

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



Senate  
Office of the Secretary

'14 JUN -2 P2 :27

SENATE  
P. S. R. No. 687

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 CHOLERA OUTBREAK IN ALAMADA,  
COTABATO

WHEREAS, the Constitution, Article 13, Section 11 states that, "The State shall adopt an integrated and comprehensive approach to health development which shall endeavor to make essential goods, health and other social services available to all the people at affordable cost. There shall be priority for the needs of the under-privileged, sick, elderly, disabled, women, and children. The State shall endeavor to provide free medical care to paupers";

WHEREAS, a *GMA News online* article entitled "Governor confirms cholera outbreak in Cotabato town" posted last 17 May 2014, reported that a cholera outbreak in Alamada town, Cotabato province, was confirmed by Governor Lala Mendoza where at least eight people died after showing symptoms;

WHEREAS, the outbreak was reportedly confirmed after samples from the town were tested; the tests had included chemical, bacteriological for water, and rectal swabs;

WHEREAS, the World Health Organization defined Cholera as an acute intestinal infection caused by ingestion of food or water contaminated with the bacterium *Vibrio Cholerae*;

WHEREAS, Cholera reportedly has a short incubation period of a maximum of five days; it allegedly produces an enterotoxin that causes a painless, watery diarrhea that can quickly lead to severe dehydration and death if treatment is not promptly given; vomiting also occurs in most patients;

WHEREAS, according to Health Officer Dr. Rosario Bandala, they have examined more than 700 patients, the Alamada Municipal Health Office showed 769 were brought to hospitals or clinics with 438 testing positive for *Vibrio Cholerae*;

WHEREAS, the governor reportedly said that the Department of Health, the provincial government and Alamada local government unit were now taking intervention to control this outbreak;

WHEREAS, Alamada Municipal Administrator Robin Cadava alleged that a state of calamity would remain over Alamada until the patients recover; the state of calamity allows the local government to use its calamity fund;

WHEREAS, Town Councilor Nolie Doromal reportedly added that they had allocated P986,000 in calamity funds to help the patients and that relatives of the eight fatalities had been given financial aid;

WHEREAS, there is a need for a stricter implementation and refining of existing laws to prevent more casualties and to curb the spread of Cholera in affected towns;

WHEREAS, it is imperative for the government to ensure the safety and protection of children, and aid the parents and health workers in the prevention, treatment and control of the disease;

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 cholera outbreak in Alamada, Cotabato.

Adopted,

*Miriam Defensor Santiago*  
MIRIAM DEFENSOR SANTIAGO  
*all.*

/ersmg