



Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City, Metro Manila

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 4287



Introduced by Representative WALFREDO "ARMAN" R. DIMAGUILA, JR.

AN ACT
AMENDING FURTHER REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7170, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS
THE "ORGAN DONATION ACT OF 1991," TO ENCOURAGE KIDNEY
DONATION, DESIGNATE PREFERRED BENEFICIARIES, AND PROVIDE
FINANCIAL SUPPORT TO THE DECLARED OR LEGAL BENEFICIARIES OF
DECEASED DONORS, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Organ transplantation is one of the most effective medical interventions to prolong the lives of individuals suffering from end-stage organ failure. In the Philippines, kidney disease remains a major public health challenge, yet the number of kidney donors fall far below the demand. While Republic Act No. 7170 established the foundational legal framework for organ donation in the country, the current law does not sufficiently address the pressing needs of patients with end-stage renal disease.

This bill seeks to amend further Republic Act No. 7170 by enabling individuals to specify preferred beneficiaries of their donated kidneys, giving priority to family members up to the second degree of consanguinity, thereby reinforcing family-centered medical support and donor intent.

It also seeks to establish a mechanism for beneficiary support of the deceased kidney donors when donations are made to third-party recipients. Such support includes, but are not limited to funeral subsidies, educational assistance for dependents, and livelihood assistance—providing dignity and recognition to donor families for their profound contribution to public health.

Through these amendments, this Act seeks to foster a national culture of donation based on altruism, compassion, and shared responsibility—where saving lives is honored, while the generosity of organ donors and their families is supported and remembered.

In view of the foregoing, the immediate passage of this bill is earnestly sought.



WALFREDO R. DIMAGUILA, JR.
Member, House of Representatives
Lone District of Biñan



Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City, Metro Manila

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 4287

Introduced by Representative WALFREDO "ARMAN" R. DIMAGUILA, JR.

AN ACT

**AMENDING FURTHER REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7170, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS
THE "ORGAN DONATION ACT OF 1991," TO ENCOURAGE KIDNEY
DONATION, DESIGNATE PREFERRED BENEFICIARIES, AND PROVIDE
FINANCIAL SUPPORT TO THE DECLARED OR LEGAL BENEFICIARIES OF
DECEASED DONORS, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Philippines in
Congress assembled:*

1 **Section 1. *Short Title.*** – This Act shall be known as the "*Kidney Donation and*
2 *Beneficiary Support Act of 2025.*"

3

4 **Sec. 2. *Amendment of Section 2.*** – Section 2 of Republic Act No. 7170 is
5 hereby amended as follows:

6

7

"x x x

8

(K) *KIDNEY WAITLIST* – A CENTRALIZED REGISTRY OF INDIVIDUALS
9 MEDICALLY APPROVED TO RECEIVE KIDNEY TRANSPLANTS,

9

10 RANKED BASED ON MEDICAL URGENCY, COMPATIBILITY, AND
11 LENGTH OF TIME ON THE LIST.

- 12
- 13 (L) *DECEASED DONOR* – AN INDIVIDUAL DECLARED DEAD
14 (CARDIOPULMONARY OR BRAIN DEATH) FROM WHOM ORGANS
15 ARE HARVESTED FOR TRANSPLANTATION.
16
- 17 (M) *LIVING DONOR* – A LIVING PERSON WHO DONATES ONE OF THEIR
18 KIDNEYS VOLUNTARILY AND WITHOUT MONETARY
19 COMPENSATION.
20
- 21 (N) *HARVEST WINDOW* – THE OPTIMAL TIME PERIOD WITHIN WHICH
22 ORGANS, PARTICULARLY KIDNEYS, MUST BE RETRIEVED FROM A
23 DECEASED DONOR TO ENSURE VIABILITY FOR TRANSPLANTATION.
24
- 25 (O) *ORGAN PROCUREMENT ORGANIZATION ("OPO")* – A DULY
26 AUTHORIZED AGENCY OR INSTITUTION RESPONSIBLE FOR THE
27 IDENTIFICATION OF POTENTIAL DONORS, OBTAINING CONSENT,
28 AND PROCUREMENT OF ORGANS.
29
- 30 (P) *RAPID RETRIEVAL PROTOCOL ("RRP")* – A PROTOCOL THAT
31 ALLOWS FOR EXPEDITED ORGAN RETRIEVAL IN SPECIAL CASES,
32 SUCH AS DEATHS DUE TO VIOLENCE, WHERE EVIDENCE CAN BE
33 PRESERVED BY MEANS OTHER THAN PROLONGED CUSTODY OF
34 THE BODY.

