

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



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SENATE
P. S. R. No. 276

RECEIVED BY: ja

Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

RESOLUTION

DIRECTING THE PROPER SENATE COMMITTEE, TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY,
IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE REPORTED CONTINUED SALE
OF BANNED INSECTICIDE PRODUCTS IN THE MARKET

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

WHEREAS, the Constitution, Article 2, Section 16 provides: "The State shall protect and advance the right of the people to a balanced and healthful ecology in accord with the rhythm and harmony of nature";

WHEREAS, the *Manila Bulletin*, in its 5 September 2013 issue, reported that banned insecticides are being sold in four cities in Metro Manila;

WHEREAS, the EcoWaste Coalition said its Alert Toxic Patrol found that 100 retail outlets in four cities in Metro Manila are selling the toxic and harmful products in the alert list of the Food and Drugs Administration (FDA);

WHEREAS, the products are sold in discount shopping centers, miscellaneous stores, and by ambulant street vendors in Manila, Makati, Parañaque and Pasay;

WHEREAS, the list includes nine insecticides sprays such as Baolilai Aerosol Insecticide, Big Bie Pai Aerosol Insecticide, Big Bie Pai Extra Power Flying Insect Killer, Butiki Water-Based Multi-Insect Killer, General Toad Aerosol Insecticide, Read a Dream Insectide, Sun Universe Frogking Insecticide Aerosol, which are being sold in the market for P65 to P80 each;

WHEREAS, “the sale of banned insect killers appears to be out of control,” said Thony Dizon, coordinator of EcoWaste’s Project Protect;

WHEREAS, the FDA has issued an advisory that warned consumers that these unregistered insecticides did not pass the safety and efficacy standards of the agency;

WHEREAS, the FDA also warned against the following unregistered toxic insecticides being sold in the market: Wawang Mosquito Coil, BaoMa Black Mosquito Repellant Incense Coil, Jinjiang Benna Mosquito Repellant Coil, Juzhongwang Black Mosquito Repellant Coil, Juzhongwang, Kingba Mini-Smoke Mosquito Repeller Coil, Tianshi Black Mosquito Repellant Incense Coil, Read A Dream Black Mosquito Repellant Incense Coil, Green Leaf Powder Cockroach Killing Bait, and one unregistered toxic insect repellant to be sprayed on the body and clothing called Natural Insect Repellant 50mL Solution, which is distributed by Vitamin World Corporation;

WHEREAS, in two letters sent to the FDA on 2 and 4 September 2013, the EcoWaste Coalition emphasized the need for enforcement activities involving the local government and police authorities to promote awareness and support for FDA Advisory 2013-031 from both the business and consumer sectors;

WHEREAS, the EcoWaste likewise reminded the public to opt for ecological and natural steps to safely manage household insects, pointing to the need to cut, if not eradicate, the use of toxic substances home;

WHEREAS, environmental exposure to chemicals in consumer products are linked to major public health issues such as cancers, cardiovascular diseases, autoimmune and neurological diseases, obesity and type II diabetes, pediatric asthma, and reproductive and development disorders;

WHEREAS, it is the obligation of the State to regulate the products being sold in the market and also to promote greater consumer awareness, with consumers buying the products not because of attractive packaging, but because they have studied the ingredients and educated themselves on the effects on human health;

WHEREAS, given the dangers of everyday exposure to toxic chemicals found in these banned insecticides, the government should order the immediate confiscation of these products in the market, and order the Bureau of Customs to step in and foil further shipments of these banned products in the country;

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 reported continued sale of banned insecticide products in the market.

Adopted,


MIRIAM DEFENSOR SANTIAGO
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