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P. S. R. No. **1205**

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Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

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RESOLUTION  
DIRECTING THE PROPER SENATE COMMITTEE TO INVESTIGATE, IN AID  
OF LEGISLATION, THE REPORT THAT HALF OF METRO MANILANS  
INHALE SECOND-HAND SMOKE DAILY

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

WHEREAS, an ABS-CBN news item reported that according to a survey conducted by the Center for Health Development-Metro Manila (CHD-MM) and World Lung Foundation (WLF), fifty-two percent of Metro Manilans are exposed to second-hand smoke every day, while 74% are exposed to it at least once a week;

WHEREAS, the research also said that 71% of non-smokers in Metro Manila strongly agree that being around smoke upsets them, but only 8% told smokers to stop smoking around them;

WHEREAS, it was also reported that in addition to being upset, the respondents admitted knowing that second-hand smoke harms non-smokers -- 87% of respondents said they think smoking causes heart disease in non-smokers, 93% believe it causes lung cancer, and 96% believe smoking causes lung disease in children who breathe it;

WHEREAS, CHD-MM Director Irma Asuncion, MD, reportedly asked the people in Metro Manila to complain about their exposure to second-hand smoke to smokers nearby;

WHEREAS, according to the research, a large majority of smokers and non-smokers in Metro Manila want smoke-free schools (78%), hospitals (77%) and public transportation (69%); and that approximately 60% of non-smokers have expressed interest in smoke-free workplaces and more than half of all people surveyed think it should be forbidden to smoke in all public places;

WHEREAS, the survey, which was commissioned by CHD-MM and WLF, and was executed by IPSOS Philippines, Inc., interviewed 1,000 adults, ages 18 to 55, from all socioeconomic classes and 17 local government units;

WHEREAS, there is an urgent need to address and study the report in order to initiate the necessary legislative measures to protect our citizens from the harmful and deadly effects of smoking and second-hand smoke;

WHEREFORE, be it hereby resolved by the Philippine Senate, to direct the proper Senate committee to investigate, in aid of legislation, the report that half of Metro Manilans inhale second-hand smoke daily;

Adopted,

  
MIRIAM DEFENSOR SANTIAGO

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