

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. 553

RECEIVED BY: *ji*

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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 NEWS REPORTS THAT SLIMMING CAPSULES CONTAINING  
AMPHETAMINE AND SIBUTRAMINE ARE BEING SOLD IN THE COUNTRY

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

WHEREAS, in various news articles published on 20 February 2014, it was reported that the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) issued a warning against buying and using unregistered slimming capsules that contain amphetamine and sibutramine, which are both harmful substances;

WHEREAS, according to FDA Advisory 2014-011, these slimming capsules could be bought in the local market and through online stores;

WHEREAS, FDA inspectors reportedly recovered a batch of capsules packaged in a box of foil strips at the Bureau of Customs in South Harbor, Manila;

WHEREAS, the product is reportedly manufactured by America Bysilver Pharmaceutical Co., Ltd., but it is not registered with the FDA to be sold in the country;

WHEREAS, the FDA reportedly tested the product and found that it contains amphetamine and sibutramine;

WHEREAS, the FDA, on 8 January 2014, had also reportedly found 26 other slimming products containing amphetamine, sibutramine and steroids;

WHEREAS, amphetamine causes irregular heartbeat, confusion, urine retention and painful urination, hyperthermia, hyperreflexia, muscle pain, severe agitation, rapid breathing, and tremor;

WHEREAS, a large overdose of amphetamine may produce symptoms such as psychosis, anuria, cardiogenic shock, cerebral hemorrhage, circulatory collapse, extreme fever, pulmonary hypertension, renal failure, rapid muscle breakdown, serotonin syndrome, and stereotypy;

WHEREAS, fatal amphetamine poisoning involves convulsion and coma;


WHEREAS, sibutramine has been shown to increase the risk of serious heart events, including non-fatal heart attack or non-fatal stroke and death;

WHEREAS, the FDA advises consumers to use only FDA-approved slimming pills or anti-obesity drugs under the supervision of doctors;

WHEREAS, Congress should be vigilant in strengthening laws that protect the health of the Filipinos by ensuring that consumer products that have medicinal or therapeutic claims are free from harmful 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 news reports that slimming capsules containing amphetamine and sibutramine are being sold in the country.

Approved,

*acc.*  
  
MIRIAM DEFENSOR SANTIAGO

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