


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

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SENATE
P.S.R. No. 435

RECEIVED BY: 

Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

RESOLUTION
DIRECTING THE PROPER SENATE COMMITTEE TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY,
IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE ALLEGED ILL-EFFECTS OF
GLUTATHIONE-BASED PRODUCTS

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

WHEREAS, with the growing popularity of glutathione-based products for skin whitening, the Department of Health (DOH) warned the public of the possible ill-effects if these are taken indiscriminately;

WHEREAS, according to Dr. Robert So, program manager of DOH's National Drug Policy, the whitening effect of these products is "actually the side effect" and not the main usage of the glutathione component; it changes the cell outline of the skin so the color of the skin becomes lighter;

WHEREAS, glutathione is a small molecule made up of three amino acids that exists in almost every cell of the body; its presence is required to maintain the normal function of the immune system and it is also known to help in the multiplication of lymphocytes that occurs in the development of an effective immune response;


WHEREAS, the glutathione-based products that have entered the Philippine market in the past years are mostly being sold for their whitening effects;

WHEREAS, if such products could change the color of the skin, it is possible that they could affect the "inner part" of the body;

WHEREAS, Dr. So said that before using the products, the public must consult their doctors and check if these products have been certified by the Bureau of Food and Drugs (BFAD);

WHEREFORE, be it hereby resolved by the Philippine Senate, to direct the proper Senate committee to conduct an inquiry, in aid of legislation, on the alleged ill-effects of glutathione-based products.

Adopted,


MIRIAM DEFENSOR SANTIAGO
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