

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



Senate
Office of the Secretary

'14 JUN 19 P1:30

SENATE
P.S.R No. _____

719

RECEIVED BY: _____

Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

RESOLUTION

DIRECTING THE PROPER SENATE COMMITTEE TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID
OF LEGISLATION ON THE REPORT THAT THE COTABATO REGIONAL MEDICAL
CENTER'S NEGLIGENCE IN HANDLING A BABY LED TO HIS DEATH

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

WHEREAS, the *Philippine Star*, in an article dated 31 May 2014 reported that a baby boy died accidentally due to the negligence of the hospital staff;

WHEREAS, North Upi Mayor Ramon Piang Sr. reportedly called on the administration of a state-run hospital in Cotabato City to answer for the death of a newborn infant that fell on a concrete floor owing to the alleged negligence of nurses;

WHEREAS, it was claimed that a pregnant Galapin was at the emergency room of the CRMC last week complaining of painful abdominal spasms, but was ignored by nurses who allegedly reprimanded her for being noisy in demanding medical attention;

WHEREAS, the report stated that the nurses only attended to Galapin when she gave birth to a male child;

WHEREAS, Galapin reportedly said that the infant cried while gasping for breath after the fall, but died several hours later;

WHEREAS, the report claimed that the Galapin family, subsisting on rice and corn farming, buried the dead infant boy in their front yard at the center of a rice field in the west of North Upi;

WHEREAS, Piang, an ethnic Teduray chieftain, reportedly said that he cannot accept the explanation of physician Helen Yambao, chief of the Cotabato Regional Medical Center (CRMC), that the child of Marilyn Galapin, did not die from the accident, but for being born prematurely;

WHEREAS, Piang also reportedly said that the newborn would not have fallen into the floor if a nurse had provided proper attention;

WHEREAS, Piang reportedly said that he would exhaust his political connections in seeking justice for the Galapins;

WHEREAS, Piang claimed that the local government of North Upi will extend financial assistance to the Galapin family;

WHEREAS, given this report, it is imperative for the State to review its laws on medical negligence and increase penalties for erring practitioners;

WHEREAS, the State should also create measures that will ensure that the staff of state-run hospitals are properly trained, well-equipped, and capable to administer patient care, especially to those who are indigent;

WHEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE PHILIPPINE SENATE, to direct the proper Senate committee, to conduct an inquiry in aid of legislation on the report that the Cotabato Regional Medical Center's negligence in handling a baby led to his death.

Adopted,

Miriam Defensor Santiago
MIRIAM DEFENSOR SANTIAGO

/rjd