FOURTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBL	LIC)
OF THE PHILIPPINES	)
Third Regular Session	)

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SENATE P. S. R. No. **1262** 

HECENED IN M

Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

## RESOLUTION -

DIRECTING THE PROPER SENATE COMMITTEE TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE REPORTED PROLIFERATION OF FAKE FLU VACCINES

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, the *Philippine Daily Inquirer* in its 29 July 2009 issue reported that agents of the National Bureau of Investigation (NBI) was able to seize P4 million worth of fake flu vaccines;

WHEREAS, it was alleged that during a sting operation of the NBI, suspect Jennifer Cristobal was nabbed with fake Vaxigrip vials—the flu vaccine manufactured by Sanofi Pasteur; she sold each vial at P3,000, which is P1,000 cheaper than the genuine product;

WHEREAS, the fake vial reportedly contained only water, and compared to the genuine product, is bigger in appearance;

WHEREAS, the NBI reportedly found 180 vials of Vaxigrip vaccines, 10 boxes of syringes, official and delivery receipts, certificate of product registration, labels, marketing paraphernalia, computers, a telefax machine, and printers;

WHEREAS, although Cristobal is now detained at the NBI jail and is facing charges of sale of counterfeit drugs, it is imperative upon the State to warn its citizens of such counterfeit products;

WHEREAS, there could be dire consequences if the proliferation of fake flu vaccines are not stopped especially in light of the A(H1N1) pandemic, which is also known as swine flu;

WHEREAS, stricter penalties should be imposed on violators of counterfeit drugs considering that such crimes are not only against corporations or private individuals, but also endanger the health of our citizens;

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 reported proliferation of fake flu vaccines.

Adopted,

MIRIAM DEFENSOR SANTIAGO