

SENATE
P. S. Res No. 940

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Introduced by Senator Maria Lourdes Nancy S. Binay

RESOLUTION
DIRECTING THE PROPER SENATE COMMITTEES TO CONDUCT AN
INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON A MEDICAL STUDY PUBLISHED ON
WORLD PNEUMONIA DAY, REGARDING THE PREVALENCE OF PNEUMONIA
AS ONE OF THE LEADING CAUSES OF DEATHS IN CHILDREN, IN LIGHT OF
THE FACT THAT PNEUMONIA IS ONE OF THE TOP THREE CAUSES OF
INFANT MORTALITY IN THE COUNTRY

1 WHEREAS, Section 15, Article II, of the 1987 Constitution provides that The
2 State shall protect and promote the right to health of the people and instill health
3 consciousness among them;

4 WHEREAS, according to the Department of Health, the top three leading
5 causes of infant mortality were Pneumonia (3,146; 14.3%); Bacterial sepsis of
6 newborn (2,731; 12.4%); and Respiratory distress of newborn (2,347; 10.7%)¹;

7 WHEREAS, Pneumonia is a common respiratory illness contracted by kids
8 everywhere, from the United States to South East Asia and is the leading infectious
9 cause of death among children under five, killing approximately 2,400 children a
10 day. Pneumonia accounted for approximately 16 per cent of the 5.6 million under-
11 five deaths, killing around 880,000 children in 2016²;

12 WHEREAS, Dr. Socorro P. Lupisan, Research Institute for Tropical Medicine
13 (RITM) Director and Acute Respiratory Infection (ARI) Research Group member
14 stated that, not many are aware, but pneumonia is the number one killer of children.

¹ Department of Health Website, Mortality: All cases by Age Group, <https://www.doh.gov.ph/mortality>

² World Health Organization Website, World Pneumonia Day, <http://www.who.int/life-course/news/events/world-pneumonia-day-2018/en/>

15 It remains to be one of the top five causes of deaths among children, worldwide and
16 also here in the Philippines³;

17 WHEREAS, according to an analysis conducted by researchers at Johns
18 Hopkins University and aid group Save the Children, pneumonia is likely to kill 11
19 million children under 5 years of age, by the year 2030⁴;

20 WHEREAS, Pneumonia is one of the leading causes of deaths in children
21 under five years old despite being easily preventable and treatable⁵;

22 WHEREAS, the World Health Organization and UNICEF integrated action plan
23 aims to treat pneumonia focusing on making sure that every sick child has access to
24 the right kind of care, either from a community-based health worker, or in a health
25 facility if the disease is severe, and can get the antibiotics and oxygen they need to
26 get well⁶;

27 WHEREAS, Congress should strongly consider the results of the study in order
28 to strengthen existing legislation on awareness and treatment of Pneumonia,
29 particularly in children;

30 BE IT RESOLVED, AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, to direct the proper Senate
31 committees to conduct an inquiry, in aid of legislation, on a medical study published
32 on the World Pneumonia Day, regarding the prevalence of Pneumonia as one of the
33 leading causes of deaths in children, in light of the fact that Pneumonia is one of the
34 top three causes of infant mortality in the country.

Adopted,


MARIA LOURDES NANCY S. BINAY
Senator

³ Research Institute for Tropical Medicine Website, The Fight Against Pneumonia Continues..., <http://ritm.gov.ph/the-fight-against-pneumonia-continues/>

⁴ New Delhi Television Website, Pneumonia To Kill 11 Million Children By 2030; Causes And Preventive Tips To Know, <https://www.ndtv.com/health/world-pneumonia-day-2018-pneumonia-to-kill-11-million-children-by-2030-causes-and-preventive-tips-to-1945919>

⁵ Supra [Citation 2]

⁶ World Health Organization Website, Fact Sheet: Pneumonia, <http://www.who.int/news-room/fact-sheets/detail/pneumonia>