

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

B MAY 14 P2:55

SENATE  
P.S.R. No. 400

RECEIVED BY: 

Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

RESOLUTION  
COMMENDING THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH FOR ITS EXEMPLARY  
EFFORTS IN PROVIDING OUR COUNTRY WITH THE BEST CHILD HEALTH  
CARE AMONG 55 DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

WHEREAS, the Constitution, Article 2, Section 15 states: "The State shall protect and promote the right to health of the people and instill health consciousness among them";

WHEREAS, the Save the Children organization, a US-based humanitarian group providing children with basic health care has reportedly cited the Philippines for having chalked up the highest record of delivery of basic health care services among 55 developing countries;

WHEREAS, based on the report, the Philippines now has the smallest proportion (31 percent) of children under the age of five who did not receive basic health care with Peru (32 percent) as second, and South Africa (34 percent) as third, and Indonesia and Turkey (35 percent ) at fourth;

WHEREAS, the organization attributed the exemplary performance to the Department of Health (DoH) headed by Secretary Francisco T. Duque III and support from the United States Agency for International Development;

WHEREAS, the report added that the Philippines and Peru have been successful in vaccinating children and treating them for critical diseases compared to other developing nations; the worst performers among the developing nations were Ethiopia (84 percent), Somalia (82 percent), Chad (78 percent), Yemen (71 percent), and Laos (69 percent);

WHEREAS, the ranking was based on data that included immunization against childhood diseases such as malaria and tetanus, access to treatment for leading childhood killers such as diarrhea and pneumonia, prenatal care and other factors;

WHEREAS, the Save the Children report covers immunizations, oral rehydration therapy to treat life threatening diarrhea, and breast feeding to improve early childhood nutrition;

WHEREAS, the report further emphasized that the Philippines has one of the lowest newborn mortality cases in the developing world at 15 per 1,000 live births with 60 percent of births assisted by trained personnel; however, the progress in the Philippines child care report has favored the best-off children;

WHEREFORE, be it hereby resolved by the Philippine Senate, to commend the Department of Health for its exemplary efforts in providing our country with the best child health care among 55 developing countries.

Adopted,

*Miriam Defensor Santiago*  
MIRIAM DEFENSOR SANTIAGO

/fldp