35 x x x"

36

37 **Sec. 3. Amendment of Section 4.** – Section 4 of Republic Act No. 7170 is
38 hereby amended as follows:

39

40 **"Section. 4 Preferred Beneficiaries.** –

- 41
- 42
- 43 (a) THE TESTATOR MAY DESIGNATE PREFERRED BENEFICIARIES
44 OF THEIR DONATED ORGANS BY DECLARING THEM THROUGH
45 THE NATIONAL CENSUS CONDUCTED BY THE PHILIPPINE
46 STATISTICS AUTHORITY, PRIORITIZING INDIVIDUALS WITHIN
47 THE SECOND DEGREE OF CONSANGUINITY, INCLUDING
48 SPOUSE, CHILDREN, PARENTS, SIBLINGS, AND
49 GRANDPARENTS.

50
51
52
53
54
55
56
57
58
59
60
61
62
63
64
65
66
67
68
69
70
71
72
73
74
75
76
77
78
79
80
81

(b) Any of the following, person, in the order of property stated hereunder, in the absence of actual notice of contrary intentions by the decedent or actual notice of opposition by a member of the immediate family of the decedent, may donate all or any part of the decedent's body for any purpose specified in Section 6 hereof:

(1) Spouse;

(2) Son or daughter of legal age;

(3) Either parent;

(4) Brother or sister of legal age; or

(5) Guardian over the person of the decedent at the time of his death.

(c) IF NO SUCH DESIGNATION IS MADE, OR IF THE DESIGNATED INDIVIDUAL IS NOT A VIABLE RECIPIENT, THE KIDNEYS SHALL BE ALLOCATED THROUGH THE NATIONAL KIDNEY TRANSPLANT INSTITUTE (THE "NNTI") TO QUALIFIED RECIPIENTS AS DETERMINED BY MEDICAL NEED AND AVAILABILITY.

(d) THE DESIGNATION SHALL BE MADE IN WRITING AND REGISTERED WITH THE NNTI OR INDICATED IN A NOTARIZED ORGAN DONOR CARD OR LIVING WILL.

(e) The persons authorized BY SUB-SECTION (B) of this Section may make the donation after or immediately before death."

82
83
84
85
86
87
88
89
90
91
92
93
94
95
96
97
98
99
100
101
102
103
104
105
106
107
108
109
110
111
112

Sec. 4. *Waiting Time and Kidney Waitlist Management* – A new section is hereby inserted as Section 12 hereof, thereby renumbering the subsequent sections of R.A. 7170 and shall be read as follows:

“Section 12. *Establishment of a National Kidney Waitlist Registry* —The Department of Health (DOH), in coordination with accredited transplant centers, shall establish and maintain a centralized, transparent, and regularly updated national kidney waitlist system. All potential recipients must be enrolled in the registry upon certification of end-stage renal disease and medical eligibility.

Patients shall be provided their status, rank, and estimated wait time on the list via secure communication methods. The registry shall be monitored regularly for fair prioritization based on:

- a. Tissue compatibility;
- b. Medical urgency;
- c. Length of time on dialysis;
- d. Pediatric status (if applicable); and
- e. Geographical proximity.

No patient shall remain on the waitlist without being updated about their status for more than **12 consecutive months**. Patients on dialysis for **more than 5 years** shall be reviewed for **priority reassessment** to ensure fairness and prevent loss of viability.

