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House leaders reject free abortifacient drugs for Zika patients

by Charissa Luci
February 10, 2016

Speaker Feliciano "Sonny" Belmonte Jr. rejected yesterday the move of a Dutch non-governmental organization (NGO) to offer pregnant women infected with the Zika virus free pills to trigger an abortion.

The House Chief underscored that any measures seeking to legalize abortion in the country will be blocked and will not prosper.

"Right now, we are not in grave danger of Zika and science may yet find a solution. I'm against abortion," he said in a text message when asked if he would side with the proposed abortion aid by the Netherlands-based Women on Web.

Rebecca Gomperts, founder and director of Women on Web said the spread of Zika virus in countries where abortion is very restricted is alarming since it might cause increasing unsafe abortions.

The World Health Organization (WHO) earlier warned that Zika virus was "spreading explosively" in the Americas where up to four million Zika cases are expected to be recorded this year alone.

Belmonte maintained that there is no way for such anti-life proposal to prosper in the Lower Chamber.

House Independent Bloc leader and Leyte Rep. Martin Romualdez agreed with Belmonte, reminding that "abortion is a very immoral and a grievous sin."

"We will not participate on passing a law that would kill human life," he said.

"We are here to uphold and defend human life. To support abortion is insanity," he said.

Isabela Rep. Rodolfo "Rodito" Albano III said such "immoral" proposal should not be entertained at all.

"Human life is sacred and every human being – born and unborn – is precious. The measure of every institution in our society is whether it threatens or enhances the life and dignity of the human being, especially the unborn child," he said.

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vital information against the virus should be disseminated regularly and the public must be reminded all the time about its dangers as ignoring it could trigger serious problem.

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Government can't do it alone. This big battle against this Zika virus needs the cooperation of each and every Filipino family

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draw up a cohesive response to the virus and give the public clear guidelines on how to avoid the dreaded disease.

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