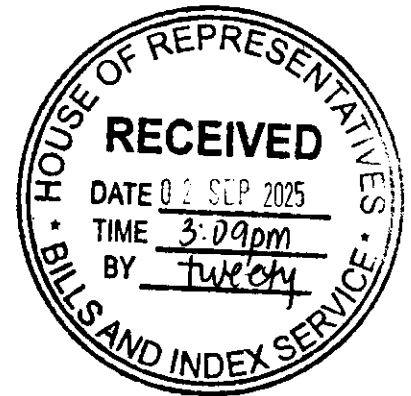




Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City, Metro Manila

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session



HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 224

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

A RESOLUTION

DIRECTING THE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE REVIEW AND POSSIBLE AMENDMENT OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7170, ALSO KNOWN AS THE "ORGAN DONATION ACT OF 1991," TO ENCOURAGE KIDNEY DONATION, ALLOW DONORS TO IDENTIFY PREFERRED RECIPIENTS, AND PROVIDE FINANCIAL SUPPORT TO THE PREFERRED BENEFICIARIES OF DECEASED DONORS WHO DONATE ORGANS TO THIRD PARTIES

WHEREAS, kidney disease remains one of the top causes of morbidity and mortality in the Philippines, with thousands of Filipinos suffering from end-stage renal disease and relying on dialysis or transplants for survival;

WHEREAS, kidney transplantation is the most cost-effective and life-prolonging treatment for patients with irreversible kidney failure, yet there is a severe shortage of available kidney donors in the country;

WHEREAS, Republic Act No. 7170, or the "Organ Donation Act of 1991," authorizes the donation of human organs and tissues after death but lacks updated provisions that reflect recent medical developments, ethical considerations, and the urgent need to increase organ donation rates;

WHEREAS, there is a growing public sentiment in favor of allowing donors to designate preferred beneficiaries of their donated organs—particularly family members or loved ones—to ensure they are prioritized;

WHEREAS, while it is noble to donate organs to third parties in instances their preferred beneficiaries are not compatible none of them require transplant at the time of passing, covering the costs of the decedent after their death, among others, still exists; thus to appease loved ones who will shoulder such costs, financial and social assistance should be provided to the surviving legal or preferred beneficiaries of the deceased donor, in recognition of their contribution to the public good;

WHEREAS, there is a need to strengthen public awareness campaigns, living donor support systems, and the implementation of a transparent and ethical National Organ Donor and Recipient Registry;

WHEREAS, a comprehensive review of Republic Act No. 7170 is necessary to craft responsive and compassionate policies that will promote a culture of organ donation, uphold donor rights and intent, and provide support to donor families;

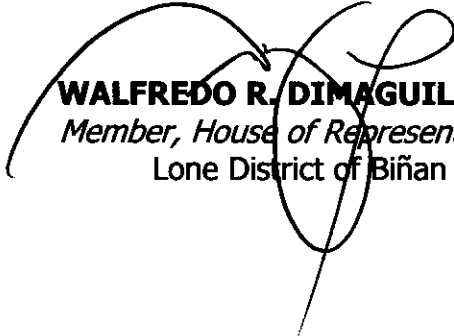
NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, to direct the Committee on Health to conduct an inquiry, in aid of legislation, on the need to amend Republic Act No. 7170 to:

1. Encourage kidney donation from living individuals and preferred beneficiaries of the deceased donors;
2. Institutionalize the right of donors to designate preferred recipients, prioritizing those within the second degree of consanguinity;

3. Establish a mechanism for financial assistance to the legal beneficiaries of deceased donors whose organs are given to third-party recipients; and
4. Strengthen national systems for ethical organ allocation, donor registration, and post-donation support.

RESOLVED FURTHER, to have copies of this Resolution be furnished to the Department of Health, Philippine Network for Organ Sharing, Philippine Society of Nephrology, National Kidney and Transplant Institute as well as other relevant agencies and stakeholders for their guidance and recommendations.

APPROVED.



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