Every **18 months**, transplant centers shall reassess and revalidate the medical eligibility of waitlisted patients to ensure continued qualification.”

113
114
115
116
117
118
119
120
121
122
123
124
125
126
127
128
129
130
131
132
133
134
135
136
137
138
139
140
141
142
143

Sec. 5. Special Provision on Deceased Individuals from Violent Deaths

– A new section is hereby inserted as Section 13 hereof and shall be read as follows:

"Section. 13. ***Protocol for Gunshot Wound Victims (Postmortem Donation)*** – In cases of individuals who die due to gunshot wounds or similar violent causes, and who are identified as potential organ donors, the following shall be observed as follows:

- a. Investigators and forensic personnel shall have the authority to:
 - i. Take high-resolution photographs;
 - ii. Conduct preliminary documentation; and
 - iii. Record external injuries and positions before release of the body.

- b. The body may then be released immediately to the OPO for organ retrieval **within 4 hours** after official pronouncement of death, subject to:
 - i. Completion of forensic documentation;
 - ii. No explicit objection by the deceased (if a non-donor);
and
 - iii. Family consent when applicable.

- c. Photographic and medical documentation shall be admissible for legal and criminal proceedings, reducing the need for prolonged possession of the body. The physical kidneys may also be preserved for forensic testing before transplantation if required.

144 d. The OPO, in cooperation with law enforcement, shall
145 assign a pathologist on standby for all violent death cases
146 to ensure the cause of death and clearance for
147 transplantation.”

148

149 **Sec. 6. Support to Beneficiaries of Deceased Donors.** – A new section is
150 hereby inserted as Section 14 hereof and shall be read as follows:

151

152 **Section. 14.** In cases where a deceased person’s organs are
153 donated to third-party recipients not related to the deceased, the
154 deceased’s designated preferred beneficiaries in subparagraph (a) and
155 (b) in section 4 hereof shall be entitled to financial support from the
156 Department of Health, in any of the following options:

157

- 158 (a) The assistance shall include any or a combination of:
- 159 • Funeral subsidy;
 - 160 • Educational assistance for dependent children;
 - 161 • Livelihood support for surviving spouse or parents.

162

163 Any of the combination availed of by the
164 preferred beneficiaries shall amount to not less than
165 Five Hundred Thousand Pesos (PhP500,000.00); or

166

- 167 (b) A lump sum amount of Five Hundred Thousand Pesos
168 (PhP500,000.00).

169

170 The Department of Health (the “DOH”) shall establish a Kidney Donor
171 Beneficiary Support (the “KDBS”) to implement this provision, funded
172 through the General Appropriations Act and private partnerships.

173

174 The amount of financial support shall be reviewed annually and
175 adjusted based on prevailing economic conditions.”

176 **Sec. 7. National Organ Donor Registry.** – A new section is hereby inserted as
177 Section 15 hereof to be read as follows:

178

179 **“Section 15. National Organ Donor Registry** – The DOH shall
180 maintain and regularly update a National Organ Donor and Recipient
181 Registry, containing records of living and deceased organ donors, declared
182 preferred beneficiaries, and organ transplant allocations and outcomes.”

183

184 **Sec. 8. Renumbering of Sections 12 to 19 of R.A. 7170.** – Section 12 of
185 R.A. 7170 shall be renumbered to SEC. 16, while Section 13 shall be renumbered to
186 SEC. 17, and so on until the last section thereof is renumbered.

187

188 **Sec. 9. Implementing Rules and Regulations.** – The Department of Health
189 shall promulgate the necessary implementing rules and regulations within ninety (90)
190 days from the effectivity of this Act.

191

192 **Sec. 10. Separability Clause.** – If any provision of this Act is declared
193 unconstitutional, the remaining provisions shall remain valid.

194

195 **Sec. 11. Repealing Clause.** – All laws, decrees, executive orders, or rules
196 inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed or amended accordingly.

197

198 **Sec. 12. Effectivity.** – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its
199 publication in the Official Gazette or in at least two (2) newspapers of general
200 circulation.

APPROVED.