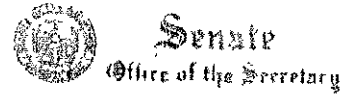


SIXTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC)
OF THE PHILIPPINES)
First Regular Session)



73 NOV 26 P2:11

SENATE
P. S. R. No. 389

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 RECENT REPORT WARNING FILIPINOS AGAINST
SLIMMING PRODUCTS AND OTHER CONSUMER GOODS CONTAINING
METHYLEPHERDINE

WHEREAS, the Constitution, Article 11, Section 14 provides that "The State shall protect and promote the right to health of the people and instill health consciousness among them";

WHEREAS, in 2012, the World Anti-doping Agency has included methylephedrine in the Prohibited List, International Standard under item S6(b) as a prohibited stimulant;

WHEREAS, Republic Act No. 9165, also known as the Comprehensive Drugs Law, Section 93, Article XI gives the DDB the power to reclassify, add to, or remove any drug or substance from the list of dangerous drugs;

WHEREAS, on 12 September 2013, the DDB approved DDB Regulation No. 2, Series of 2013, including methylephedrine in the List of Dangerous Drugs, after consulting various stakeholders who supported the measure;

WHEREAS, the *Philippine Star Online* website, in an article entitled "Pinoys Warned Vs Slimming Products Using Methylephedrine" posted on dated 14 November 2013, reported that the Dangerous Drug Board (DDB) cautioned Filipinos from keeping, consuming, and selling slimming products and other goods containing methylephedrine;

WHEREAS, methylephedrine is a precursor of ephedrine, a controlled substance under the 1988 United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances, which is used in other countries as a decongestant and bronchodilator; it is also used in manufacturing methamphetamine hydrochloride, also known as shabu;

WHEREAS, methylephedrine induces increased blood pressure, cardio-vascular stress and priapism, and has high potential for abuse;

WHEREAS, the DDB reportedly said all compounds, mixtures and preparations containing this substance, including its salts, isomers, and salts of isomers, are illegal.;

WHEREAS, it was reported that Philippine Drug Enforcement Agency officers said that the substance will be subjected to all regulatory and control measures contained in Republic Act

No. 9165, also known as the Comprehensive Dangerous Drugs Act of 2002, as well as the rules and regulations promulgated by the DDB;

WHEREAS, unauthorized or unlicensed importation, distribution, manufacture, prescription, dispensing and sale of, and other unlawful acts in connection with methylephedrine are punishable by life imprisonment and a fine of Php 10 million;

WHEREAS, DDB reportedly said that there is no need to push for methylephedrine since the country has enough medications in the market that can produce the same therapeutic effects.

WHEREAS, PDEA officers said that methylephedrine was found in drug clandestine laboratories raided by police and anti-narcotics operatives;

WHEREAS, there is a need for stricter implementation and refining of existing laws to prevent the unauthorized or unlicensed importation, distribution, manufacture, prescription, dispensing and sale of, and other unlawful acts in connection with methylephedrine and similar substances;

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 report warning Filipinos against the using, keeping, consuming, and selling slimming products and other consumer goods containing methylephedrine.

Adopted,

Miriam Defensor Santiago
SEN. MIRIAM DEFENSOR SANTIAGO

/ersmg