



Republic of the Philippines
QUEZON CITY COUNCIL
Quezon City
21st City Council

PO21CC-291

30th Regular Session

ORDINANCE NO. SP- **2943**, S-2020

AN ORDINANCE ENABLING COVID-19 TESTING OF SELECT AT-RISK QUEZON CITY BARANGAY FRONTLINERS AND BARANGAY HEALTH WORKERS WHO, IN THE COURSE OF PERFORMING THEIR DUTIES, MAY HAVE PROLONGED CLOSE CONTACT WITH A SUSPECT, CONFIRMED OR PROBABLE COVID-19 CASE WITHIN THE JURISDICTION OF QUEZON CITY.

Introduced by Councilors KATE GALANG-COSETENG, DOROTHY A. DELARMENTE, M.D., FRANZ S. PUMAREN and BERNARD R. HERRERA.

Co-Introduced by Councilors Lena Marie P. Juico, Tany Joe "TJ" L. Calalay, Nicole Ella V. Crisologo, Victor V. Ferrer, Jr., Atty. Bong Liban, Eden Delilah "Candy" A. Medina, Estrella C. Valmocina, Matias John T. Defensor, Wencerom Benedict C. Lagumbay, Jorge L. Banal, Sr., Peachy V. De Leon, Imee A. Rillo, Marra C. Suntay, Irene R. Belmonte, Resty B. Malañgen, Ivy L. Lagman, Hero M. Bautista, Karl Castelo, Patrick Michael Vargas, Shaira L. Liban, Ram V. Medalla, Allan Butch T. Francisco, Marivic Co Pilar, Melencio "Bobby" T. Castelo, Jr., Rogelio "Roger" P. Juan, Diorella Maria G. Sotto-Antonio, Donato "Donny" C. Matias, Eric Z. Medina and Noe Dela Fuente.

WHEREAS, Section 15, Article II of the 1987 Philippine Constitution provides that the State shall protect and promote the right to health of the people and instill health consciousness among them;

WHEREAS, on March 16, 2020, due to COVID-19 pandemic, the President declared an Enhanced Community Quarantine (ECQ) over the entire Luzon island. Among others, the ECQ prohibited mass gatherings, closed down all but essential businesses and suspended public transportation;

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WHEREAS, in the course of performing their duties, certain Quezon City barangay frontliners, including barangay health workers, may have prolonged close contact with a suspect, confirmed or probable COVID-19 case, and may need to avail themselves of testing for COVID-19;

WHEREAS, Section 6 (e) of Republic Act No. 11332, otherwise known as the "The Mandatory Reporting of Notifiable Diseases and Health Events of Public Health Concern Act", provides that local governments have the authority to conduct and enforce disease surveillance and response systems, epidemic/outbreak and epidemiologic investigations, rapid containment, quarantine and isolation, disease prevention and control measures;

WHEREAS, based on Section 16 of Republic Act No. 7160, known as the Local Government Code of 1991, the City has the implied power to do all necessary, appropriate or incidental for its efficient and effective governance, promote general welfare, promote health and safety, maintain peace and order, and preserve the comfort and the convenience of their inhabitants;




WHEREAS, Section 458 (a)(1)(iv) of the Local Government Code of 1991 provides that the City Council may adopt measures to protect the inhabitants of the city from the harmful effects of natural disasters and calamities;

WHEREAS, Section 458 (a)(5)(xii) of the same Code provides that the City Council may approve measures and adopt quarantine regulations to prevent the introduction and spread of diseases.

NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF QUEZON CITY IN REGULAR SESSION ASSEMBLED:

SECTION 1. SCOPE AND COVERAGE. - This Ordinance shall cover all barangays under the Quezon City Local Government Unit and all Quezon City Barangay Frontliners and Health Workers who may have prolonged close contact with a suspect, confirmed or probable COVID-19 case within the jurisdiction of Quezon City.



