



Republic of the Philippines
QUEZON CITY COUNCIL

Quezon City
20th City Council

PO20CC-241

57th Regular Session

ORDINANCE NO. SP- 2689, S-2018

**AN ORDINANCE INSTITUTING A COMPREHENSIVE EYE CARE PROGRAM,
PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.**

Introduced by Councilors JULIENNE ALYSON RAE V.
MEDALLA and DIORELLA MARIA G. SOTTO.

Co-Introduced by Councilors Lena Marie P. Juico,
Elizabeth A. Delarmente, Alexis R. Herrera,
Ramon P. Medalla, Estrella C. Valmocina, Allan
Benedict S. Reyes, Franz S. Pumaren, Raquel S.
Malañgen, Marra C. Suntay, Hero Clarence M.
Bautista, Godofredo T. Liban II, and Eric Z. Medina.

WHEREAS, Section 11, Article XIII of the 1987 Constitution provides that "the State shall adopt an integrated and comprehensive approach to health development which shall endeavour to make essential goods, health and other social services available to all people at affordable cost. There shall be priority for the needs of the underprivileged, sick, elderly, disabled, women, and children;"

WHEREAS, according to the World Health Organization (WHO) in June 2012, approximately 285 million people worldwide are visually impaired, 246 million have low vision and 39 million are blind, 80% of which are avoidable. Globally, uncorrected refractive errors are the main cause of visual impairment, while cataract remains the leading cause of blindness;

WHEREAS, results of the National Survey on Blindness in the Philippines in 2002 show that the prevalence of visual impairment (visual acuity worse than 6/18 in the better eye) is 4.62%; bilateral blindness (visual acuity less than counting finger at 3 meters) is 0.58%; monocular blindness is 0.71%; bilateral low vision (visual acuity worse than 6/18 but equal to or better than counting finger at 3 meters) is 1.43%, and monocular low vision is 0.87%;

WHEREAS, based on the 2015 population estimate, the current estimated number of persons in the country who are bilaterally blind is 295,152 of which 59% is due to cataract and 14% is due to uncorrected refractive errors;