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SENATE
P. S. Res. No. **1065**

Introduced by Senator Maria Lourdes Nancy S. Binay

RESOLUTION

**DIRECTING THE PROPER SENATE COMMITTEES TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY,
IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE MANDATORY QUARANTINE OF OVERSEAS
FILIPINO WORKERS (OFWs) RETURNING FROM EBOLA-STRICKEN COUNTRIES**

WHEREAS, the State shall protect and promote the right to health of the people and instill health consciousness among them¹;

WHEREAS, the State shall undertake appropriate health, manpower development, and research, responsive to the country's health needs and problems²;

WHEREAS, the Department of Health (DOH) imposes a 21-day mandatory quarantine for Filipinos arriving from West African countries affected with Ebola Virus Disease (EVD) as precautionary measure against the disease;

WHEREAS, the Manila International Airport Authority has designated the administration building in Nayong Pilipino and the Forward Operating Base in General Aviation as temporary holding areas for Filipinos arriving from countries affected by EVD;

WHEREAS, according to news reports, 14 OFWs returning from Sierra Leone and Liberia were placed under mandatory quarantine for 21 days at the administration building of Nayong Pilipino in Pasay City upon their arrival last December 2, 2014³;

WHEREAS, according to one of the OFWs under mandatory quarantine, the facility has no beds and air-conditioning, the rooms are full of mosquitoes and the restrooms are poorly maintained⁴;

¹Section 15, Article II, 1987 Constitution of the Republic of the Philippines.

²Section 12, Article XIII, 1987 Constitution of the Republic of the Philippines.

³GMA News Website, 14 OFWs from Africa under quarantine,
<http://www.gmanetwork.com/news/story/390735/pinoyabroad/news/14-ofws-from-africa-under-quarantine>.

⁴Philstar News Website, OFWs from Sierra Leone now under quarantine,
<http://www.philstar.com/headlines/2014/12/02/1398258/ofws-sierra-leone-now-under-quarantine>

WHEREAS, there is a need to assess the quarantine system of the country as well as the current status of existing quarantine stations to determine the improvements to be made and the necessity of establishing new ones in order to provide the necessary facilities to patients;

WHEREAS, visitation of family members to quarantine stations and the availability of multiple means of communication for patients and their families should also be considered;

WHEREAS, there is a need to increase public awareness on EVD and DOH's mandatory quarantine policy through information, education and communication (IEC) campaigns;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE, as it is hereby resolved to direct the proper Senate committees to conduct an inquiry, in aid of legislation, on the quarantine of OFWs returning from Ebola-stricken countries.

Adopted,



MARIA LOURDES NANCY S. BINAY
Senator