SECTION 2. PURPOSE. - Identification of At-Risk Frontliners: The Barangay Health Emergency Response Teams (BHERTSs) shall identify barangay frontliners, namely barangay health workers, and other barangay-employed frontliner workers that, in the course of performing their duties, have had prolonged close contact with a suspect, probable or confirmed case of COVID-19 ("At-Risk Frontliners").

SECTION 3. DEFINITIONS. -

- (a) AT-RISK FRONTLINERS - The "At-Risk Frontliners" are persons who are performing their duties as barangay frontliners and barangay health workers under the Quezon City Local Government Unit who may have close contact with a suspect, confirmed or probable COVID-19 case, and may need to avail themselves of testing for COVID-19.*
- (b) BARANGAY HEALTH WORKERS - Persons who are frontliners providing health care services for the barangay and provide support and assistance to physicians, dentists, nutritionists, public health nurses and midwives.*
- (c) BARANGAY EMPLOYED FRONTLINER WORKERS - Persons employed under the Barangay to assist health workers and to implement quarantine measures in their communities in ensuring the residents of their safety against COVID-19.*

SECTION 4. REFERRAL FOR HEALTH SCREENING. -

- (a) The BHERTs shall refer the At-Risk Frontliners to the nearest Health Center or the City Health Department for health screening to determine whether they should be tested for COVID-19. If the health screen confirms that the At-Risk Frontliner should be tested, the At-Risk Frontliner may be referred to either rapid antibody testing, or PCR testing at the nearest Community-Based Testing Center, whichever may be more appropriate or available under the circumstances.*

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- (b) *The Health Screening shall conduct a separate testing for Quezon City Enforcers and Garbage Collectors.*

SECTION 5. QUARANTINE - The BHERTs shall ensure that At-Risk Frontliners and BHERT members shall conduct regular surveillance and monitoring outside the homes of quarantined persons to ensure compliance until the end of quarantine period. The Punong Barangay or the BHERT Executive Officer may deputize additional community members when additional manpower is necessary.

SECTION 6. DATA PRIVACY - The Barangays shall ensure that:
(i) all private information regarding At-Risk Frontliners, including their identities and other private data, is disclosed only to the persons directly involved in health screening, testing, maintaining quarantine or enforcing health measures on such persons (ii) all disclosed informations are anonymized to the greatest extent possible, and only such information that is absolutely necessary in protecting the public shall be disclosed. In any case, use of the private information of affected individuals shall be subject to applicable requirements of the Data Privacy Act.

SECTION 7. VIOLATION. - Persons/Public officials who shall, in any event, commit acts in violation hereof shall be held administratively/criminally liable under applicable pertinent laws.

SECTION 8. REPEALING CLAUSE. - All Ordinances, Resolutions, Executive Orders, Memorandum Circulars and Administrative Orders or parts thereof which are inconsistent with any provision of this Ordinance are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SECTION 9. SEPARABILITY CLAUSE. - If any provision of this Ordinance is declared void or unconstitutional, the remaining portions shall not be affected and shall remain in full force and effect.



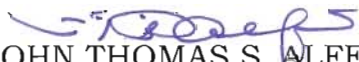
SECTION 10. EFFECTIVITY CLAUSE. - This Ordinance shall take effect immediately upon posting at prominent places in Quezon City Hall for a minimum period of three (3) consecutive weeks and upon publication in a newspaper of general circulation within the territorial jurisdiction of Quezon City.

ENACTED: June 1, 2020.




GIAN G. SOTTO
City Vice Mayor
Presiding Officer

ATTESTED:



Atty. JOHN THOMAS S. ALFEROS III
City Government Dept. Head III

APPROVED: 24 JUN 2020



MA. JOSEFINA G. BELMONTE
City Mayor

CERTIFICATION

This is to certify that this Ordinance was APPROVED by the City Council on Second Reading on June 1, 2020 and was PASSED on Third/Final Reading on June 8, 2020.



Atty. JOHN THOMAS S. ALFEROS III
City Government Dept. Head III

