

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



Senate  
Office of the Secretary

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SENATE

P. S. R. No. 892

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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 THE CLAIM BY ENVIRONMENTALIST  
GROUP ECOWASTE COALITION THAT ADHESIVES FOR CERTAIN BRANDS OF  
ARTIFICIAL FINGERNAILS CONTAIN HAZARDOUS CHEMICALS

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

WHEREAS, in a press release last 20 August 2014, the environmentalist group EcoWaste Coalition reportedly warned the public against artificial fingernails because the products use adhesives that contain hazardous chemicals;

WHEREAS, the group reportedly issued the warning after finding plastic nails sold in local stores that come in 20 small plastic packets with 6 or 12 pieces of decorated nails and a small tube of nail adhesive inside which sells for P50 to P80 per set, or P2.50 to P4 per packet; it was said that the chemical ingredients of the nail adhesive enumerated on the tube label are as follows: acetone, carboxylated vinyl resins, hexamethylene, methyl ethyl ketone and dibutyl phthalate (DBP);

WHEREAS, it was said that DBP, classified by the European Chemicals Agency as toxic to human reproductive organs, is banned in cosmetics, as well as in child articles and toys, under the European Union's Cosmetics Directive 76/768/EEC and the Regulation on Registration, Evaluation, Authorization and Restriction of Chemicals (REACH), respectively;

WHEREAS, the EcoWaste Coalition further noted that, in California, United States of America, DBP is among the list of chemicals that is known to the state to cause reproductive or developmental toxicity and require label warnings;

WHEREAS, the substance in the adhesive is said to be toxic to the central nervous system, and may be toxic to other organs; it was also said that repeated or prolonged exposure to acetone can produce target organs damage;

WHEREAS, the EcoWaste Coalition reportedly said that the Czech Republic has banned 36 false nail products imported from China from 2012 to date because the glue contains DBP;

WHEREAS, a stronger information drive should be conducted to inform the consumers about the products contain toxic chemicals, and it is imperative that Congress should impose tighter regulations on products containing unsafe and toxic 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 claim by environmentalist group EcoWaste Coalition that adhesives for certain brands of artificial fingernails contain hazardous chemicals.

Adopted,

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

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