



QUEZON CITY COUNCIL
Quezon City
21st City Council

PO21CC-116

14th Regular Session

ORDINANCE NO. SP- 2885, S-2019

AN ORDINANCE FURTHER AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. SP-2773, S-2018 ENTITLED "QUEZON CITY GAMBLING REGULATORY ORDINANCE OF 2018".

*Introduced by Councilors IMEE A. RILLO, IVY L. LAGMAN
and RAMON P. MEDALLA.*

Co-Introduced by Councilors Bernard R. Herrera, Lena Marie P. Juico, Tany Joe "TJ" L. Calalay, Nicole Ella V. Crisologo, Victor V. Ferrer, Jr., Winston "Winnie" T. Castelo, Atty. Bong Liban, Eden Delilah "Candy" A. Medina, Mikey F. Belmonte, Estrella C. Valmocina, Franz S. Pumaren, Kate Galang-Coseteng, Matias John T. Defensor, Jorge L. Banal, Sr., Peachy V. De Leon, Marra C. Suntay, Resty B. Malañgen, Jose A. Visaya, 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, Freddy S. Roxas and Noe Dela Fuente.

WHEREAS, Ordinance No. SP-2773, S-2018, entitled "An Ordinance Regulating the Operation of Games of Chance Within The Territorial Jurisdiction of Quezon City, was enacted by the 20th City Council last October 1, 2018;

WHEREAS, the said ordinance was amended by Ordinance No. SP-2860, S-2019, entitled "An Ordinance Amending Ordinance No. SP-2773, S-2018" which was approved by the 20th City Council on June 3, 2019, and was passed on Third/Final Reading on June 17, 2019;

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WHEREAS, Offshore gaming is one of the economy's fastest-growing sectors, employing over 350,000 people, including around 100,000 mainly Chinese foreign workers, according to estimates;

WHEREAS, there is a need to further amend Ordinance No. SP-2773, S-2018 in order to include the regulation of Philippine Offshore Gaming Operators (POGO).

NOW, THEREFORE,

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

SECTION 1. This Ordinance shall amend Article I, Section 3, Article III, Sections 7, 18, 22 and 24, and with the inclusion of Article VII of Ordinance No. SP-2773, S-2018 entitled "Quezon City Gambling Regulatory Ordinance of 2018".

SECTION 2. Article I, Section 3 of Ordinance No. SP-2773, S-2018 is hereby amended by including in the Definition of Terms the phrase "Pre-Employment Orientation Seminar" which shall be placed after paragraph "z" and shall be identified as Paragraph (aa) to read as follows:

"SECTION 3. DEFINITION OF TERMS.

"a. xxx

aa. PRE-EMPLOYMENT ORIENTATION SEMINAR
- A seminar conducted by the Quezon City Public Employment Service Office (QC-PESO) to foreign national employees of the gambling establishments pertaining to existing laws, rules and regulations of the country as well as of the relevant ordinances of the Quezon City Government that all foreign nationals must observe and comply while working and staying within the territorial jurisdiction of Quezon City."

SECTION 3. Article II, Section 1 of Ordinance No. SP-2773, S-2018 is hereby amended by Changing the words "City Mayor" to "City Administrator" as the Chairperson of Gambling Regulatory Advisory Council (GRAC) and adding the Head of the Investment Affairs Office as member, to read as follows:

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“Article II. Gambling Regulatory Advisory Council

SECTION 1. GAMBLING REGULATORY ADVISORY COUNCIL (GRAC). - A Gambling Regulatory Advisory Council is hereby created to oversee the implementation of this Ordinance. The Gambling Regulatory Advisory Council shall be composed of the following;

Chairperson: City Administrator

Members:

Add:

h) Head of the Investment Affairs Office

The City Administrator may appoint additional non-voting members of the Gambling Regulatory Advisory Council as may be deemed necessary.

In case of a tie, the vote of the Chairperson takes precedent.

Provided further, that additional personnel may be appointed by the City Administrator, as Chairperson of the Gambling Regulatory Advisory Council, to ensure the effective and efficient performance of the duties and functions of the Advisory Council, such as but not limited to...xxx”

SECTION 4. Article III, Section 7 (b) of Ordinance No. SP-2773, S-2018 is hereby amended with the inclusion of new paragraphs “p” and “q”, to read as follows:

“SECTION 7. GENERAL REQUIREMENTS FOR FIXED TERM SPECIAL PERMIT. – The following documentary requirements must be submitted by Operator of bingos, e-bingo, e-games, OCBs and OTBs to the Sangguniang Panlungsod for the issuance of a fixed term special permit:

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b. **Certification from the PAGCOR stating that the applicant is currently applying for the issuance or renewal of the license or, in case of OTB, must be licensed by the Games and Amusement Board and duly authorized by at least one of the three (3) racing clubs, allowing the OTB station.**

c. xxx

p. **All foreign workers shall secure working permit required by the National Government.**

q. **All foreign workers shall register themselves in Quezon City and give all vital information about them.**

SECTION 5. Article III, Section 17 (q.) of Ordinance No. SP-2773, S-2018 (Specific Conditions for Fixed Term Permits for OTBs, "The following conditions shall be imposed on Operators of OTBs) is hereby amended to read as follows:

"q. OTBs and OCBs shall only be operational until 10:00 o'clock in the evening".

