



Republic of the Philippines  
PROVINCE OF PANGASINAN  
*Lingayen*  
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**OFFICE OF THE SANGGUNIANG PANLALAWIGAN SECRETARY**

# CERTIFICATION

**TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:**

*THIS IS TO CERTIFY that at the regular session duly constituted of the Sangguniang Panlalawigan, Province of Pangasinan, held on July 22, 2024 at the Session Hall, Capitol Building, Lingayen, Pangasinan, the following provincial resolution was approved:*

Authored by SP Member Jerry Agerico B. Rosario and co-authored by all Members of the Sangguniang Panlalawigan

**PROVINCIAL RESOLUTION NO. 673-2024**

**URGING THE PHILIPPINE HEALTH INSURANCE CORPORATION (PHILHEALTH) TO AMEND AND EXTEND THEIR COVERAGE ON ANIMAL BITES TO INCLUDE WHO AND DOH CATEGORY 2 BITES TO EASE THE FINANCIAL BURDEN OF VICTIMS OF ANIMAL BITES IN THE COUNTRY, PARTICULARLY IN THE PROVINCE OF PANGASINAN**

**WHEREAS**, as Section 16 of R.A. 9170 declares that “within their respective territorial jurisdictions, local government units shall ensure and support, among other things, the preservation and enrichment of culture, promote health and safety”, the Sangguniang Panlalawigan is vested with the power to enact measures in order to promote the health and safety of the people of Pangasinan;

**WHEREAS**, recent records have shown an alarming increase in the incidence of rabies in the Province of Pangasinan and that the number of animal bite victims have steadily been increasing in the past years;

**WHEREAS**, the World Health Organization (WHO) and the Department of Health (DOH) classify the extent of injuries and management as follows:

- **Category 1 exposure** (touching or feeding animals, licks on intact skin), no prophylaxis is required;
- **Category II** (nibbling of uncovered skin, minor scratches or abrasions without bleeding), immediate vaccination; and
- **Category III** (single or multiple transdermal bites or scratches, contamination of mucous membrane with saliva from licks, licks on broken skin, exposures to bats), immediate vaccination and administration of rabies immunoglobulin are recommended.



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**WHEREAS**, even as the number of cases on animal bites have increased, it has been noted that financing the treatment for these cases remained undermet with the limited amount covered by healthcare institutions, including the Philippine Health Insurance Corporation (PHILHEALTH), the Pangasinan Provincial Health Office, Provincial Hospital Management System and other LGU units;

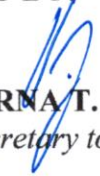
**WHEREAS**, while the PHILHEALTH is the most vital partner and best financially-capable institution in funding these under-funded need in the management of rabies cases, it only offers financing for Category 3 Animal Bites, leaving victims classified under Category 2, who are likewise advised to have immediate vaccination, unfunded;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, on motion of SP Member Jerry Agerico B. Rosario and co-authored by all Members of the Sangguniang Panlalawigan, duly seconded, it was –

**RESOLVED**, as it is hereby resolved to appeal to the Philippine Health Insurance Corporation (PHIC) to amend and extend their coverage and benefits on animal bites to include those whose injuries are under WHO and DOH Category 2 in order to ease the financial burden on animal bite victims, not only in the Province of Pangasinan, but the whole Philippines.

**RESOLVED, FINALLY**, that copies of this resolution be furnished to the Provincial Governor, Ramon V. Guico III, and the Philippine Health Insurance Corporation, for their information and guidance.

CERTIFIED BY:

  
**VERNA T. NAVA-PEREZ**  
*Secretary to the Sanggunian*

ATTESTED:

  
**MARK RONALD DG. LAMBINO**  
Vice Governor  
*(Presiding Officer)*