



Republic of the Philippines
CITY COUNCIL
City of Manila

REGULAR SESSION NO. 34

13TH CITY COUNCIL

RESOLUTION NO. 494
Series of 2025

RESOLUTION RESPECTFULLY URGING THE CITY GOVERNMENT OF MANILA TO CONDUCT A THOROUGH STUDY ON THE LOCAL IMPLEMENTATION OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 12309 (FREE FUNERAL SERVICES ACT) IN THE CITY OF MANILA

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WHEREAS, Republic Act No. 12309, the Free Funeral Services Act, lapsed into law on September 28, 2025, establishing a national policy to provide free funeral services for poor families and those in crisis situations through accredited providers and appropriate government coordination;

WHEREAS, the law's core features – as passed in the 19th Congress – include the provision of an “indigent funeral package” (covering documentary processing, embalming, cremation or burial, transport of remains, and a casket or urn) and an accreditation-and-compliance framework to ensure actual delivery of services to eligible beneficiaries;

WHEREAS, Manila's dense population, incidence of urban poverty, and frequent emergencies underscore the need to adapt national social protection measures to local contexts, consistent with the city's general welfare powers under the Local Government Code to promote the health, safety, and well-being of its constituents;

WHEREAS, a careful local study is necessary to map eligibility criteria, interface with Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) programs, define accreditation standards for funeral establishment operating in Manila, determine budgetary and administrative requirements, and set up monitoring, grievance, and anti-fraud safeguards, all in harmony with Republic Act No. 12309 and relevant national guidelines: NOW, THEREFORE, be it

RESOLVED, by the City Council of Manila to urge, as it hereby urges the City Government of Manila to conduct a thorough study on the local implementation of Republic Act No. 12309 (Free Funeral Services Act) in the City of Manila; and be it FURTHER

RESOLVED, that the study shall, at a minimum, (a) recommend clear local eligibility and crisis-situation definitions aligned with national standards; (b) propose accreditation, contracting, and compliance mechanisms for funeral service providers; (c) estimate fiscal and administrative needs for pilot and citywide roll-out; (d) design coordination protocols with DSWD and other national agencies; and (e) outline a monitoring, audit, and grievance system to prevent misuse and ensure dignified, timely services; and be it FURTHERMORE

RESOLVED, that the lead offices transmit to the City Council, within ninety (90) days from approval of this Resolution, a written report with draft legislative or administrative instruments necessary to implement the program in Manila, for consideration in subsequent council action; and be it FINALLY

RESOLVED, that a copies of this Resolution be furnished to Manila Department of Social Welfare (MDSW), Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD), National Capital Region (NCR) and Office of the City Legal Officer, Manila.

PRESIDED BY:



ANGELA LEI "Chi" I. ATIENZA
Vice-Mayor and Presiding Officer
City Council, Manila

This Resolution was adopted by the City Council of Manila at its regular session on November 13, 2025.

ATTESTED:



ROMEO N. FRANCIA, MPMG
OIC - Office of the Secretary
City Council
(under office order dated Nov. 6, 2025)

CLN: acl/jok/cpf/jmt/hpr/nbp