



Office of the Sangguniang Panlalawigan

EXCERPT FROM THE MINUTES OF THE 27th REGULAR SESSION OF THE 10th SANGGUNIANG PANLALAWIGAN OF ISABELA HELD AT PROVINCIAL CAPITOL, ILAGAN CITY, ISABELA ON MARCH 30, 2020.

PRESENT:

FAUSTINO G. DY III	Vice Governor & Presiding Officer
DELFINITO EMMANUEL L. ALBANO	Member (1 st District) & Floor Leader
EMMANUEL JOSELITO B. AÑES	Member (1 st District)
ED CHRISTIAN S. GO	Member (2 nd District)
EDGAR R. CAPUCHINO	Member (2 nd District)
RAMON JUAN N. REYES, JR.	Member (3 rd District)
RANDOLPH JOSEPH P. ARREOLA	Member (3 rd District)
CLIFFORD R. RASPADO	Member (4 th District)
ABEGAIL V. SABLE	Member (4 th District)
FAUSTINO U. DY IV	Member (5 th District)
EDWARD S. ISIDRO	Member (5 th District)
ALFREDO V. ALILI	Member (6 th District)
MARCO PAOLO A. MERIS	Member (6 th District)
ANTONIO S. HUI	Member, PCL Federation President
DANTE G. HALAMAN	Member, LnB Federation President
DAX PAOLO C. BINAG	Member, SK Federation President
ADRIAN PHILIP S. BAYSAC	Member, Agricultural /Industrial Workers Labor Sector Representative
VENUS T. BAUTISTA	Member, Women's Sectoral Representative
GRETCHEN F. VALDEZ	Member, indigenous Cultural Communities Sector Representative

EXPLANATORY NOTE

WHEREAS, the world is currently experiencing an international health crisis due to the rapid spread of the Corona Virus Disease (COVID-19) which affected countless lives, debilitated economies, and distressed countries all while claiming thousands of casualties on a daily basis;

WHEREAS, on March 16, 2020, His Excellency, President Rodrigo R. Duterte, issued Presidential Proclamation No. 922, series of 2020, which placed the Philippines under a State of Public Health Emergency due to the rising number of COVID-19 cases in the country;

WHEREAS, on March 17, 2020, President Rodrigo R. Duterte issued Presidential Proclamation No. 929, series of 2020, further placing the entire country under State of Calamity and imposed an Enhanced Community Quarantine throughout Luzon to contain, prevent, and resolve the local spread of COVID-19;

WHEREAS, there are reports that COVID-19 victims, PUIs, PUMs, even our front liners, health workers, and other personnel in active duty amid this pandemic, and their families are treated with undue disfavor, distrust, harassment, humiliation, and discrimination;

Nagkaisa para sa Isabela



WHEREAS, COVID-19 crippled various sectors of our economy and has severely affected our daily lives. Causing prejudice in light of our dire situation will only result to disunity, mistrust, and hate among our people in times when our cooperation, solidarity, and understanding are mostly needed;

WHEREAS, measures must be put in place to suppress in order to protect the dignity, welfare, and rights of COVID-19 victims, our front liners, health workers, and other personnel against humiliating, vilifying, and discriminatory acts;

WHEREAS, the unjust treatment towards our front liners and health workers diminishes the country's efforts, capacity, and resolve to combat COVID-19 hence must not be countenanced and must be dealt with accordingly in order to end this health crisis at the soonest possible time;

WHEREAS, the Provincial Government of Isabela is empowered to exercise powers necessary, appropriate, or incidental for the promotion of the general welfare.

