

Senate president: No provisions to impeach Anwar
MalaysiaKini.com
April 24, 2012
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It is not currently possible to impeach Opposition Leader Anwar Ibrahim from his parliamentary office purely on moral grounds as the law doesn't allow it.

"A person may have done something that should not be done by one who holds office. But there are no provisions to impeach those holding (parliamentary) office," Dewan Negara president Abu Zahar Nika Ujang (left) told reporters during a press conference in his chambers at the House today. He was speaking to reporters after receiving a memorandum from a coalition of pro-establishment NGOs who are calling for Anwar's impeachment as Opposition Leader for his alleged involvement in "immoral homosexual activities".

"We must cleanse Parliament from such things," said Gagasan Anti-Penyelewengan Selangor (Gaps) president Hamidzun Khairuddin, who led the eight-member delegation.

Gaps, along with NGOs Waris Malaya, Warisan Anak Merdeka and Persatuan Belia Selangor, are demanding for the opposition leader's impeachment based on a High Court ruling in the Permatang Pauh MP's recent sodomy case.

In the judgment by the three-man bench, Anwar was acquitted of the charge under Section 377B for carnal intercourse against the order of nature, though the court said it found evidence that Anwar was "involved in homosexual activities" but it was "unsafe" to convict on uncorroborated evidence.

NONEThe NGOs also referred to a sex video allegedly featuring a person resembling the opposition leader and statements from senator S Nallakaruppan (right in photo) who has claimed to have evidence that Anwar was involved in an illicit affair with a married woman, as proof of his supposed immorality.

They called on parliamentarians to enact legislation to allow for Anwar's impeachment.

Abu Sahar commented that as a lawyer he understood that sometimes a person is acquitted from a criminal charge not because the person is innocent but because of the lack of evidence.

"There may be weaknesses in the law and to address those weaknesses, you must send it to Parliament and enact it as law," he proposed.

The memorandum is the latest in a series of attacks mounted against Anwar, with allegations of gross immorality being heaped upon him in the run-up to the 13th general election.

Just in the past week, an NGO called Tolak Insan Bernama Anwar Ibrahim (Tibai) was formed to lambast the opposition leader, while Nallakaruppan has held several press conferences to discredit his former tennis partner and one-time friend.

