



Republic of the Philippines
Province of Isabela
MUNICIPALITY OF PALANAN

OFFICE OF THE SANGGUNIAN BAYAN

Literal Copy of **Municipal Ordinance No. 2021- 090** approved by the Sangguniang Bayan of Palanan, Isabela in its **Regular Session on March 22, 2021** held at the Legislative Session Hall, this Municipality.

Sponsored by: **RONNIE A. ATIENZA**, Sangguniang Bayan Member

MUNICIPAL ORDINANCE NO. 2021-090

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING MUNICIPAL ORDINANCE NO. 2020-060, SERIES OF 2020, PRESCRIBING AND STRENGTHENING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF QUARANTINE AND HEALTH SAFETY STANDARD PROTOCOLS TO CONTAIN COVID-19 AND PENALIZING NON-COMPLIANCE TO MINIMUM HEALTH STANDARDS

WHEREAS, Section 15, Article II of the 1987 Constitution of the Republic of the Philippines, provides that the State shall protect the right to health of the people and instill health consciousness among them and in relation thereto, Section 16 of the Local Government Code provides that LGUs shall ensure the General Welfare of their constituents;

WHEREAS, COVID-19 has already been characterized by the World Health Organization as pandemic in its March 12, 2020 conference meeting;

WHEREAS, President Rodrigo Roa Duterte has declared a State of Public Health Emergency throughout the Philippines by virtue of Proclamation No. 922 last March 8, 2020 due to COVID-19;

WHEREAS, the President extended the period of State of Calamity throughout the Philippines by virtue of Proclamation No. 929, Series of 2020 last March 16, 2020 due to COVID-19;

WHEREAS, the Department of Health has received reports regarding a new variant of SARS-CoV-2 (B.1.1.2) spreading in other countries;

WHEREAS, the Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG) has issued an Unnumbered Memorandum dated January 07, 2021 directing all LGUs to further strengthen existing public health interventions;

WHEREAS, the Inter-Agency Task Force for the Management of Emerging Infectious Diseases (IATF-MEID) released the Omnibus Guidelines on the Implementation of Community Quarantine in the Philippines With Amendments as of February 11, 2021;

WHEREAS, the Honorable Provincial Governor Rodito T. Albano, III, issued Executive Order No. 01, Series of 2021 to establish the detailed protocols to further strengthen existing public health interventions in preparation for the possible entry and transmission of the new COVID-19 strain in the Province of Isabela;

WHEREAS, on February 26, 2021, the Inter-Agency Task Force for the Management of Emerging Infectious Diseases (IATF-MEID) issued Resolution No. 101, Series of 2021 approving the uniform travel protocols for land, air, and sea;

WHEREAS, on March 5, 2021, the Municipality of Palanan have recorded two (2) new positive cases of COVID-19 in the locality;

WHEREAS, with the recent issuances released by the IATF-MEID, DILG and the Provincial Governor and the current COVID-19 situation in the locality, there exist a need to revisit, harmonize and update the existing protocols and guidelines to contain the spread of the virus including the guidelines for persons entering the territorial jurisdiction of the Municipality of Palanan to safeguard the life and health of Palanenios;

WHEREAS, the continued implementation of proactive measures is necessary to ensure the utmost protection of the health of the Palanenios;

NOW THEREFORE, Be it ordained by the Sangguniang Bayan of Palanan, Isabela in session assembled that:

SECTION 1. DEFINITION OF TERMS.

ADMINISTRATIVE CONTROLS – refer to procedural interventions or modifications in policies, standards, and processes, that are meant to reduce frequency and severity of exposure to infectious diseases (e.g. hygiene and disinfection protocols, work shifting, etc.)

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COMORBIDITY AT RISK OF COVID-19 EXACERBATION- presence of one or more additional conditions co-occurring with (that is, concomitant or concurrent with) a primary condition that increases an individual's risk for mortality if afflicted by COVID-19. This includes Immunocompromised individuals (such as but not limited to those with cancer, HIV/AIDS and other autoimmune disorders) and individuals with chronic conditions (such as but not limited to hypertension, diabetes mellitus, and chronic kidney disease).

