Republic of the Philippines
QUEZON CITY COUNCIL
Quezon City
22nd City Council

PO22CC-327

100th Regular Session

ORDINANCE NO. SP-3379, S-2024

AN ORDINANCE DECLARING THE MONTH OF MAY OF EVERY YEAR AS QUEZON CITY RESPONSIBLE GAMBLING AWARENESS MONTH

Introduced by Councilors MARRA C. SUNTAY and JOSEPH P. JUICO

Co-Introduced by Councilors Bernard R. Herrera, Tany Joe "TJ" L. Calalay, Dorothy A. Delarmente, M.D., Nikki V. Crisologo, Charm M. Ferrer, 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, Joseph Joe Visaya, Alfred Vargas, MPA, Ram V. Medalla, Shaira "Shay" L. Liban, Aiko S. Melendez, Mutya Castelo, Maria Eleanor "Doc Ellie" R. Juan, O.D., Kristine Alexia R. Matias, RN, Eric Z. Medina, Emmanuel Banjo A. Pilar, Vito Sotto Generoso, Victor "Vic" Bernardo, Jose Maria M. Rodriguez and Jhon Angelli "Sami" C. Neri

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WHEREAS, the Quezon City Government views gambling as generally inimical to the interest of its people; it is a significant public health concern because it may result in compulsive gambling behavior or problem which in turn, causes considerable harm to individuals, families, and communities;

WHEREAS, despite the adverse effects of gambling, Presidential Decree No. 1869, as amended by Republic Act No. 9487, allows certain games of chance as they provide additional sources of revenue for the government, provided, that these activities are strictly managed and made subject to close scrutiny, regulation, supervision and control by the government;

WHEREAS, under Section 458(a)(4)(vii) of Republic Act No. 7160, otherwise known as the Local Government Code of 1991, the City Council is authorized to regulate the establishment, operation, and maintenance of any entertainment or amusement facilities, or require the suspension or suppression of the same, or prohibit, certain forms of amusement or entertainment in order to protect the social and moral welfare of the community;

WHEREAS, given the Local Government Units' regulatory powers over all forms of amusement or entertainment activities, the Quezon City Government is empowered to regulate licensed gambling operations in the City and to conduct projects, programs, and activities in order to protect the welfare of its inhabitants from the harmful effects of gambling, including addiction, deterioration of family and social relationships, heavy indebtedness, and other mental health problems;

WHEREAS, it is thus essential that the Quezon City Government establishes an annual campaign that will educate and instill awareness to its constituents the importance of responsible gambling so as to prevent its undesirable consequences;

NOW, THEREFORE,

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

SECTION 1. DECLARATION OF RESPONSIBLE GAMBLING AWARENESS MONTH. – It is hereby declared that every month of May of every year shall be known as "Responsible Gambling Awareness Month of Quezon City".

SECTION 2. DECLARATION OF POLICY. – The Quezon City Government views gambling as generally inimical to the interest of its people. As such, it is the policy of the City Government to raise awareness on every Quezon City resident about the harm of gambling and its ill effects to the individual, to his/her family and to our society. To achieve this goal, the City Government must promote and instill responsible gambling mentality to its people through campaigns, projects, and activities that will inform them about illegal and regulated gambling, gambling addiction, prevention and treatment of gambling problems, and other problems that will promote this mentality.

SECTION 3. OBSERVANCE OF RESPONSIBLE GAMBLING AWARENESS MONTH IN QUEZON CITY. – In observing the Responsible Gambling Awareness Month of Quezon City, various activities, projects, and programs shall be conducted in attaining the following objectives:

a. *Inform and educate the residents about illegal and regulated gambling and games of chance and its harmful effects to the individual, to his or her family, and to his or her community;*

b. *Remind, inform, and educate all gambling operators or providers regarding their duties, responsibilities and obligations under pertinent laws, ordinances, and rules and regulations of the government;*

c. *Promote and inform the residents of the Problem Gambling Help Line of Quezon City;*

d. *Spread awareness regarding persons prohibited and excluded from playing in gambling establishments, such as public officials and their family members, minors and persons receiving aid from the City Government among others;*

e. *Address and provide assistance to problem gamblers by referring them for exclusion or treatment in accredited facilities;*

f. *Collect data from gambling establishments to monitor and evaluate the impact of gambling on the residents and community, in order to formulate appropriate policies; and*

g. *Collect other relevant and pertinent objectives to promote awareness of responsible gambling in Quezon City.*

SECTION 4. IMPLEMENTING BODIES. – The Gambling Regulatory Advisory Council and Business Permits and Licensing Department are hereby tasked to be the implementing bodies of this Ordinance, and shall accordingly manage the annual campaign for responsible gambling awareness through the conduct of activities, projects, and programs in line with its observance specified in the preceding section.

All departments and offices in the Quezon City Government, as well as those from the national government, are hereby enjoined to extend assistance and cooperation to the implementing bodies to successfully attain their purpose. The implementing bodies may likewise seek the participation of Non-Government Organizations and civic societies during the awareness month.

SECTION 5. MANDATORY COOPERATION AND PARTICIPATION OF SPECIAL PERMIT HOLDERS. – In line with the Principle of Duty of Care under Section 1, Article III of Quezon City Ordinance No. SP-2773, S-2018, as amended, all gambling operators, providers, and establishments with special permit from the Quezon City Government are mandated to cooperate, participate, and comply with the policies, activities, projects, and programs established by the implementing bodies for the annual observance of the Responsible Gambling Awareness Month.

SECTION 6. BAN ON GAMBLING ADVERTISEMENT. – During the annual observance of the Responsible Gambling Awareness Month, no print advertisement of any form regarding gambling shall be posted, circulated, or distributed within Quezon City.

SECTION 7. ISSUANCE OF GUIDELINES AND RULES AND REGULATIONS. – The Office of the City Mayor, through the Business Permits and Licensing Department and the Gambling Regulatory Advisory Council may issue the necessary guidelines or rules and regulations for the effective, efficient, and economical implementation of the Responsible Gambling Awareness Month.

SECTION 8. APPROPRIATION. – To implement this Ordinance, the amount of One Million Pesos (Php1,000,000.00) or so much thereof as may be necessary, shall be appropriated and every year thereafter, and such amount shall be taken from any available funds of the Office of the City Mayor.

SECTION 9. SEPARABILITY CLAUSE. – If, for any reason or reasons, any part or provision of this Ordinance shall be held to be unconstitutional or invalid, other parts or provisions hereof which are not affected thereby shall continue to be in full force and effect.

SECTION 10. EFFECTIVITY CLAUSE. – This Ordinance shall take effect immediately upon its approval.

ENACTED: December 9, 2024.

GIAN G. SOTTO
City Vice Mayor
Presiding Officer

ATTESTED:

ATTY. JOHN THOMAS S. ALFEROS, III
City Government Department Head III
(City Council Secretary)

APPROVED: FEB 07 2025

MA. JOSEFINA G. BELMONTE
City Mayor

CERTIFICATION

This is to certify that this Ordinance was APPROVED by the City Council on Second Reading on December 9, 2024 and was PASSED on Third/Final Reading under Suspended Rules on the same date.

ATTY. JOHN THOMAS S. ALFEROS, III
City Government Department Head III
(City Council Secretary)