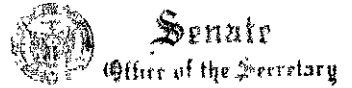


SIXTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC)
OF THE PHILIPPINES)
First Regular Session)



'14 MAY 29 P1:30

SENATE
P. S. R. No. 681

RECEIVED BY: *J*

Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

RESOLUTION
DIRECTING THE PROPER SENATE COMMITTEE TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY,
IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE ON THE FAILURE OF GOVERNMENT UNITS
TO WARN AND PROTECT THE CITIZENS AND TOURISTS OF PANGASINAN
AGAINST JELLY FISH ATTACKS.

WHEREAS, the Constitution, Article 2, Section 14 states, "The State shall protect and promote the right to health of the people and instill health consciousness among them";

WHEREAS, the manilastandardtoday.com, in its 9 May 2014 news article, reported that health authorities of a town in Pangasinan issued a health warning to beachgoers about getting in contact with life-threatening jellyfish in the area;

WHEREAS, Dr. Anna Ma. Teresa De Guzman, provincial health chief, reportedly said that at least 17 cases have been recorded from April 17-20 with victims receiving first aid from field emergency teams;

WHEREAS, according to the report, the Lingayen District Hospital is also on heightened alert as a referral hospital with regard to beachfront cases;

WHEREAS, the report said that a sting may lead to allergic reaction, such as difficulty of breathing, which could be fatal for hypersensitive victims;

WHEREAS, De Guzman also reportedly said that the jellyfish season coincided with the surge of vacationers flocking to the Lingayen shoreline, further increasing the possibility of sting cases;

WHEREAS, in January, Davao del Sur police reported the death of a Grade II pupil due to jellyfish sting while swimming at a resort in Malalag town;

WHEREAS, the investigation showed that physicians at Golingay Medical Clinic diagnosed complications caused by jellyfish toxin;

WHEREAS, the escalating number of jelly fish related incident indicates a failure in the part of the government to perform its duty to protect its citizens;

WHEREAS, an investigation must be conducted to aid in crafting laws to strengthen safeguards against preventable injuries and deaths;

WHEREAS, the State should require beach resorts to be medically equipped and prepared to administer first aid to those stung by dangerous sea creatures, including jellyfish; beach resorts should also be liable for failure to immediately respond to emergency cases involving life-threatening marine animals;

WHEREAS, the local health centers should issue advisories to resort owners and beach goers regarding the dangerous jellyfish;

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 failure of local government units to warn and protect the citizens and tourists of Pangasinan against jelly fish attacks.

Adopted,

Miriam Defensor Santiago
MIRIAM DEFENSOR SANTIAGO

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