

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

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SENATE
P. S. R. No. 377

RECEIVED BY: _____

Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

RESOLUTION
DIRECTING THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH AND DEMOGRAPHY,
SENATE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC ORDER AND ILLEGAL
DRUGS, AND SENATE COMMITTEE ON YOUTH, WOMEN AND FAMILY
RELATIONS TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION,
ON THE REPORTED RAMPANT USE OF PROHIBITED AND REGULATED
SUBSTANCES BY STUDENTS OF PUBLIC AND PRIVATE HIGH SCHOOLS
THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY

WHEREAS, the Constitution, Article II, Section 13, states that: "The State recognizes the vital role of the youth in nation-building and shall promote and protect their physical, moral, spiritual, intellectual, and social well-being. It shall inculcate in the youth patriotism and nationalism, and encourage their involvement in public and civic affairs";

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

WHEREAS, the Department of Health (DOH) reported that about 12% of 6.4 million students in both private and public high schools use prohibited and regulated substances;

WHEREAS, according to a study conducted by the DOH, marijuana is the drug of choice followed by methamphetamine; this was discovered after a random drug test was conducted among 5,648 high school students from different parts of the country,

WHEREAS, it was found that students also abused regulated substances such as sedatives; many also sniffed rugby;

WHEREAS, the DOH reported that in 1998, a survey conducted by the Dangerous Drugs Board showed that there were 1.8 million drug addicts in the country plus 1.6 million casual substance users;

WHEREAS, demand has not decreased over the years, although the drug of choice shifts depending on the success of law enforcement;

WHEREAS, the Philippine National Police (PNP) verified reports from the DOH that some 770,000 high school students are now hooked on drugs;

WHEREAS, PNP Chief Director General Arturo Lomibao said the police would come up with its own programs to dissuade students from using illegal drugs; Lomibao also asked Anti-Illegal Drugs Special Operation Task Force (AID-SOFT) Chief Director Marcelo Ele Jr. to investigate the matter;


WHEREAS, Lomibao said he has offered the use of the PNP's Center for the Ultimate Rehabilitation of Drug Dependents (CUREDD) to help treat students who have fallen prey to substance abuse;

WHEREAS, the AID-SOTF and the Philippine Drug Enforcement Agency (PDEA) have embarked on community-based programs to stop the proliferation of illegal drugs in the country;

WHEREAS, there is a need to stop the rampant use of prohibited substances to protect the health of the students;

WHEREFORE, be it resolved, as it is hereby resolved by the Philippine Senate, to direct the Senate Committee on Health and Demography, Senate Committee on Public Order and Illegal Drugs, and the Senate Committee on Youth, Women and Family Relations to conduct an inquiry, in aid of legislation, on the reported rampant use of prohibited and regulated substances by students of private and public high schools throughout the country.

Adopted,


MIRIAM DEFENSOR SANTIAGO.

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