The original "letter q" of Article III, Section 17 shall now become letter "r".

SECTION 6. Article III, Section 18 shall be amended by adding paragraphs "a", "b" and "c" and shall be read as:

"SECTION 18. SPECIFIC CONDITION FOR POGO. - The following conditions shall be imposed on POGOs:

a. **The POGOs shall make sure that online games are exclusively offered to offshore authorized players and shall exclude Filipinos abroad.**

b. **POGO operators must employ at least twenty percent (20%) Filipino employees from Quezon City; and**

c. **POGO operators must provide interpreters twenty-four (24) hours, seven (7) days a week or as long as they are in operation."**

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SECTION 7. Article III, Section 22 of Ordinance No. SP-2773, S-2018 shall be amended by adding a 2nd paragraph, to be read as follows:

“SECTION 22. Requirements for the issuance of Business Permit for Operators covered by fixed term Special Permits. The documentary requirements set forth in Ordinance No. SP-2773, S-2018 and these Rules xxx”

Additionally, all foreign national employees of the gambling establishments whether skilled or unskilled shall:

a. secure a working permit, as required by the National Government, issued by the Bureau of Immigration, the DOLE and/or other concerned agencies;

b. register themselves in Quezon City and give out all the vital and necessary information about themselves;

c. undergo a Pre-Employment Orientation Seminar within six (6) months of their employment; and

d. Comply with all the necessary and mandatory employment requirements of the City.”

SECTION 8. Article III, Section 24 (a) and (b) of Ordinance No. SP-2773, S-2018 is hereby amended to read as follows:

“SECTION 24. PENALTIES. - In addition to or aside from the penalty under applicable national laws, rules and regulations, violation by the grantee of the franchise of any of the above regulations as well as any of the provisions hereof shall be punished as follows:

a. Any person who shall operate gambling facilities or games of chance without the required special permit and/or business permit shall be penalized with a fine ofxxx. The same penalty shall be imposed on the owner of the establishment or facility who knowingly allowed the operation of games of chance without the required special permit. The Business Permit and Licensing Department (BPLD) shall also issue a closure order on the said gambling facility of which non-compliance to the order will result in the filing of a case by the City Legal Department against the concerned facility.

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b. Any person who shall make any false representation...xxx. In case of foreign national workers, a revocation of their work and/or occupational permit in Quezon City shall be carried out by the issuing department.

c. xxx

d. xxx”

SECTION 9. Article IV of Ordinance No. SP-2773, S-2018 is hereby amended by changing the sub-title to “Article IV. Corporate Social Responsibility” which shall be placed after Article III and shall be read as follows:

“Article IV. Corporate Social Responsibility

Section 1. All gambling establishments covered by Ordinance No. SP-2773, S-2018 and with existing Special Permit and Business Permit, are hereby enjoined to:

a. Provide assistance for treatment of problem gambling; and

b. Provide skills development program for Quezon City residents, including tutorial and language training.

For this purpose, operators of gambling establishments, as part of their Corporate Social Responsibility, shall hire the duly trained and qualified Quezon City resident as employees of their gambling establishments in compliance with Ordinance No. SP-115, S-1993, entitled: “An Ordinance Amending Ordinance No. NC-48, S-88, Providing Preferential Rights to Registered Voters of Quezon City to be Employed and Hired in Infrastructure Constructions and Business Establishments in Quezon City, Limiting said Preferential Rights to Registered Voters and Bonafide Residents of the Barangay/s where such constructions or Business Establishments are located.”

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SECTION 10. The Original Article IV of Ordinance No. SP-2773, S-2018 shall now become Article V, to be read as follows:

“Article V. Prevention of Problem Gambling.”

SECTION 11. The original Articles V and VI of Ordinance No. SP-2773, S-2018 shall be adjusted to **Articles VI and VII, respectively.**

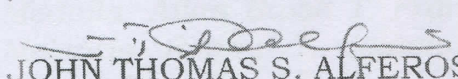
SECTION 12. EFFECTIVITY. - This Ordinance shall take effect fifteen (15) days following its complete publication in the Official Gazette or in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

ENACTED: October 14, 2019.



Atty. BONG LIBAN
City Councilor
Acting Presiding Officer

ATTESTED:



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

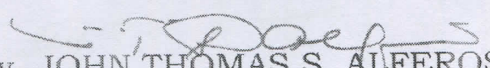
APPROVED: 28 NOV 2019



MA. JOSEFINA G. BELMONTE
City Mayor

CERTIFICATION

This is to certify that this Ordinance was APPROVED by the City Council on Second Reading on October 14, 2019 and was PASSED on Third/Final Reading on October 21, 2019.



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