ENGINEERING CONTROLS – refer to physical interventions or modifications in spaces or environments, that is meant to prevent the transmission of infectious diseases (e.g. use of physical barriers, exhaust ventilation, etc.)

MEDICAL – GRADE PROTECTIVE APPAREL –refers to the specialized personal protective equipment worn by healthcare workers and other frontliners involved in the disease outbreak response, for the purpose of protection against infectious materials. These include surgical facemasks, N95 respirators, face shield or goggles, coveralls, isolation gowns, surgical gloves, protective oversleeves, head cap, and shoe cover, among others.

MODIFICATION POTENTIAL –refers to the degree to which mitigation strategies and other public health measures can reduce the risk of COVID-19 transmission in different settings.

MOST-AT-RISK POPULATION (MARF) FOR COVID-19 - refers to population groups who have a higher risk of developing severe COVID -19 infection such as individuals aged 60 and above, pregnant, and those with underlying conditions or comorbidity at risk of COVID-19 exacerbation.

NON-PHARMACEUTICAL INTERVENTIONS (NPI) – refers to public health measures that do not involve vaccines, medications or other pharmaceutical interventions, that individuals and communities can carry out in order to reduce transmission rates, contact rates, and the duration of infectiousness of individuals in the population.

PROTECTIVE PERSONAL EQUIPMENT –refers to protective garments or equipment worn by individuals to increase personal safety from infectious agents.

FACE SHIELD – a personal protective face gear composed of a head strap with an attached rigid visible sheet, usually made with plastic, that aims to protect the wearer's entire face from pathogens, viral agents, and other potentially infectious microscopic materials and organisms.

VULNERABLE GROUPS – refers to socially disadvantaged groups that moral susceptible to suffer directly from disasters and health events. These include senior citizens, immunocompromised individuals, women, children, persons deprived with liberty (PDL), persons with disabilities (PWDs), and members of indigenous peoples (IPs), internally displaced persons (IDPs), indigenous cultural communities (ICCs), among others.

SECTION 2. IMPLEMENTING GUIDELINES. The adoption and implementation of the standards shall be guided by the following principles:

1. SHARED ACCOUNTABILITY

- a. Health is a key development objective that is the shared accountability of the government, communities, households, and individuals.
- b. A whole-of-system, whole-of-government, whole-of-society approach is essential to develop cohesive solutions to current and future challenges to public health and national security.
- c. All efforts shall espouse the government's strategic directions of national government-enabled, local government-led, and people-centered response to the COVID-19 health event.

2. EVIDENCED-BASED DECISION MAKING

- a. Evidence shall guide policy development and decision-making at all levels of government.
- b. As science continues to evolve, all actors shall periodically assess and recalibrate policies, plans, programs and guidelines.

3. SOCIO-ECONOMIC EQUITY AND RIGHTS-BASED APPROACH

- a. Recognizing that vulnerabilities are socially determined, it is important to be cognizant to the equity considerations and implications of blanket policies, plans, and programs that are being conceptualized for scaled-up implementation. Vulnerable groups should therefore be identified and provided additional social safety net protections.

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- b. Policy design shall always choose the least restrictive alternative that achieve its goals.
- c. In the event of any conflict of rules or guidelines, the interpretation shall ensure the protection of human rights. As such, the safety, needs and well-being of the individual shall prevail.

SECTION 3. IMPLEMENTING STRATEGIES

1. INCREASE PHYSICAL AND MENTAL RESILIENCE

- a. Ensure access to basic needs of individuals, including food, water, shelter and sanitation.
- b. Support adequate nutrition and diets based on risk.
- c. Encourage appropriate physical activity for those with access to open spaces as long as physical distancing is practiced.
- d. Discourage smoking and drinking alcoholic beverages.
- e. Protect mental health and general welfare of individuals.
- f. Promote basic respiratory hygiene and cough etiquette.
- g. Protect essential workforce through provision of food, PPE and other commodities, lodging, and shuttle services as necessary.
- h. Provide financial and healthcare support for workforce who contracted COVID-19 through transmission at work.
- i. Limit exposure of MARP groups, such as through limitation in entry or prioritization in service or provision of support.
- j. Provide appropriate social safety net support to vulnerable groups for the duration of the COVID-19 health event.

