

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. 159

RECEIVED BY: ju

Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

RESOLUTION

DIRECTING THE PROPER SENATE COMMITTEE TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE PROLIFERATION OF FLY-BY-NIGHT CLINICS OFFERING TREATMENT FOR SEXUALLY-TRANSMITTED INFECTIONS

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

WHEREAS, the news item from the *Manila Bulletin* website posted last 27 October 2011 reported that the Quezon City Health Department had received growing complaints about the proliferation of fly-by-night clinics offering treatment of sexually-transmitted infections (STI), victimizing hundreds of local residents;

WHEREAS, reports say that these fake STI clinics charge their clients expensive fees for their bogus services, and its personnel would often tell their clients to come back for more examinations and, correspondingly, more expenses;

WHEREAS, officials reportedly said that while these fake STI clinics charge exorbitant fees for their services and medication, there is no guarantee that the patients are getting the proper treatment for their health concerns;

WHEREAS, the report said that patients suffering from prostatitis, gonorrhea, venereal diseases, herpes and other STI allegedly prefer to seek medical attention in secluded clinics to avoid detection and humiliation from friends, relatives, and acquaintances;

WHEREAS, local government officials from Quezon City have reportedly asked the local authorities, law enforcement agencies, and the Department of Health (DOH) to close down these fake STI clinics;

WHEREAS, it was reported that local government officials also called for longer jail terms for the owners and operators of these fake STI clinics with personnel posing as medical experts or doctors;

WHEREAS, this incident requires urgent attention from legislators since it could be assumed that fake STI clinics can also be found in other parts of the country, and that millions of Filipinos will suffer from misdiagnosis of their STIs due to the lack of information on their ailment and the lack of DOH-approved STI clinics in their vicinity;

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 proliferation of fly-by-night clinics offering treatment for sexually-transmitted infections.

Adopted,

Miriam Defensor Santiago
MIRIAM DEFENSOR SANTIAGO
arr.

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