

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

7 FEB -8 5:10

SENATE

APPROVED BY: JURY

P. S. Res. No. 621

Introduced by Senator Luisa "Loi" P. Ejercito Estrada

"RESOLUTION

DIRECTING THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH AND DEMOGRAPHY AND OTHER APPROPRIATE COMMITTEES, TO INVESTIGATE, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, THE REPORTED PLAN OF THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH TO INCREASE THE NUMBER OF FOREIGN KIDNEY TRANSPLANT IN THE PHILIPPINES AS PART OF THE GOVERNMENT'S MEDICAL TOURISM PROGRAM"

WHEREAS, several newspapers reported that the Department of Health is set to propose a drastic policy increasing the number of foreign kidney transplant as part of the medical tourism program by the government;

WHEREAS, under the proposed policy, the quota on foreigners allowed to have kidney transplant in the country will be increased from 10 percent to 20 percent. This drastic policy shift is reportedly set to be implemented this year;

WHEREAS, the policy shift would mean that for every 100 kidney transplant patients, 20 slots would be immediately reserved for foreigners who have the money to pay for a surgery. With an available donor, a kidney transplant range from between P75,000 to P150,000;

WHEREAS, considering that kidney-related ailments are one of the most costly to treat, this proposed policy of the government would only result in more wanton trade of this vital human organ that has also already victimized countless of our poor citizens and would further aggravate the rampant illegal traffic in human organs as admitted by the Department of Health;

WHEREAS, while the medical tourism program is a good source of revenues to keep the economy afloat, the Department of Health must focus on harnessing legitimate medical tourism services and not resort to exploiting our hapless and poor citizens;

WHEREAS, Republic Act 9208 or the "Anti-Trafficking in Persons Act of 2003" prohibits the recruitment or hiring of persons, among others, for the purpose of removal or sale of organs;

WHEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED BY THE SENATE, to direct the Senate Committee on Health and Demography and other appropriate committees to investigate, in aid of legislation, the reported plan of the Department of Health to increase the number of foreign kidney

transplant in the Philippines as part of the government's medical tourism program.

Adopted,


LUISA "LOI" P. EJERCITO ESTRADA
Senator