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SENATE

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P. S. Res. No. 245

RECEIVED BY 

INTRODUCED BY SENATOR VILLAR

**RESOLUTION**

**URGING THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON YOUTH, WOMEN AND FAMILY RELATIONS, TO INQUIRE INTO THE PROGRAMS UNDERTAKEN BY THE DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL WELFARE AND DEVELOPMENT TO HELP STREET CHILDREN, PARTICULARLY THOSE RESCUED USING "RUGBY" WITH THE END IN VIEW OF FORMULATING A LONG-TERM AND COMPREHENSIVE ACTION PLAN FOR STREET CHILDREN**

*Whereas*, "rugby", a kind of glue, is a very popular addictive chemical commonly used by street children in many parts of the country because it is cheap and accessible;

*Whereas*, toluene is the main ingredient found in contact cements such as rugby, which when inhaled, induces a sensation of feeling euphoric and temporarily abates hunger pains;

*Whereas*, habitual users of rugby and other toluene-based products can suffer brain damage, kidney and liver failure, sight and hearing loss, muscle weakness, leukemia, and death;

*Whereas*, although The Comprehensive Dangerous Drugs Act of 2002 (Republic Act 9165) does not include solvents in the list of dangerous drugs and substances, the Dangerous Drugs Board (DDB) issued Board Regulation No. 6, Series of 2007, classifying as dangerous drugs all toluene-based cement products particularly rugby without at least 5 percent mustard oil content;


*Whereas*, according to the DDB Annual Report 2004, 84.4 percent of drug addicts in the country inhale methamphetamine, while 3.38 percent use inhalants such as rugby and solvents;

*Whereas*, DDB records show that 1,298 persons were apprehended for sniffing rugby from 2006 to 2009;

*Whereas*, according to UNICEF (United Nations Children's Fund) there are about 75,000 to 80,000 street children in the Philippines which increases by 6,365 annually per estimates by the Department of Social Welfare and Development;

RESOLVED, as it is hereby resolved, to inquire into the programs undertaken by the Department of Social Welfare and Development to help street children, particularly those rescued using "rugby" with the end in view of formulating a long-term and comprehensive action plan for street children.

Adopted,

  
MANNY VILLAR  
Senator