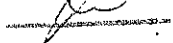


THIRTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE )  
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES )  
Second Regular Session )

5 NOV 29 11 :

SENATE

RECEIVED BY: 

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INTRODUCED BY THE HONORABLE MAR ROXAS

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A RESOLUTION  
DIRECTING THE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH TO CONDUCT AN INVESTIGATION,  
IN AID OF LEGISLATION, INTO THE DECLINE IN THE QUALITY OF  
HEALTHCARE SERVICE DUE TO THE EXODUS OF HEALTHCARE  
PROFESSIONALS

*WHEREAS*, Section 11, Article 13 of the Constitution upholds the commitment of the State to adopt an integrated and comprehensive approach to health development which shall endeavor to make essential goods, health and other social services available to all people at affordable cost;

*WHEREAS*, the Philippines is a major source of human resource globally, with over eight million Filipinos living and working in one hundred ninety-three (193) countries;

*WHEREAS*, the Alliance of Health Workers (AHW) estimates that fifty-one thousand eight hundred fifty (51,850) nurses have left the country for greener pastures abroad from 2000 to 2003 alone, not including the five thousand (5,000) doctors who left to work as nurses abroad from 2000 to 2004, and the four thousand (4,000) licensed physicians who are currently enrolled in nursing schools;

*WHEREAS*, there have been reports, particularly by the Integrated Provincial Hospital Office (Ipho), on the shortage of physicians in government-run hospitals, and from specific hospitals that their doctor to hospital bed ratio is 1:50, when the required ratio is 1:10;


*WHEREAS*, according to the Private Hospitals Association of the Philippines (PHAP), the country is now left with only 700 privately run hospitals, forty per cent (40%) of the total five (5) years ago, and that one thousand (1,000) private hospitals have closed down since 2000 because of the departure of doctors and nurses seeking higher pay abroad;

*WHEREAS*, a recent newspaper article mentioned that the Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE), whose mandate is to formulate policy to attain national employment goals, finds as baseless reports that Filipino nurses and doctors are leaving in droves to the detriment of the country's healthcare system, and that brain drain is merely a perception;

*WHEREAS*, data from healthcare-related organizations conflict with the pronouncement of the government on the present condition of the country's healthcare industry;

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED**, that the Senate direct the Committee on Health to conduct an investigation, in aid of legislation, into the decline in the quality of healthcare service due to the exodus of healthcare professionals.

Adopted,

  
M A R Roxas  
Senator