Republic of the Philippines
QUEZON CITY COUNCIL
Quezon City
18th City Council

PO2012-96

67th Regular Session

ORDINANCE NO. SP-2182, S-2012

AN ORDINANCE INSTITUTIONALIZING THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION'S (DepEd) ESSENTIAL HEALTH CARE PROGRAM (EHCP) FOR PRESCHOOL AND ELEMENTARY PUPILS IN ALL PUBLIC SCHOOLS IN QUEZON CITY.

Introduced by Councilors JULIENNE ALYSON RAE V. MEDALLA, ANTHONY PETER D. CRISOLOGO, EDEN "Candy" A. MEDINA, ALLAN BENEDICT S. REYES, EUFEMIO C. LAGUMBAY and JESSICA CASTELO DAZA.

Co-Sponsored by Councilors Francisco A. Calalay, Jr., Dorothy A. Delarmente, Ricardo T. Belmonte, Jr., Joseph P. Juico, Alexis R. Herrera, Precious Hipolito Castelo, Alfredo D. Vargas III, Roderick M. Paulate, Godofredo T. Liban II, Julian ML. Coseteng, Jaime F. Borres, Jose Mario Don S. De Leon, Gian Carlo G. Sotto, Jesus Manuel C. Suntay, Raquel S. Malañgen, Vincent DG. Belmonte, Marvin C. Rillo, Ivy Lim-Lagman, Ranulfo Z. Ludovica and John Ansell R. De Guzman.

WHEREAS, local government units, pursuant to the powers given it under the Local Government Code of 1991, should provide for and respond to the basic needs and necessities of its inhabitants, as well as defend the rights of children to have access to proper care and nutrition in all forms;

WHEREAS, education and health are interrelated. Academic performance of the pupils and instructional outcomes are determined by the quality of health of the school children. Unhealthy children cannot develop their full potential which may result to high drop-out rates and low academic performance;

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WHEREAS, the Department of Education (DepEd) finds that the health status of public school pupils is alarmingly poor. Dental cavities, infectious diseases (respiratory tract infections and diarrhea) and worm infestation are the most common hygiene deficiency related infectious diseases in public schools which are due to lack of water and functional sanitary facilities;

WHEREAS, the DepEd through the Health and Nutrition Center (HNC) has been undertaking the Essential Health Care Program (EHCP) in EHCP-implementing schools nationwide. Its institutionalization in the schools setting was facilitated by the issuance of DepEd Order No. 6, S-2009 entitled, Implementation of the Essential Health Care Program (EHCP) for School Children. This seeks to curb the incidence of disease associated with poor hygiene and sanitation practices among the country's school children through the provision of safe drinking water, toilets, and hand-washing facilities in schools in combination with an effective hygiene and de-worming campaign;

WHEREAS, this ordinance seeks to institutionalize the Department of Education's Essential Health Care Program for public school children in Quezon City.

NOW, THEREFORE,

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

SECTION 1. TITLE. This ordinance shall be known as the "Quezon City Essential Health Care Program"

SECTION 2. DECLARATION OF POLICY. It is hereby declared that the Quezon City Government shall promote and advance the right of children to adequate primary health services. The City is committed to provide quality service that will enable children to grow and develop into their full potential.

SECTION 3. FORMULATION OF PROGRAM. The City Government represented by the Division of City Schools Superintendent shall enter into a Memorandum of Agreement with the Department of Education for the purpose of implementing the EHCP.

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SECTION 4. DESCRIPTION OF PROGRAM. The Quezon City EHCP within the framework of the WHO/UNICEF 'Health promoting schools' includes the following:

(a) Implementation of daily fluoride tooth brushing;
(b) Implementation of daily soap hand washing;
(c) Mass de-worming of all children twice a year;
(d) Improving water and sanitation facilities in public elementary schools;

SECTION 5. PROGRAM ON THE CARE OF TEETH. The program seeks to provide children with supplies used for tooth brushing and information on hygienic activities that will decrease if not eliminate the activity of bacteria in the teeth which will lead to tooth decay, cavities, infections, retreating gums and severe pain. The City Government in partnership with the Department of Health (DOH) shall also provide for the conduct of dental examination twice a year for all children in public elementary schools.

SECTION 6. PROGRAM ON HAND WASHING. The program aims to instill in the children the habit of regular and proper hand washing. Essential to this program is the adequate supply of water and hand washing soap.

Inclusive to this program is providing assistance in nail-cutting and information in the importance of maintaining short nails and its significance to personal hygiene.

SECTION 7. PROGRAM ON DE-WORMING. Under this program, a mass de-worming activity shall be scheduled and implemented twice every school year.

SECTION 8. IDENTIFYING THE STAKEHOLDERS. The IRR of this ordinance in accordance with the guidelines of the DepEd shall identify the responsibilities of the following stakeholders:

(a) The Children;
(b) The Teacher;
(c) The School Division Superintendent;

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(d) The School Principal;
(e) The School Health Personnel;
(f) The Parents and the Community within the PTA;
(g) The Quezon City Government; and
(h) The DepEd, DOH, other government agencies, NGO's, and private entities.

SECTION 9. MONITORING AND REPORTING. The Division of City Schools, Quezon City, with the aid of the Department of Education (DepEd) and the Department of Health (DOH) shall be responsible in gathering data and shall submit to the City Mayor's Office a quarterly comparative report on the outcome of the implementation of the EHCP.

SECTION 10. IMPLEMENTING RULES AND REGULATIONS (IRR). The School's Division Superintendent of the Division of City Schools together with Quezon City Health Department, shall issue guidelines for a successful implementation of the Quezon City Essential Health Care Program. This will be in accordance with the guidelines set by the Department of Education.

SECTION 11. APPROPRIATION. The Local School Board shall appropriate the necessary funding for the implementation of the said program.

SECTION 12. SEPARABILITY CLAUSE. If any part or section of this ordinance is declared unconstitutional for any reason whatsoever such declaration shall not in any way affect the other parts or sections of this ordinance.

SECTION 13. REPEALING CLAUSE. All ordinances, resolutions, executive orders, rules, regulations, and other administrative issuances, or the provisions thereof, which are contrary to or inconsistent herewith are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

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SECTION 14. EFFECTIVITY. This ordinance shall take effect within fifteen (15) days following its publication in any newspaper of general circulation.

ENACTED: October 1, 2012.

MA. JOSEFINA G. BELMONTE
Vice Mayor
Presiding Officer

ATTESTED:

Atty. JOHN THOMAS S. ALFEROS III
City Gov't. Asst. Dept Head III

APPROVED: 24 OCT 2012

HERBERT M. BAUTISTA
City Mayor

CERTIFICATION

This is to certify that this Ordinance was APPROVED by the City Council on Second Reading on October 1, 2012 and was PASSED on Third/Final Reading on the same date under Suspended Rules.

Atty. JOHN THOMAS S. ALFEROS III
City Gov't. Asst. Dept Head III

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