



Republic of the Philippines  
**QUEZON CITY COUNCIL**

Quezon City  
22<sup>nd</sup> City Council

PR22CC-074

7<sup>th</sup> Regular Session

RESOLUTION NO. SP- **9048**, S-2022

A RESOLUTION URGING ALL CITIZENS OF QUEZON CITY TO OBSERVE THE CELEBRATION OF "SIGHT-SAVING MONTH" EVERY AUGUST OF THE YEAR IN ORDER TO PROMOTE THE IMPORTANCE OF EYE HEALTH CARE AND PREVENTION OF AVOIDABLE BLINDNESS.

Introduced by Councilor MARIA ELEANOR "Doc Ellie" R. JUAN, O.D.

Co-Introduced by Councilors Bernard R. Herrera, Tany Joe "TJ" L. Calalay, Dorothy A. Delarmente, M.D., Joseph P. Juico, Nikki V. Crisologo, Charm M. Ferrer, Fernando Miguel "Mikey" F. Belmonte, Candy A. Medina, Aly Medalla, Dave C. Valmocina, Tatay Rannie Z. Ludovica, Godofredo T. Liban II, Kate Galang-Coseteng, Geleen "Dok G" G. Lumbad, Albert Alvin "Chuckie" L. Antonio III, Don S. De Leon, Wencerom Benedict C. Lagumbay, Atty. Anton L. Reyes, Edgar "Egay" G. Yap, Imee A. Rillo, Raquel S. Malañgen, Irene R. Belmonte, Nanette Castelo-Daza, Marra C. Suntay, Joseph Joe Visaya, Alfred Vargas, MPA, Ram V. Medalla, Shaira "Shay" L. Liban, Aiko S. Melendez, Mutya Castelo, Kristine Alexia R. Matias, Eric Z. Medina, Emmanuel Banjo A. Pilar, Vito Sotto Generoso, Victor "Vic" Bernardo, Alfredo "Freddy" Roxas and Noe Dela Fuente.

WHEREAS, by virtue of Presidential Proclamation No. 40, Series 1954, the first week of August of every year has been declared as Sight-Conservation Week;

WHEREAS, since the issuance of the said Presidential Proclamation, the month of August has been nationally celebrated as the "Sight-Saving Month". The celebration aims to emphasize the importance of protecting and taking good care of the eyes by carrying on educational campaigns throughout the country to prevent blindness among Filipinos;

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*WHEREAS, the Department of Health issued Administrative Order No. 179, S.2004 launching the National Prevention of Blindness Program and providing for the guidelines for its implementation;*

*WHEREAS, the Philippines is a signatory in the Global Elimination of Avoidable Blindness: Vision 2020 - The Right to Sight. The Vision 2020 was initiated by the International Agency for Prevention of Blindness (IAPB), World Health Organization (WHO), and the Christian Blind Mission (CBM), Vision 2020 aims to develop sustainable comprehensive health care system to ensure the best possible vision for all people and thereby improve the quality of life;*

*WHEREAS, the data of the Department of Health shows that in 2017, there is an estimated 332,150 Filipinos who are bilaterally blind and 2,179,733 had low vision, with cataracts still the leading cause of blindness;*

*WHEREAS, based on the 2018 Philippine National Blindness Survey and Eye Disease Study conducted by the Philippine Eye Research Institute of the National Institute for Health, vision impairment and blindness rank among the major concerns in the country with a current prevalence rate of 1.98%. This represents 1.11 million Filipinos with cataract, 400,000 with uncorrected error of refraction, almost 300,000 with glaucoma, and 200,000 with maculopathy. Additionally, there are over 4 million Filipinos living with undiagnosed eye problems that need to be addressed. Although the prevalence of bilateral blindness due to cataracts and errors of refraction has decreased in the past years, there are still thousands of Filipinos with moderate to severe vision impairment;*

*WHEREAS, according to the Demographic Profile and Social Development issued by the Quezon City Government in 2018, the estimated number of persons with disabilities as of 2018 was 30,406 and 448 or 15.38% of which suffers from visual disability;*

*WHEREAS, based on the records of the Department of Health, particularly the Philippines Registry for Persons with Disability, Quezon City has issued 112 PWD ID's to its residents suffering from visual impairment and/or disability for the years 2019 to 2020 alone;*

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WHEREAS, the recent data of the Quezon City Persons with Disability Affairs Office (QC-PDAO) shows that as of August 2022, there are 2,355 registered persons with special challenges who are particularly suffering from visual disability, most of whom are between the ages 31-59 years old;

WHEREAS, in a recent assessment online survey deployed by the National Committee for Sight Preservation (NCSP) in 2021, it was reported that respondents are being generally unhappy with their eye health with sight deterioration and blurry vision cited as the common complaints;

WHEREAS, the NCSP has likewise recently declared that eye health stakeholders are concerned that with the current pandemic, the eye health situation may have worsened the eye conditions of the Filipino population;

WHEREAS, the country's present situation brought about by the COVID-19 pandemic has led to the introduction of the Filipinos' "new normal" way of living, which has basically resulted to longer exposure to technology and gadgets, particularly the students for their online/virtual classes and workers on work from home setting, which might have adversely affected their eyesight and/or eye health situation;

WHEREAS, considering further the fact that there is lack of access to eye-check up and there have been reports of improper dispensing of ophthalmic medical devices such as reading glasses, anti-radiation glasses, and other prescriptive lenses in our city, it is necessary and beneficial to promote and stimulate public awareness among the citizens of Quezon City on the importance of eye health care and prevention of avoidable blindness.

NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF QUEZON CITY IN REGULAR SESSION ASSEMBLED, to urge, as it does hereby urge, all citizens of Quezon City to observe the celebration of "Sight-Saving Month" every August of the year in order to promote the importance of eye health care and prevention of avoidable blindness.

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*RESOLVED FURTHER, that a copy of this Resolution be furnished to and disseminated by all barangays, health centers, schools and colleges, related non-government organizations and people's organizations by the Barangay Community Relations Department (BCRD), the Quezon City Health Department and the Quezon City Public Affairs and Information Services Department, upon its approval.*

*ADOPTED: September 12, 2022.*



GIAN G. SOTTO  
City Vice Mayor  
Presiding Officer

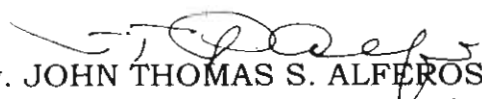
ATTESTED:



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 September 12, 2022 and was CONFIRMED on September 19, 2022.*



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

