

QC urges Congress to pass law banning mercury-laden cosmetics

The Manila Times · 6 Oct 2019 · C4

The Quezon City Council has passed a resolution urging the house of Representatives to legislate a bill prohibiting the sale of cosmetic products containing mercury.

According to the Food and Drug Administration, World Health Organization, and United Nations Environment, cosmetics containing mercury can cause skin rashes, and if applied repeatedly can cause damage to the nervous system and kidneys.

City Resolution 7837-2019, introduced by former Councilor Elizabeth Delarmente, states that the Ecowaste Coalition has been tracking mercury in skin care products that are illegally being sold in Quezon City, a clear violation of all FDA-issued advisories.

“the FDA has sought the assistance of local government units as well as enforcement agencies, in identifying and apprehending the importers, distributors, and retailers of such mercury-laden cosmetics,” the resolution reads.

In relation to this, the 20th City Council in November 2018 passed Ordinance 2767-2018 prohibiting the manufacture, distribution and sale of mercury-laden cosmetics in the city. Violators of the City Ordinance will be fined P2,000 and confiscation for the first offense; P3,000 and suspension to operate business on the second offense; and P5,000 and imprisonment for 30 days and/or cancellation of business permit for the third offense.