Republic of the Philippines
QUEZON CITY COUNCIL
Quezon City
23rd City Council

PO23CC-142

49th Regular Session

ORDINANCE NO. SP- 3490 *, S-2026*

AN ORDINANCE MANDATING FOOD ESTABLISHMENTS WITHIN THE TERRITORIAL JURISDICTION OF QUEZON CITY TO HAVE AT LEAST ONE (1) STAFF CAPABLE OF RESPONDING TO CHOKING EMERGENCIES DURING EVERY EIGHT (8) HOUR PERIOD OF OPERATION, AND PROVIDING PENALTIES FOR VIOLATION THEREOF

Introduced by Councilor LUIGI D. PUMAREN

Co-Introduced by Councilors Tany Joe "TJ" L. Calalay, Bernard R. Herrera, Dorothy A. Delarmente, M.D., Joseph P. Juico, Charm Ferrer, CPA, MPA, JD, Nicole "Nikki" V. Crisologo, Mikey F. Belmonte, Candy A. Medina, Atty. Voltaire Godofredo "Bong" Liban III, Dave C. Valmocina, Ranulfo "Tatay Rannie" Z. Ludovica, Atty. Christoffer Allan "Tope" Liquigan, Albert Alvin "Chuckie" L. Antonio III, Wencerom Benedict C. Lagumbay, Don S. De Leon, Atty. Vicente Belmonte Jr., Edgar "Egay" G. Yap, Nanette Castelo Daza, Imee Rillo, Raquel S. Malañgen, Joseph Joe Visaya, Aiko Melendez, Alfred Vargas, MPA, Karl Edgar Castelo, Shaira "Shay" L. Liban, Ram V. Medalla, Maria Eleanor "Doc Ellie" R. Juan, O.D., Emmanuel Banjo A. Pilar, Kristine Alexia Matias, RN, Victor "Vic" D. Bernardo, Vito Sotto Generoso, Jose Maria "Mari" M. Rodriguez, and Jhon Angelli "Sami" C. Neri

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WHEREAS, the Local Government Code of 1991 states that every local government unit shall exercise the powers expressly granted, those necessarily implied therefrom, as well as powers necessary, appropriate, or incidental for its efficient and effective governance, and those which are essential to the promotion of the general welfare;

WHEREAS, the World Health Organization (WHO) and other international health bodies note that choking is a common cause of injury and death worldwide, especially among children under five (5) years old;

WHEREAS, choking on food is a high-risk medical emergency that frequently occurs in restaurants, cafes, and other food establishments, requiring immediate and decisive intervention;

WHEREAS, immediate application of proper anti-choking procedures can be life-saving and significantly minimizes harm before professional medical services arrive;

WHEREAS, Quezon City promotes its food establishments through a combination of economic development programs, tourism initiatives, as well as health or safety of its patrons.

NOW, THEREFORE,

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

SECTION 1. TITLE. – This Ordinance shall be known as the "Anti-Choking Ordinance of Quezon City."

SECTION 2. PURPOSE. – The purpose of this Ordinance is to promote the safety and health of customers and staff by ensuring immediate and effective response to emergencies, particularly choking incidents, within food establishments.

SECTION 3. COVERAGE. – This Ordinance shall apply to all food establishments operating within the territorial jurisdiction of Quezon City, which include, but are not limited to, restaurants, cafes, bars, food courts, canteens, catering services, and other businesses engaged in the preparation and serving of food or drinks for immediate public consumption with a seating capacity of at least twenty (20) people and above.

SECTION 4. MANDATORY FIRST AIDER STAFF. – All food establishments shall designate at least one (1) staff member per eight-hour shift, who has completed a recognized Basic Life Support training, including modules on choking response and Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR), to serve as a First Aider during operating hours.

SECTION 5. RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE FIRST AIDER STAFF. – The designated First Aider Staff shall:

a. provide immediate response to choking incidents and other emergencies;

b. maintain and update their Basic Life Support certification through regular refresher trainings, at least every two (2) years; and

c. report incidents to management and appropriate authorities as necessary.

SECTION 6. CERTIFICATION AND TRAINING. – Food establishments shall ensure that their designated First Aiders obtain certification from Quezon City Government-accredited training providers and keep their certification current.

SECTION 7. PENALTIES. – Any food establishment found violating this Ordinance shall be subject to the following penalties:

a. First Offense – Written Warning and a mandatory attendance of the first aider staff at a Quezon City Health Department (QCHD) safety seminar;

b. Second Offense – A fine of Three Thousand Pesos (Php3,000.00) with Written Warning and a mandatory attendance of the first aider staff at a QCHD safety seminar; and

c. Third Offense – A fine of Five Thousand Pesos (Php5,000.00), submission of corrective Action Plan approved by the QCHD and attendance of all first aider staff at an extended QCHD safety briefing.

SECTION 8. IMPLEMENTING RULES AND REGULATIONS (IRR). – Within sixty (60) days from the approval of this Ordinance, the City Health Department and the Business Permits and Licensing Department, in coordination with other relevant departments, shall formulate the necessary Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR) to ensure the effective implementation of this Ordinance.

SECTION 9. SEPARABILITY CLAUSE. – If any provision of this Ordinance is declared unconstitutional or invalid, the other provisions not affected thereby shall remain in full force and effect.

SECTION 10. REPEALING CLAUSE. – All ordinances, resolutions, rules and regulations or parts thereof inconsistent with the provisions of this Ordinance are hereby repealed, amended, or modified accordingly.

SECTION 11. EFFECTIVITY. – This Ordinance shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its complete publication in a newspaper of general circulation and its posting in at least three (3) conspicuous public places in Quezon City.

ENACTED: May 25, 2026.

CERTIFICATION

This is to certify that this Ordinance was ENACTED by the City Council on Second Reading on May 25, 2026 and was PASSED on Third/Final Reading on June 8, 2026.

GIAN G. SOTTO
City Vice Mayor
Presiding Officer

APPROVED: JUN 30 2026

MA. JOSEFINA G. BELMONTE
City Mayor

ATTESTED:

ATTY. JOHN THOMAS S. ALFEROS, III
City Government Department Head III
(Secretary to the Sanggunian)