the computer playing video games and eating junk food;

WHEREAS, the government, spearheaded by the Department of Health, should ensure that parents, educators, and health providers are aware of the risks posed by juvenile diabetes and of the need to encourage children under their care to develop healthy eating habits at an early age;

WHEREAS, recent developments call for thorough research and study by concerned government agencies in order to launch public information campaigns and medical projects to curb diabetes incidence among Filipino children;

WHEREFORE, be it resolved, as it is hereby resolved by the Philippine Senate, to direct the Senate Committee on Health and Demography to conduct an inquiry in aid of legislation on the increasing incidence of diabetes among Filipino children.

Adopted,


MIRIAM DEFENSOR SANTIAGO

/dpm