A RESOLUTION EXPRESSING THE STRONG SUPPORT OF THE 10TH CITY COUNCIL OF TUGUEGARAO CITY FOR THE PASSAGE OF HOUSE BILL NO. 1353, TITLED "AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE MAGNA CARTA OF BARANGAY HEALTH WORKERS," AND URGING THE 20TH CONGRESS OF THE PHILIPPINES TO ENACT THE SAME

SPONSORED BY:

HON. TIRSO V. MANGADA
HON. ROSAURO RODRIGO G. RESUELLO
HON. MARC ALDOUS C. BACCAY
HON. JUDE T. BAYONA
HON. MARIA ROSARIO B. SORIANO
HON. RONALDO S. ORTIZ
HON. DENNIS RYAN G. AVILA
HON. KARINA GAUANI-VIERNES

WHEREAS, Barangay Health Workers (BHWs) serve as the frontline partners of the government in the delivery of basic health services at the grassroots level and play a crucial role in advancing public health, disease prevention, and community-based primary health care;

WHEREAS, the State recognizes the right to health of the people and adopts an integrated and comprehensive approach to health development, consistent with the country's commitment to attain health-related targets under the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals;

WHEREAS, House Bill No. 1353, authored by JC M. Abalos, 4Ps Partylist Representative, titled "An Act Providing for the Magna Carta of Barangay Health Workers," seeks to promote the welfare and well-being of Barangay Health Workers by institutionalizing policies that recognize their indispensable role in health service delivery and effectively harness their potential as partners in development;

WHEREAS, the proposed measure defines Barangay Health Workers as trained and duly accredited individuals who voluntarily render primary health care services in the community, and establishes a system of registration, accreditation, and professionalization to ensure quality and continuity of health services at the barangay level;

WHEREAS, House Bill No. 1353 provides for clear roles, duties, and responsibilities of Barangay Health Workers, including advocacy, health education, record keeping, community health profiling, disaster response, and assistance in the implementation of local and national health programs;

WHEREAS, the proposed Magna Carta grants accredited Barangay Health Workers incentives and benefits, including monthly honoraria, hazard, subsistence, and transportation allowances, health and insurance benefits, civil service eligibility, access to training and career enrichment programs, free legal assistance, and protection against discrimination and unjust removal from service;

WHEREAS, the bill strengthens the participation of Barangay Health Workers in local health governance by providing representation in local health boards and integrating them into the primary health care provider network, while maintaining safeguards against partisan political activity;

WHEREAS, House Bill No. 1353 mandates the Department of Health, in coordination with local government units and other concerned agencies, to ensure continuous capacity building, training, and development of Barangay Health Workers, thereby enhancing the quality of health services in barangays nationwide;

WHEREAS, the enactment of the Magna Carta of Barangay Health Workers will significantly contribute to improving public health outcomes, strengthening primary health care, and ensuring the sustainability of community-based health services, particularly in cities and municipalities such as Tuguegarao City;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, as it is hereby resolved, that the 10th Tuguegarao City Council expresses its strong and unequivocal support for the passage of House Bill No. 1353, titled "An Act Providing for the Magna Carta of Barangay Health Workers";

RESOLVED FURTHER, that the 10th Tuguegarao City Council respectfully urges the 20th Congress of the Philippines to expedite the enactment of this landmark legislation in recognition of the invaluable contributions of Barangay Health Workers to public health and local governance;

RESOLVED FINALLY, that copies of this Resolution be furnished to the Office of the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the Senate of the Philippines, the Department of Health, the Department of the Interior and Local Government, the Department of Budget and Management, and the Liga ng mga Barangay, for their information and appropriate action.