



Republic of the Philippines  
PROVINCE OF PANGASINAN  
*Lingayen*  
*www.pangasinan.gov.ph*

**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 December 11, 2017 at Lingayen, Pangasinan, the following provincial resolution was approved:*

Authored by SP Member Raul P. Sison

## PROVINCIAL RESOLUTION NO. 725-2017

**REQUESTING DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SECRETARY FRANCISCO T. DUQUE TO INVESTIGATE THE ALLEGED PRACTICE OF MEDICAL INSTITUTIONS IN THE PROVINCE OF PANGASINAN FOR FAILING TO EXPLAIN POLICIES, BILLING PROCEDURES TO INDIGENTS AND EMERGENCY PATIENTS AND UNLAWFULLY WITHHOLDING THE CADAVERS AND PATIENTS FROM BEING RELEASED**

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to Section 20 of the Internal Rules of Procedure of the 9<sup>th</sup> Sangguniang Panlalawigan of Pangasinan, a Question Hour was conducted on December 11, 2017 on the matter of accepting valid promissory notes or collaterals for unpaid medical or hospital fees in view of the death or urgent discharge of patients especially of Pangasinenses, in aid of legislation, and as requested and authored by SP Member Raul P. Sison;

**WHEREAS**, the matter emanated from a Privilege Speech delivered by the author on December 4, 2017 Regular Session of the august Body wherein he narrated the circumstances surrounding the death of Brgy. Kagawad Rolando Sebastian Marcelo of Brgy. Angatel, Urbiztondo, Pangasinan who died at the Medical Centrum Dagupan whereby his family cannot immediately pay his hospital bill of P143,253.00 and had pleaded that a promissory note be executed by them and pay the balance after interment, as they had only P25,000.00 cash on hand;

**WHEREAS**, the author has claimed that the hospital would not release the cadaver without payment or through an acceptable security/collateral such as land covered by Transfer Certificate of Title or a 4-wheeler vehicle covered by a Certificate of Registration; however, after a lengthy negotiation, the hospital softened up and released the remains at about 8:00 p.m., 18 ½ hours after his demise;



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**WHEREAS**, the Sangguniang Panlalawigan had extended its invitation to the President/Director and Administrator of Dagupan Medical Centrum, Department of Health (DOH) Region I, the family of the deceased patient, among others, for the purpose of hearing all sides and to enlighten all concerned parties, however, the former were unable to attend said Question Hour but instead sent a letter explaining the reasons for the delay of the release of the cadaver, and stating among other things that the family of Mr. Marcelo cannot invoke Republic Act 9439 and its implementing Rules as a source of right because Mr. Marcelo stayed in a suite room;

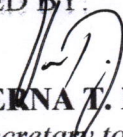
**WHEREAS**, there were questions left unanswered thoroughly during the Question Hour as can be affirmed by Dr. Edwin V. Monis, representative of DOH Region I, and it is the desire of the Sangguniang Panlalawigan that the case of Mr. Marcelo be indorsed to and resolved by the proper authority particularly the Department of Health to review similar issues with other medical institutions situated within the territorial jurisdiction of the Province of Pangasinan and to hear all sides so that proper assessments can be rendered on what really transpired so as to enlighten everyone, with the end-in-view that the same situation can be avoided;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, on motion of SP Member Raul P. Sison, duly seconded, it was –


**RESOLVED**, by the Sangguniang Panlalawigan in session assembled to request, as he is hereby requested, Department of Health Secretary Francisco T. Duque to investigate the alleged practice of medical institutions in the Province of Pangasinan for failing to explain policies, billing procedures to indigents and emergency patients and unlawfully withholding the cadavers and patients from being released;

**RESOLVED, FINALLY**, that a copy of this resolution be furnished to Secretary Francisco T. Duque, Department of Health, for his information and guidance.

CERTIFIED BY:

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

ATTESTED:

  
**JOSE FERDINAND Z. CALIMLIM, JR.**  
Vice Governor  
*(Presiding Officer)*