

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



Senate
Office of the Secretary

'13 AUG -1 P4:30

SENATE
P.S.R. No. 161

RECEIVED BY: *ji*

Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

RESOLUTION
DIRECTING THE PROPER SENATE COMMITTEE TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID
OF LEGISLATION, ON THE REPORTED NEED TO INTRODUCE AND IMPLEMENT
TOXIC REDUCTION STRATEGIES IN COSMETICS AND OTHER CONSUMER
PRODUCTS

WHEREAS, the Constitution, Article 2, Section 15 provides, "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 13 March 2012 issue, reported through one of its columnists the need to implement toxic reduction strategies in cosmetics and other consumer products;

WHEREAS, it was reported that Dr. Ann Blake, a member of the Green Ribbon Science Panel of California's Environmental Protection Agency with 18 years' experience studying toxic ingredients in cosmetics, called for "stringent regulation" of "ingredients known or suspected of causing cancer and other serious harm to human health";

WHEREAS, Blake, in forum sponsored by EcoWaste Coalition and the country's Food and Drug Authority (FDA), reported that the FDA of the United States reported last December the presence of lead in 400 types of lipstick, while the local FDA banned last August 50 brands of skin whitening creams that contained "dangerous amounts of mercury," including products tested by the EcoWaste Coalition using X-ray Fluorescence spectrometer;

WHEREAS, it was alleged that major chemicals used in cosmetics—for example, heavy metals such as lead in lipstick, mercury and hydroquinone in skin whiteners, coal tar derivatives in dark hair dyes, hormone disruptors in fragranced products, and formaldehyde and paraben preservatives in numerous personal care items—could cause various diseases, including cancer;

WHEREAS, men are also exposed to the harmful effects of these chemicals due to their environmental exposure to such, particularly those chemicals applied daily to the body;

WHEREAS, reportedly explained that some male-specific health effects include exposure to Di-Ethyl Phthalate, a hormone disruptor, that impact on sperm quality and motility;

WHEREAS, environmental exposure to chemicals in consumer products are linked to major public health issues such as cancers, cardiovascular diseases, autoimmune and neurological diseases, obesity and type II diabetes, pediatric asthma, reproductive and developmental disorders;

WHEREAS, it is the obligation of the State to regulate products being sold in the market; it is also the State's duty to promote greater consumer awareness, with customers buying the products not because of the attractive packaging, but because they have studied the ingredients and educated themselves on their health effects;

WHEREAS, given the dangers of everyday exposure to toxic chemicals found in beauty products, the government should ban outright the use of toxic substance in cosmetics and other consumer products;

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 need to introduce and implement toxic reduction strategies in cosmetics and other consumer products.

Adopted,

miriam Defensor Santiago
MIRIAM DEFENSOR SANTIAGO
avr.

/mamt