

Republic of the Philippines QUEZON CITY COUNCIL

Quezon City 21st City Council

PR21CC-791

53rd Regular Session

RESOLUTION NO. SP- 8451, S-2021

A RESOLUTION EARNESTLY URGING ALL TELECOMMUNICATIONS COMPANIES AND INTERNET SERVICE PROVIDERS TO EXTEND FREE DATA ACCESS TO ALL LEARNING WEBSITES AND APPLICATIONS FOR THE BENEFIT OF STUDENTS AND TEACHERS IN QUEZON CITY.

Introduced by Councilor IRENE R. BELMONTE.

Co-Introduced by Councilors Bernard R. Herrera, Lena Marie P. Juico, Dorothy A. Delarmente, M.D., Nicole Ella V. Crisologo, Victor V. Ferrer, Jr., Winston "Winnie" T. Castelo, Eden Delilah "Candy" A. Medina, Ramon P. Medalla, Mikey F. Belmonte, Estrella C. Valmocina, Franz S. Pumaren, Kate Galang-Coseteng, Matias John T. Defensor, Wencerom Benedict C. Lagumbay, Jorge L. Banal, Sr., Peachy V. De Leon, Imee A. Rillo, Marra C. Suntay, Resty B. Malañgen, Ivy L. Lagman, Hero M. Bautista, Jose A. Visaya, 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, Freddy S. Roxas and Noe Dela Fuente.

WHEREAS, on 8 March 2020, President Rodrigo Roa Duterte declared a State of Public Health Emergency in the Philippines through Proclamation No. 922 to facilitate measures to address the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic;

WHEREAS, in a special session held on 13 March 2020, the Quezon City Council adopted Resolution No. SP-8141, Series of 2020, which declared a State of Calamity in Quezon City due to COVID-19;

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WHEREAS, in view of the prevailing public health situation that has significantly affected the education sector, national education authorities have implemented "blended or hybrid learning", a combination of online distant learning, in-person delivery of printed materials to the learners, and usage of television and radio broadcast, as alternative to face-to-face learning;

WHEREAS, the pandemic has made it difficult for the education sector to make quality learning accessible. This is widely due to the lack of digital technologies and internet connections within the households;

WHEREAS, according to 2017 data from the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA), 3.1 million households (14.1%) with school-aged children have no wired broadband connection at home. Though some of these families likely have a wireless subscription, these data plans are not sufficient for extended online learning;

WHEREAS, the current situation of our educational system is being prioritized by the Quezon City Government to ensure that students and teachers are capable to reach the appropriate learnings and materials that they need during the conduct of online classes that needs sufficient, fast and reliable internet connection;

WHEREAS, Telecommunications Companies and Internet Service Providers may provide free data access to all learning websites and applications in Quezon City to bolster further educational opportunities of all students and teachers, and bridge the digital divide, especially amid the current COVID-19 pandemic.

NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF QUEZON CITY IN REGULAR SESSION ASSEMBLED, to urge, as it does hereby urge, all Telecommunications Companies and Internet Service Providers to extend free data access to all learning websites and applications for the benefit of students and teachers in Quezon City.





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RESOLVED FURTHER, that a copy of this Resolution be furnished to all Telco Owners and Operators in Quezon City and all government offices concerned.

ADOPTED: February 1, 2021.

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 February 1, 2021 and was CONFIRMED on February 8, 2021.

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

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