

FIFTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC )  
OF THE PHILIPPINES )  
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SENATE  
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**SENATE**

P. S. Res. No. 148

RECEIVED BY 

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Introduced by Senator Manuel "Lito" M. Lapid

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**RESOLUTION**

**DIRECTING THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH AND DEMOGRAPHY TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, *IN AID OF LEGISLATION*, INTO THE RISING MORBIDITY AND MORTALITY RATE CAUSED BY DENGUE INFECTION IN THE COUNTRY, WITH THE END IN VIEW OF PROVIDING A PROACTIVE INTERVENTION THAT WILL PROTECT THE HEALTH AND WELFARE OF THE GENERAL PUBLIC**

**WHEREAS**, the protection of public health is a paramount policy issue especially as this principle echoes the constitutional mandate of the State to protect the health of its citizens and to adopt an integrated and comprehensive approach to health development which shall endeavor to make essential health services available to the people;

**WHEREAS**, dengue is the most common mosquito-borne viral disease of humans that in recent years has become a major international public health concern. The geographical spread of both the mosquito vectors and the viruses has led to the resurgence of epidemic dengue fever and emergence of dengue hemorrhagic fever in the past 25 years with the development of hyper-endemicity in many urban centers of the tropics;

**WHEREAS**, the Department of Health (DOH) heightened its information campaign against dengue after a 75 percent rise in dengue cases was recorded from January 1, 2010 to August 14, 2010, compared to the same period in 2009. The DOH data indicate that the some 54,659 dengue cases and 429 deaths were already recorded from January to July this year;

**WHEREAS**, the Department of Health's National Epidemiology Center estimated that dengue cases nationwide could hit 80,000 before yearend and that our medical facilities are running out of rooms to accommodate dengue patients;

**WHEREAS**, there is an urgent need for the government to intensify its health intervention programs against dengue and adopt internationally accepted global strategy for dengue prevention and control, including strengthening epidemiological surveillance; accelerated training and the adoption of WHO standard clinical management guidelines for DHF; promoting behavioral change

at individual, household and community levels to improve prevention and control; and accelerating research on vaccine development, host-pathogen interactions, and development of tools/interventions by including dengue in the disease portfolio of the government.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** as it is hereby resolved to direct the Senate Committee on Health and Demography to conduct an inquiry, *In Aid of Legislation*, into the rising morbidity and mortality rate caused by dengue infection in the country, with the end in view of providing a proactive intervention that will protect the health and welfare of the general public.

**ADOPTED,**

  
**MANUEL "LITO" M. LAPID**  
Senator