

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



Senate  
Office of the Secretary

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SENATE

P.S.R. No. 52

RECEIVED BY: *ja*

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Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

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RESOLUTION

DIRECTING THE PROPER SENATE COMMITTEE TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY  
IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE REPORTED NEED TO MONITOR AND  
CONTROL THE USE OF GENETICALLY MODIFIED ORGANISMS IN PRODUCTS  
SOLD IN THE COUNTRY

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

WHEREAS, it was previously reported by The Ecological Society of the Philippines (ESP) that the government should start testing procedures to determine whether any of the crops and consumer goods imported from abroad and sold in the market today contain so-called genetically modified organisms (GMO);

WHEREAS, ESP officials reportedly said that the government should protect the Philippines from the influx of GMOs entering the country because these are not really safe and have been banned in other countries, especially in Europe;

WHEREAS, ESP officials said that ordinary consumers do not have the capacity to test all the products in the market for GMOs; hence, it is the government's duty to advise the consumers on the products that are safe to eat;

WHEREAS, it was also reported that Greenpeace Southeast Asia allegedly commissioned a GMO test in the Philippines in 2001 and discovered at least 30 popular brand names with GMO content;

WHEREAS, though some companies have promised to remove GMO ingredients in their products, the government should verify if these promises were kept;

WHEREAS, it is imperative that the State creates measures and guidelines that will monitor and control the influx of GMOs in the country to ensure that consumers are well-informed of their choices;

WHEREAS, a study should be conducted to aid legislators draft a bill addressing the safety of using GMOs in consumer products;

WHEREFORE, be it hereby resolved by the Philippine Senate to direct the proper Senate committee to conduct an inquiry, in aid of the legislation, on the reported need to monitor and control the use of genetically modified organisms in products sold in the country.

Adopted,

*Miriam Defensor Santiago*  
MIRIAM DEFENSOR SANTIAGO  
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