

8/2/16
benig

REPUBLIKA NG PILIPINAS
LUNGSOD QUEZON
SANGUNIANG PANLUNGSOD

Proposed Resolution No. ____, S-2016

A RESOLUTION EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR SENATE BILL NO. 2910 OR "AN ACT PROMULGATING A NATIONAL MENTAL HEALTH POLICY TOWARDS THE ENHANCEMENT OF INTEGRATED MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES, THE PROMOTION AND PROTECTION OF PERSONS UTILIZING MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES" FILED BY SENATOR PIA S. CAYETANO

Introduced by Councilor Lena Marie "Mayen" Juico

WHEREAS, Article 2, Section 15 of the 1987 Philippine Constitution states that "the State shall protect and promote the right to health of the people and instill health consciousness among them." An important dimension of this right to health is mental health because "health," as defined in the World Health Organization Constitution, is "a state of complete physical, mental, and social well-being and not merely the absence of disease or infirmity."

WHEREAS, Article XIII Section 11 of the 1987 Philippine Constitution provides that "the State shall adopt an integrated and comprehensive approach to health development which shall endeavor to make essential goods, health and other social services available to all the people at affordable cost.";

WHEREAS, under the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, and the International Covenant on Civil & Political Rights, the State acknowledges that persons with mental disabilities have the right to equality and non-discrimination, dignity and respect, privacy and individual autonomy, information and participation;

WHEREAS, the State recognizes its obligations as a State-Party to the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities under Article 4 of the present Convention "to ensure and promote the full realization of all human rights and fundamental freedoms for all persons with disabilities without discrimination of any kind on the basis of disability";

WHEREAS, the UN General Assembly resolution 46/119 of 2 December 17, 1991, on the Principles For The Protection Of Persons With Mental illness And The Improvement Of Mental Health Care lays down the policies and guidelines for the protection from harm of persons with mental disabilities and the improvement of mental health care;

WHEREAS, based on a survey conducted by the Department of Health among 327 government employees in Metro Manila, 32% were found to have experienced mental health problems. Almost one per 100 households (0.7%) has a member with mental disability (DOH-SWS, 2004). As early as 2003, intentional self-harm was already found to be the 9th leading cause of death among 20-24 years old Filipino adults (DOH 2003). The incidence of suicide in males increased from 0.23 to 3.59 per 100,000 between 1984 and 2005 while rates rose from 0.12 to 1.09 per 100,000 in females (Redaniel, Dalida and Gunnell, 2011). Individuals with chronic mental illness, children, overseas Filipino workers and those in areas of armed conflict have higher risk of getting mental health problems;

WHEREAS, the UN Special Rapporteur on Torture raised alarm on the prevalence of practices which can be considered "cruel and inhumane, degrading treatment" or even torture in health care settings. The report cites that persons with psychosocial disabilities, including those with long term sensory and intellectual impairments who have been neglected or detained in a variety of settings, from psychiatric to social care institutions or other residential centers, may be subject to all kinds of abuses or violence.

WHEREAS, further adding to the woes of those afflicted with mental health illnesses is the shortage in qualified mental health professionals. At present there are only an estimated 490 psychiatrists and 1000 nurses working in psychiatric care, and even less general practitioners trained in early assessment and management of common mental health problem in the community. The number of addiction specialists, psychologists, occupational therapists, guidance counselors and social workers are extremely inadequate to meet the mental health needs of the 100 million Filipinos;

WHEREAS, there are two mental hospitals, 46 outpatient facilities, four day-treatment facilities, 19 community-based psychiatric inpatient facilities and 15 community residential (custodial home-care) facilities for the whole country. Almost all mental health facilities are in major cities, while the only mental hospital in the National Capital Region houses only 4,200 beds;

WHEREAS, through the passage of this Philippine Mental Health Act, the State commits to the promotion and protection of the rights of the person with mental health needs and the belief that addressing their profound social disadvantage enhances their significant contribution in the civil, political, economic, social and cultural spheres.

WHEREAS, Senate Bill No. 2910 seeks to incorporate and institutionalize comprehensive mental health services into the national health system of the Philippines. The aim is to render available, accessible, affordable and equitable quality mental health care and services to Filipinos, especially the poor, underserved and high-risk population;

THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF QUEZON CITY IN SESSION ASSEMBLED, to express its support for the enactment of Senate Bill No. 2910 or the "Philippine Mental Health Act of 2015".

RESOLVED FURTHER, that the City Council of Quezon City upholds the basic right of all Filipinos to mental health and to respect the fundamental rights of people who require mental health services. As enshrined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, and the International Covenant on Civil & Political Rights, the State acknowledges that persons with mental disabilities have the right to equality and non-discrimination, dignity and respect, privacy and individual autonomy, information and participation.

RESOLVED FURTHER, that copies of this Resolution be furnished to the Department of Health, Quezon City Health Department, and other Government and Non-government Organization (NGO) that deal with mental health issues and concerns.

ADOPTED: _____, 2016.

Submitted by:


HON. LENA MARIE "MAYEN" JUICO
City Councilor,
District I, Quezon City