NOW THEREFORE, be it ordained by the Sangguniang Panlalawigan, in a session duly assembled, THAT:

ORDINANCE NO. 2020-10-3
SERIES OF 2020

AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING A COMPREHENSIVE COVID-19 ANTI-DISCRIMINATION POLICY IN THE PROVINCE OF ISABELA AND IMPOSING PENALTIES FOR VIOLATION THEREOF

Sponsors: **HON. EMMANUEL JOSELITO B. AÑES**
Chairperson, Committee on Public Security and Order

HON. RANDOLPH JOSEPH P. ARREOLA
Chairperson, Committee on Human Rights

Section 1. Purpose. It is the purpose of this Ordinance to protect the dignity, welfare, and rights of COVID-19 Victims, PUIs, PUMs, their families, front liners and health workers during this health crisis. Accordingly, this Ordinance established penalizing measures to promote and guarantee the same.

Section 2. Definitions.

- a) **COVID-19 VICTIMS.** Those persons who are suffering or has actually or suspectedly died due to COVID-19, or has recovered from the same.
- b) **PUIs or PUMs.** As defined under protocols and guidelines of the Department of Health.
- c) **FAMILY MEMBER.** Shall cover family members within the third degree of affinity and consanguinity, including those who are not

but residing or co-inhabits a home with a COVID-19 victim, PUI, PUM, Medical Practitioner, Nurse, Other Health Worker, Non-Health Hospital Employee, Personnel Tasked with Monitoring Possible COVID-19 Patients, or a Worker Handling the Remains of COVID-19 Patients or PUIs.

- d) **MEDICAL PRACTITIONER.** Is a person duly licensed by proper authorities to practice medicine in whatever field of expertise whether or not tasked with the treatment or handling of COVID-19 Patients, PUIs, or PUMs.
- e) **NURSE.** Are registered nurses whether or not tasked with the treatment or handling of COVID-19 Patients, PUIs, or PUMs.
- f) **OTHER HEALTH WORKER.** Those deployed by the Department of Health or LGUs to monitor local PUIs or PUMs, Barangay Health Workers, Medical Volunteers, and those providing technical and other essential assistance to Medical Practitioners.
- g) **NON-HEALTH HOSPITAL EMPLOYEE.** Those employed by hospitals rendering non-medical service such as, but not limited to, janitors, cashier, clerks, etc.
- h) **PERSONNEL TASKED WITH MONITORING POSSIBLE COVID-19 PATIENTS.** Any person employed by an establishment duly designated as a Quarantine Facility, and those tasked to man checkpoints or to secure the safety of establishments who assess the condition of persons for possible COVID-19 Infections.
- i) **WORKER HANDLING THE REMAINS OF COVID-19 PATIENTS OR PUIs.** Personnel of establishments duly authorized to transport, handle, and dispose the remains of COVID-19 Patients or PUIs.

Section 3. Prohibited Acts.

- a) It shall be unlawful for any person to commit any act or to make utterances relative to COVID-19 which cause or tend to cause stigma, disgrace, shame, humiliation, harassment, or otherwise discriminating against a Medical Practitioner, Nurse, or Other Health Worker.
- b) It shall be unlawful for any person to commit any act or to make utterances relative to their work, function, or employment which cause or tend to cause stigma, disgrace, shame, humiliation, harassment, or otherwise discriminating against a Non-Health Hospital Employee, Personnel Tasked with Monitoring Possible COVID-19 Patients, or a Worker Handling the Remains of COVID-19 Patients or PUIs.
- c) It shall be unlawful for any person to commit any act or to make utterances which cause or tend to cause stigma, disgrace, shame, humiliation, harassment, or otherwise discriminating against a family

member of a Medical Practitioner, Nurse, Other Health Worker, Non-Health Hospital Employee, Personnel Tasked with Monitoring Possible COVID-19 Patients, or a Worker Handling the Remains of COVID-19 Patients or PUIs.

- d) It shall be unlawful for any person to commit any act or to make any utterances relative to COVID-19 which cause or tend to cause stigma, disgrace, shame, humiliation, harassment, or otherwise discriminating against a COVID-19 victim, PUI, PUM, or their family members.

Section 4. Penalties.

