

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

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SENATE

RECEIVED BY: 

P.S. Res. No. 204

INTRODUCED BY SENATOR MANNY VILLAR

RESOLUTION

URGING THE SENATE COMMITTEES ON TRADE AND COMMERCE AND HEALTH AND DEMOGRAPHY TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ANENT THE PROLIFERATION OF CHILDREN'S TOYS TAINTED WITH TOXIC OR HARMFUL CHEMICALS LINKED TO MENTAL RETARDATION, BRAIN DAMAGE, BEHAVIORAL DISORDERS AND SIMILAR ILLNESSES WITH THE END IN VIEW OF FORMULATING A LEGAL FRAME WORK TO PROTECT CHILDREN FROM TOXIC CHEMICALS IN TOYS AND PROMOTING THEIR HEALTH AND WELFARE IN GENERAL

WHEREAS, under the 1987 Constitution, the State guarantees "the protection and promotion of the right to health of the people and still health consciousness among them" (Article II, Section 15);

WHEREAS, it also provides that "the State recognizes the vital role of the youth in nation-building and shall promote and protect their physical, moral, spiritual, intellectual and social well-being" (Article II, Section 13);

WHEREAS, as early as September, consumers start to buy children's toys for gift-giving, and the demand for these toys increases as Christmas nears;

WHEREAS, for the coming months, stores will be stocking up attractive toys, especially in Divisoria, a bargain-hunter's paradise, due to an anticipated high demand during the holiday season;

WHEREAS, toy vendors in Divisoria are enjoying a brisk sale and many of these toys are without adequate labels which could warn consumers if they are suitable and pose no danger to health and safety of children;

WHEREAS, according to EcoWaste Coalition, a public interest network of community, church, school, environmental and health groups, two (2) of the toys being sold in Divisoria failed chemical toxicological tests commissioned by a consumer group in Singapore;

WHEREAS, recently, the Consumer Association of Singapore released the results of the test it conducted on 50 toys and found 23 of them containing higher than permitted levels of phthalates or lead or both;

WHEREAS, toys containing Phthalates, lead or other toxic chemicals are harmful to health and causing developmental impacts to children (such as mental retardation, brain damage, behavioral disorders and the like);

**RESOLVED**, by the Senate of the Philippines, to urge the Senate Committees on Trade and Commerce, Health and Demography, Youth, Women and Family Relations to conduct an inquiry, in aid of legislation, into the proliferation in the stores or markets of children's toys tainted with toxic or harmful chemicals linked to mental retardation, brain damage, behavioral disorders and the like, with the end in view, of formulating a legal framework to protect children from toxic chemicals in toys and eventually banning them in Philippine markets.

Adopted,



**MANNY VILLAR**