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REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
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SENATE

P. S. Res. No. 1549

RECEIVED BY 

INTRODUCED BY SENATOR VILLAR

RESOLUTION

URGING THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH AND DEMOGRAPHY AND OTHER APPROPRIATE COMMITTEES, TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE FLOODING OF IMPORTED CHILDREN'S ACCESSORIES IN THE LOCAL MARKET THAT ARE SAID TO CONTAIN CADMIUM WHICH IS MORE TOXIC THAN LEAD, WITH THE OBJECTIVE OF ISSUING PUBLIC HEALTH WARNINGS TO EDUCATE CONSUMERS ON ITS HARMFUL EFFECTS, ESPECIALLY ON CHILDREN

Whereas, according to Health Canada, cheap children's jewelry and accessories have been found to contain cadmium, a rare metallic element found in small deposits in almost every continent;

Whereas, cadmium is a heavy metal that is more toxic than lead, and is notably used as a pigment in paint;

Whereas, cadmium is known to be "toxic, and will bioaccumulate, concentrating in the body without being expressed like other toxins are";¹

Whereas, low-priced children's jewelry and accessories are often sourced in wholesale markets all around Asia, where the manufacturers and sellers themselves confirmed that cadmium was a common component in seemingly harmless kids' metal trinkets;²

Whereas, our local market is replete with fashion jewelry imports because of our proximity to manufacturers and suppliers from Asia;

Whereas, health experts warn that lead and cadmium are toxic metals that can have harmful effects on children's behavior and the development of children even at very low levels;

Whereas, Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR) experts also warn that "long-term exposure to lower levels of cadmium in air, food, or water leads to a buildup of cadmium in the kidneys and possible kidney disease. Other long-term effects are lung damage and fragile bones";

Whereas, cadmium and cadmium compounds are known human carcinogens;³

¹ Resident Policy Analyst Atty. Richard Gutierrez, Ban Toxics!

² Associated Press report

³ Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS)

Whereas, cadmium-laden jewelry that have found their way to North American chains like Wal-Mart and Claire's stores has prompted the US Consumer Product Safety Commission to issue an advisory to warn consumers about this lethal metal and moved their legislators into crafting stronger consumer safety laws: Now therefore be it

RESOLVED, as it is hereby resolved, to urge the Senate Committee on Health and Demography and other appropriate committees, to conduct an inquiry, in aid of legislation, on the flooding of imported children's accessories in the local market that are said to contain cadmium which is more toxic than lead, with the objective of issuing public health warnings to educate consumers on its harmful effects, especially on children.

Adopted,



MANNY VILLAR
Senator