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SENATE
P.S. Res. No. 226

RECEIVED BY: 

Introduced by Senator Manuel "Lito" M. Lapid

RESOLUTION

DIRECTING THE COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, *IN AID OF LEGISLATION*, INTO THE NON-IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROVISIONS OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9003, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE "ECOLOGICAL SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT ACT OF 2000", PARTICULARLY THE PROVISIONS ON THE COLLECTION OF MUNICIPAL SOLID WASTES, WITH THE END IN VIEW OF PROTECTING THE HEALTH AND WELL-BEING OF OUR MUNICIPAL SOLID WASTE COLLECTORS

WHEREAS, Republic Act No. 9003, otherwise known as the "Ecological Solid Waste Management Act of 2000", was enacted into law on the 26th of January 2001;

WHEREAS, Article 1, Section 15 of said law provides the description of the levels of performance, appropriate methods and degrees of control that provide, at the minimum, for protection of public health and welfare through disease and epidemic prevention and control, safety and aesthetics;

WHEREAS, Article 3, Section 23 of said law requires that all collectors and other personnel directly dealing with the collection of municipal solid waste should be equipped with personal protective equipment in order to protect them from the health hazards of handling municipal solid wastes;

WHEREAS, moreover, Article 3, Section 23 of the same law necessitates the training of collectors and personnel in order to ensure that the municipal solid wastes are handled properly and in accordance with the guidelines pursuant to the provisions of RA 9003;

WHEREAS, studies indicate that it is highly evident that only a few collectors of solid waste, if any, are abiding by the abovementioned provisions of the Act;

WHEREAS, consistent reports from the mass media refer to sightings of collectors handling solid waste with absolutely no form of protection, such as industrial rubber gloves, surgical mask or hazardous material suit;

WHEREAS, medical studies show that collectors of municipal solid waste suffer from skin infections and/or cuts or abrasions on their unprotected palms, hands, or feet, and moreover, substantiates the danger and possibility of transmission of various diseases, including HIV infection;

WHEREAS, in view of the obvious health hazards that may result from the mishandling of municipal solid wastes, there is an urgent need for government to review existing policies and guidelines implemented by our implementing agencies in order to equip our municipal solid waste collectors with the basic personal protective gear so as to protect their health and well-being.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, as it is hereby resolved, to direct the Committee on Environment and Natural Resources to conduct an inquiry, *In Aid of Legislation*, into the non-implementation of the provisions of Republic Act No. 9003, otherwise known as the "Ecological Solid Waste Management Act of 2000", particularly the provisions on the collection of municipal solid wastes, with the end in view of protecting the health and well-being of our municipal solid waste collectors.

Adopted,


MANUEL "LITO" M. LAPID
Senator