

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

12 MAY -3 02:16

SENATE
P. S. R. No. **758**

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Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

RESOLUTION
DIRECTING THE PROPER SENATE COMMITTEE TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID
OF LEGISLATION, ON THE NEED TO PREVENT THE INCREASING PREVALENCE OF
COMMUNICABLE AND NONCOMMUNICABLE DISEASES CONTRACTED THROUGH
ORAL SEX

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 *Philippine Daily Inquirer*, in its 25 January 2012 issue reported that according to the Philippine Medical Association (PMA) and the Philippine Dental Association (PDA) oral sex with a partner with genital warts can increase the risk of cancer—even more than smoking and drinking, and that people who have had more than five oral sex partners were nine times more likely to have cancer of the tonsils, tongue or throat;

WHEREAS, the PMA warned that since many teenagers today are more sexually adventurous, they are more vulnerable to oral caners; the PMA, citing a study by the University of the Philippines Population Institute, claimed that at least 4.23 million Filipinos aged 15 to 24 were already sexually active, and of this number, only 20 percent use protection such as condoms;

WHEREAS, the PMA also claimed that studies showing that the human papilloma virus (HPV), mainly responsible for cervical cancer among women, can also cause oral cancer in both men and women who engage in unprotected oral sex;

WHEREAS, it was also reported that aside from the HPV, sexually transmitted infections—such as herpes, gonorrhea, chlamydia—contracted through oral sex can also lead to cancers of the mouth;

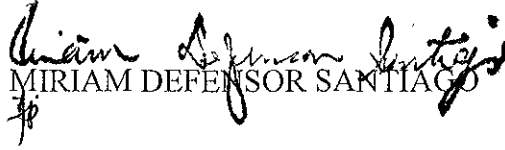
WHEREAS, the PDA, in a related study, also reportedly showed a 15-percent prevalence of oral lesions among residents, where at least 1.5 percent were in the precancer and oral cancer stage;

WHEREAS, to prevent the spread of noncommunicable diseases and sexually transmitted infections through oral sex, it is imperative for the State to coordinate with health and dental associations in order to campaign against such dreaded diseases;

WHEREAS, the State should also create measures that will develop awareness among its constituents, and strengthen the role of health centers in providing information and basic medical aid with regard to oral health care;

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 need to prevent the increasing prevalence of communicable and noncommunicable diseases contracted through oral sex.

Adopted,


MIRIAM DEFENSOR SANTIAGO

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