

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

**SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS**  
Third Regular Session



**COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 937**

Submitted by the **Committee on Muslim Affairs** **NOV 21 2018**  
Re : **House Bill No. 8627**  
**Recommending its approval in substitution of House Bill No 2953**  
Sponsors : **Representative Bai Sandra Sinsuat A. Sema**

**MADAM SPEAKER:**

The Committee on Muslim Affairs to which was referred **House Bill No. 2953**, introduced by Representative Mauyag "Jun" B. Papandayan, Jr., entitled:

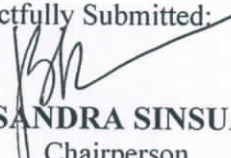
**"AN ACT PROHIBITING THE DETENTION OF AND MANDATING THE IMMEDIATE RELEASE OF CADAVERS OF MUSLIMS FROM GOVERNMENT HOSPITALS, MORGUES AND OTHER OFFICES WITH FACILITIES FOR DECEASED BODIES ON GROUNDS OF NONPAYMENT OF HOSPITAL BILLS OR MEDICAL EXPENSES",**

has considered the same and recommends that the attached House Bill No. **8627** entitled:

**"AN ACT REQUIRING HOSPITALS, MEDICAL CLINICS, AND OTHER FACILITIES TO RELEASE A CADAVER IN THEIR POSSESSION WITHIN TWENTY-FOUR (24) HOURS FROM TIME OF DEATH TO THE FAMILY OR RELATIVES, IN RECOGNITION OF RELIGIOUS PRACTICES AND TRADITIONS, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9439 ENTITLED "AN ACT PROHIBITING THE DETENTION OF PATIENTS IN HOSPITAL AND MEDICAL CLINIC ON GROUNDS OF NONPAYMENT OF HOSPITAL BILLS OR MEDICAL EXPENSES"**

be approved in substitution of House Bill No. 2953 with Representatives Bai Sandra Sinsuat A. Sema and Mauyag "Jun" B. Papandayan, Jr. as author thereof.

Respectfully Submitted:

  
**BAI SANDRA SINSUAT A. SEMA**  
Chairperson  
Committee on Muslim Affairs

**THE HONORABLE  
THE SPEAKER  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
Quezon City**



1 required for the release of the patient from the hospital or medical  
2 clinic upon the execution of a promissory note covering the unpaid,  
3 obligation. The promissory note shall be secured by either a mortgage  
4 or by a guarantee of a co-maker, who will be jointly and severally  
5 liable with the patient for the unpaid obligation. THE CADAVER OF  
6 A DECEASED PATIENT SHALL BE RELEASED WITHIN  
7 TWENTY-FOUR (24) HOURS FROM THE TIME OF DEATH TO  
8 THE FAMILY OR RELATIVES IN RECOGNITION OF  
9 RELIGIOUS PRACTICES AND TRADITIONS AS MUSLIMS,  
10 CHRISTIANS OR INDIGENOUS PEOPLES AND the corresponding  
11 death certificate and other documents required for interment and other  
12 purposes shall be released to any of the surviving relatives requesting  
13 for the same: *Provided, however,* That patients who stayed in private  
14 rooms shall not be covered by this Act.”

15 SEC. 2. Section 2 of Republic Act No. 9439 is hereby amended, and  
16 all other laws, executive orders, and rules and regulations which are  
17 inconsistent with this Act are hereby amended, repealed or modified  
18 accordingly.

19 SEC. 3. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its  
20 publication in the Official Gazette or in any newspaper of general  
21 circulation.

22 Approved,

## FACT SHEET

House Bill No. 8627

(In substitution of House Bill No. 2953)

**AN ACT REQUIRING HOSPITALS, MEDICAL CLINICS, AND OTHER FACILITIES TO RELEASE A CADAVER IN THEIR POSSESSION WITHIN TWENTY-FOUR (24) HOURS FROM TIME OF DEATH TO THE FAMILY OR RELATIVES IN RECOGNITION OF RELIGIOUS PRACTICES AND TRADITIONS, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9439 ENTITLED "AN ACT PROHIBITING THE DETENTION OF PATIENTS IN HOSPITAL AND MEDICAL CLINIC ON GROUNDS OF NONPAYMENT OF HOSPITAL BILLS OR MEDICAL EXPENSES"**

*Introduced by: REP. MAUYAG "JUN" PAPANDAYAN, JR.*

*Committee Referral: COMMITTEE ON MUSLIM AFFAIRS*

*Committee Chairperson: HON. BAI SANDRA SINSUAT A. SEMA*

### **OBJECTIVE:**

- To honor the religious customs and traditions of Muslim Filipinos, Christian and Indigenous peoples with regard to religious burial rites especially those that require immediate burial after death

### **KEY PROVISIONS:**

- Mandates the immediate release within twenty-four (24) hours of the cadavers of dead Muslim, Christian or Indigenous peoples in the custody of government hospitals, medical clinic, morgue, or other facilities. For a private hospital, the family of the deceased shall execute a promissory note to the concerned establishment on the amount incurred for the release of the cadaver;
- Excludes from the policy of leniency towards patients who cannot afford to pay their hospital bills those who are confined in private hospital rooms; and
- Provides that the necessary rules and regulations to carry out the provisions of this Act shall be promulgated by the Department of Health (DOH).