- a) Any person found to be in violation of Section 3(a) hereof shall be meted with the penalty of imprisonment not exceeding three (3) months, or a fine of Three Thousand Pesos, or both at the discretion of the Court.

If the act or utterance is published or posted through social media, the penalty shall be increased to imprisonment not exceeding six (6) months, or a fine of Five Thousand Pesos, or both at the discretion of the Court.

If the person is a public official, he or she shall be charged with appropriate administrative penalties in addition to the penalty provided herein.

- b) Any person found to be in violation of Sections 3(b) or 3(c) hereof shall be meted with the penalty of imprisonment not exceeding thirty (30) days, or a fine of One Thousand Five Hundred Pesos, or both at the discretion of the Court.

If the act or utterance is published or posted through social media, the penalty shall be increased to imprisonment not exceeding three (3) months, or a fine of Three Thousand Pesos, or both at the discretion of the Court.

If the person is a public official, he or she shall be charged with appropriate administrative penalties in addition to the penalty provided herein.

- c) Any person found to be in violation of Section 3(d) hereof shall be meted with the penalty of imprisonment not exceeding fifteen (15) days, or a fine of Five Hundred Pesos, or both at the discretion of the Court.

If the act or utterance is published or posted through social media, the penalty shall be increased to imprisonment not exceeding thirty (30) days, or a fine of One Thousand Pesos, or both at the discretion of the Court.

If the person is a public official, he or she shall be charged with appropriate administrative penalties in addition to the penalty provided herein.

Section 5. Separability Clause. If any provision of this Ordinance is declared unconstitutional, the same shall not affect the validity and effectivity of the other provisions hereof.


Section 6. Repealing Clause. All Ordinances, Resolutions, and any other local orders and issuances contrary to or inconsistent with this Ordinance are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

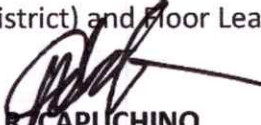
Section 7. Effectivity. This Ordinance shall take effect immediately upon approval and shall be effective until such time that the State of Public Health Emergency, as declared in Presidential Proclamation No. 922, series of 2020, has been lifted.

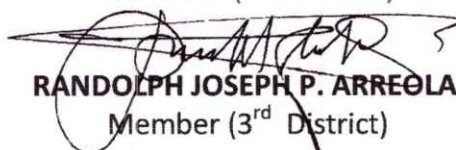
I hereby certify that the foregoing ordinance was duly enacted by the Sangguninang Panlalawigan of Isabela during its 27th Regular Session on March 30, 2020.

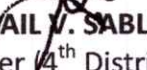

ATTY. FRANCIS JAMES E. MEER
Secretary, Sangguniang Panlalawigan

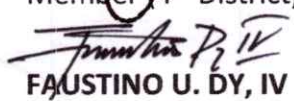
ATTESTED:


DELFINO EMMANUEL L. ALBANO
Member (1st District) and Floor Leader


EDGAR R. CAPUCHINO
Member (2nd District)

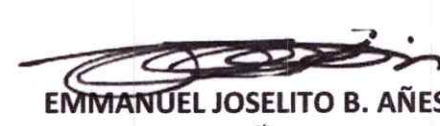

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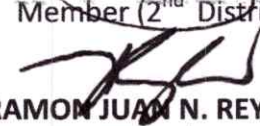

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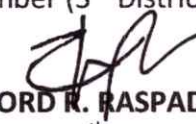

ALFREDO V. ALILI
Member (6th District)

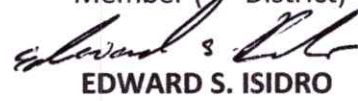

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Member, PCL Federation President

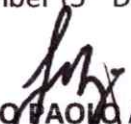

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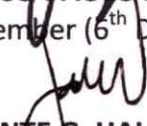

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FAUSTINO G. DY III

Provincial Vice Governor & Presiding Officer

APPROVED:



RODOLFO T. ALBANO III

Provincial Governor