

FIFTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC )  
OF THE PHILIPPINES )  
Third Regular Session )

Senate  
Office of the Secretary

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SENATE  
P. S. R. No. 866

REC'D

BY:     

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Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

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RESOLUTION

DIRECTING THE PROPER SENATE COMMITTEE TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE NEED TO STRICTLY ENFORCE THE BAN ON MERCURY-TAINTED COSMETIC PRODUCTS AND CONFISCATE THESE PRODUCTS TO MITIGATE ITS ADVERSE EFFECTS ON THE HEALTH AND SAFETY OF CONSUMERS

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, Republic Act No. 7394 also known as the Consumer Act of the Philippines, Article 5 (c) mandates: "It shall be the duty of the State to protect the public against unreasonable risks of injury associated with consumer products";

WHEREAS, based on a 29 August 2012 article in the *Philippine Daily Inquirer*, the EcoWaste Coalition, an environment watchdog, discovered the open trade of banned mercury-tainted cosmetics near the Food and Drug Administration office which is the same government agency that banned these products;

WHEREAS, the coalition's AlerToxic Patrol was able to buy, over the counter, skin-whitening Jiaoli Miraculous Cream and S'Zitang 10-Day Eliminating Freckle Day and Night Set in stalls located in Starmall and Uniwide Metromall in Las Piñas City, and RFC Mall and Starmall Alabang in Muntinlupa City;

WHEREAS, these beauty products were ordered recalled by the FDA in 2010;

WHEREAS, other mercury-tainted cosmetics procured in the test buys in southern Metro Manila were Feique Rose Refining Nourishing Set Cream, Forever Beauty 10-Day Special Cream, and Long Dian Tu Glutathione Pearl Natural Whitening Essence Cream;

WHEREAS, when the EcoWaste Coalition subjected the products to chemical analysis, the results revealed high mercury content ranging from 3,660 ppm up to 23,100 ppm;

WHEREAS, the Coalition warned that skin contact with mercury can cause blotchiness, discoloring, rashes and scarring; prolonged skin exposure through repeated applications can cause damage to the brain, nervous system and kidneys;

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 need to strictly enforce the ban on mercury-tainted cosmetic products and confiscate these products to mitigate its adverse effects on the health and safety of consumers.

Adopted,

  
MIRIAM DEFENSOR SANTIAGO

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