



Introduced by: Senator Paolo Benigno "Bam" A. Aquino IV

**RESOLUTION**

**EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF THE SENATE URGING THE APPROPRIATE AGENCIES TO WORK COLLABORATIVELY IN THE IMMEDIATE RESOLUTION OF THE ISSUE OF OWNERSHIP OF THE LAND CURRENTLY OCCUPIED BY THE PHILIPPINE CHILDREN MEDICAL CENTER WITH THE END VIEW OF PROTECTING THE BASIC RIGHT OF CHILDREN TO HEALTH SERVICES**

**Whereas**, under Presidential Decree No. 1631, it is the duty of the Government to assist and provide material and financial support in the establishment and maintenance of a "Lungsod ng Kabataan", primarily to benefit the children of the Philippines, and to further enhance the research in pediatric diseases, training of medical and technical personnel, and specialized medical services for the prevention and treatment of children's diseases. The "Lungsod ng Kabataan" was later on renamed to Philippine Children Medical Center (PCMC) in 1986;

**Whereas**, PCMC has been facing a long-standing issue regarding ownership of the lots it has been occupying since 1980. The land titles of these still remain with the National Housing Authority (NHA). Based on news reports, NHA is asking for Php 1.1 Billion from the PCMC to purchase the lot it has been standing on for more than thirty (30) years now. Further, NHA said that they are raising funds for the relocation of informal settlers. The NHA has already been selling the hospital's lots by piecemeal to other government agencies. PCMC is using the remaining 3.4 hectares;

**Whereas**, as early as in the 1980's, the PCMC had pleaded the national government to either donate or finance the lot on which it is presently occupying in order that PCMC will be the registered owner of the land and the improvements thereon. Past administrations had issued presidential proclamations to effect transfer of ownership of lands through donation, just in the case of the Office of the Ombudsman and the Court of Tax Appeals. These lands form portion of the 6.3 hectare of land occupied by the PCMC;

**Whereas**, there is a need to immediately resolve the issue of ownership of the land which PCMC presently occupies. The PCMC indeed plays a crucial role in providing health services to its special pediatric patients. It caters to an estimate of 60,000 patients annually. The specialized training that the PCMC gives doctors and other medical professional in pediatric medicine ultimately benefits the entire country;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, as it is hereby resolved it is the sense of the Senate of the Philippines to urge the appropriate agencies to work collaboratively in the immediate resolution of the issue of ownership of the land currently occupied by the Philippine Children Medical Center with the end view of protecting the basic right of children to health services.

Adopted,