



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

PR21CC-687

37th Regular Session

RESOLUTION NO. SP- **8269**, S-2020

A RESOLUTION STRONGLY URGING THE CITY MAYOR, HONORABLE MA. JOSEFINA G. BELMONTE, TO ALLOCATE ONE BILLION PESOS (PHP 1,000,000,000.00) FROM THE CITY'S ANNUAL BUDGET FOR 2021 TO COVER THE EXPENSES FOR COVID-19 VACCINES IN QUEZON CITY.

Introduced by Councilors FRANZ S. PUMAREN and WINSTON "Winnie" T. CASTELO.

Co Introduced by Councilors Bernard R. Herrera, Lena Marie P. Juico, Dorothy A. Delarmente, M.D., Tany Joe "TJ" L. Calalay, Nicole Ella V. Crisologo, Victor V. Ferrer, Jr., Atty. Bong Liban, Eden Delilah "Candy" A. Medina, Mikey F. Belmonte, Estrella C. Valmocina, Kate Galang-Coseteng, 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, Jose A. Visaya, Karl Castelo, Patrick Michael Vargas, Shaira L. Liban, Ram V. Medalla, Allan Butch T. Francisco, Diorella Maria G. Sotto-Antonio, Eric Z. Medina, Freddy S. Roxas and Noe Dela Fuente.

WHEREAS, on March 8, 2020, Proclamation No. 922, S-2020 was issued by the President declaring a State of Public Health Emergency throughout the Philippines due to the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) outbreak, and enjoining all government agencies and local government units to render full assistance and cooperation and mobilize the necessary resources to undertake critical, urgent, and appropriate response and measures in a timely manner to curtail and eliminate the COVID-19 threat;

WHEREAS, on March 11, 2020, the World Health Organization (WHO), which includes the Philippines as a Member State and which has the primary role of directing and coordinating international health within the United Nations system, declared the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) outbreak as a global pandemic;

WHEREAS, under Proclamation No. 929, S-2020, the President declared a State of Calamity throughout the Philippines and imposed Community Quarantine in the entire Luzon due to the COVID-19 pandemic;

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WHEREAS, under Resolution No. SP-8141, S-2020, the City Council declared Quezon City to be under a State of Calamity due to the COVID-19 outbreak;

WHEREAS, Section 6 (e) of Republic Act No. 11332, otherwise known as 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; mandatory reporting of notifiable diseases and health events of public health concern; epidemic/outbreak and epidemiologic investigations; rapid containment, quarantine and isolation, disease prevention and control measures, and product recall; and response activities for events of public health concern;

WHEREAS, based on Book I, Title I, Chapter II, Section 16 of Republic Act No. 7160, otherwise known as the "Local Government Code of 1991", the City has the implied power to do all things necessary, appropriate, or incidental to govern efficiently and effectively, promote the general welfare, promote health and safety, maintain peace and order, and preserve the comfort and convenience of their inhabitants;

WHEREAS, Book III, Title III, Chapter III, Article III, Section 458 (a)(1)(iv) of Republic Act No. 7160, otherwise known as the "Local Government Code of 1991", provides that the City Council shall adopt measures to protect the inhabitants of the City from the harmful effects of natural disasters and calamities;

WHEREAS, the COVID-19 daily cases nationwide are continuously increasing, reaching a peak of 6,958 new cases on August 10, 2020. While due to the tireless efforts of the Quezon City Local Government, the City's per capita cases have fallen below the top 10 affected cities in the Philippines, it is necessary to implement health measures to preserve the City's strides in fighting the disease;

WHEREAS, vaccines reduce risks of getting a disease by working with the body's natural defenses to build protection. Thus, the WHO recognizes the critical importance to world health of the rapid availability and deployment of effective vaccines against COVID-19;

WHEREAS, scientists, physicians, funders, and manufacturers around the world have come together as part of an international collaboration, coordinated by the WHO, to help speed the availability of a vaccine against COVID-19;

WHEREAS, more than 150 vaccines against COVID-19 are in various stages of development worldwide, around two dozen of which are already in human trial stage. Although vaccines ordinarily require years to develop, scientists around the world are racing to produce a safe and effective COVID-19 vaccine by 2021;

WHEREAS, countries are concerned about the distribution of the COVID-19 vaccine once it is available because those with access might prioritize their own citizens before sharing it with the rest of the world. The goal of one of potential leading source of COVID-19 vaccines to the Philippines is, by the end of 2021, to deliver two billion doses of safe, effective vaccines that have passed regulatory approval and/or WHO prequalification. These vaccines will be delivered equally to all participating countries, proportional to their populations, initially prioritizing healthcare workers then expanding to cover 20% of the population of participating countries. Further, doses will then be made available based on country need, vulnerability and COVID-19 threat;

WHEREAS, factors not limited to expedient development of the COVID-19 vaccine in this race of availability of source should not be the only consideration of our nation. Factors to consider include a mechanism designed to guarantee rapid, fair and equitable access to COVID-19 vaccines to the Philippines and worldwide;

WHEREAS, the anticipation of the availability of the COVID-19 virus forecasted to be released by 2021 has spearheaded preparations and coordination within and among national and local government specifically in the area of procurement and budget allocation;

WHEREAS, with the ongoing development of COVID-19 vaccines worldwide and its projected availability by the year 2021, the Quezon City Local Government considers it necessary to set aside funds for the procurement of vaccines for its constituents;

WHEREAS, as part of Quezon City's preparation to immediately avail of the vaccine against COVID-19, there is a need to strongly urge the Local Chief Executive to allocate One Billion Pesos (Php1,000,000,000.00) from the City's budget to cover expenses for the COVID-19 vaccines in Quezon City upon COVID-19 vaccines' availability.

NOW, THEREFORE,

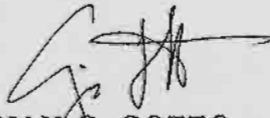
BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF QUEZON CITY IN REGULAR SESSION ASSEMBLED, to strongly urge, as it does hereby strongly urge, the City Mayor, Honorable Ma. Josefina G. Belmonte to allocate One Billion Pesos (Php1,000,000,000.00) from the City's Annual Budget for 2021 to cover the expenses for COVID-19 vaccines in Quezon City.

RESOLVED FURTHER, that should the COVID-19 vaccines be available in the year 2020, the existing budget be realigned to cover and accommodate this requirement in accordance with law.


RESOLVED FURTHERMORE, that the COVID-19 vaccines to be funded must have been proven high quality, passed through national and international standards and certifications, has mechanism providing for rapid, fair and equitable access to all and such other qualification to consider in accordance with guidelines of World Health Organization (WHO) among others.

RESOLVED FINALLY, that the City Mayor is hereby authorized to perform all acts necessary or useful to ensure the availability of the COVID-19 vaccines to Quezon City, subject to further approval from the City Council as may be necessary for specific components, projects or contracts as may be further required under the existing laws, guidelines, issuances from time to time.

ADOPTED: August 24, 2020.

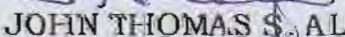

GIAN G. SOTTO
City Vice Mayor
Presiding Officer

ATTESTED:


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

CERTIFICATION

This is to certify that this Resolution was APPROVED by the City Council on Second Reading on August 24, 2020 under Suspended Rules and was CONFIRMED on the same date.


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

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8