2. REDUCE TRANSMISSION

- a. Encourage frequent hand washing with soap and water, and discourage the touching of the eyes, nose, and mouth, such as through appropriate information and education campaigns.
- b. Encourage symptomatic individuals to stay at home unless there is a pressing need to go to a health facility for medical consultation, if virtual consultation is not possible.
- c. Ensure access to basic hygiene facilities such as toilets, handwashing areas, water, soap, alcohol/sanitizer.
- d. Clean and disinfect the environment regularly, every two hours for high touch areas such as toilets, doorknobs, switches, and at least once everyday for workstations and other surfaces.
- e. Ensure rational use of personal protective equipment (PPEs) that is suitable to the setting, and the intended user. Medical-grade protective apparel shall be reserved for health care workers and other frontliners, and symptomatic individuals at all times.

3. REDUCE CONTACT

- a. Implement strict physical distancing at all times, especially at public areas, workstations, eating areas, queues, and other high traffic areas.
- b. Reduce movement within and across areas and settings.
- c. Restrict unnecessary mass gatherings.
- d. Limit non-essential travel and activities.
- e. Install architectural or engineering interventions, as may be deemed appropriate.
- f. Implement temporary closure or suspension of service in high-risk areas or establishments, as necessary.

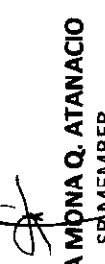
4. REDUCE DURATION OF INFECTION

- a. Identify symptomatic individuals and immediately isolate, such as through the use of temperature scanning, symptom self-monitoring, and voluntary disclosure.
- b. Coordinate symptomatic individuals through appropriate health system entry points such as primary care facilities or teleconsulting platforms.
- c. Trace and quarantine close contacts of confirmed individuals consistent with Department of Health guidelines.


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SECTION 4. REGULATED ACTS.

1. Wearing of face shield in addition to facemask when in public place, *in a public utility vehicle or in any place where people physically converge or where there is mass gathering*. Wearing of face shield aside from face mask while outside of his or her residence, except if conducting an activity which requires the removal thereof such as but not limited to, eating and drinking;
2. Strict observance of social or physical distancing;
3. Non-compliance to existing health protocols set forth by the Palanan IATF particularly the *diagnostic* and quarantine protocols of individuals entering the territorial jurisdiction of this Municipality;
4. Penalizing parents or guardians of minors (*below 18 years of age*) who violate health safety standard protocols during the COVID-19 pandemic.

SECTION 5. PENALTY CLAUSE. Any person who violates Section 4 of this Ordinance shall be punished of:

- 1st Offense : *Fine of One Thousand Pesos (P1,000.00) or Fifteen (15) days community service;*
- 2nd Offense : *Fine of One Thousand Five Hundred Pesos (P1,500.00) or Twenty (20) days community service;*
- 3rd Offense : *Fine of Two Thousand Five Hundred Pesos (P2,500.00) and/or imprisonment for 10-30 days at the discretion of the proper court.*

SECTION 6. ENFORCEMENT. The Members of Philippine National Police, Inter-Agency Task Force COVID-19, Office of the Municipal Health Officer and Frontliners are hereby enjoined to enforce the provisions of this ordinance and authorize to arrest any person violating hereof, if circumstances warrant.

SECTION 7. FUNDING. An initial funding to defray the expenses necessary for or incidental to the implementation of this Ordinance shall be sourced out from the MOOE of the Municipal Mayor of this Local Government Unit.

SECTION 8. SEPARABILITY CLAUSE. If, for any reason (s), any part of this ordinance shall be held unconstitutional or invalid, other parts or provisions hereof, which are not affected thereby, shall continue to be in full force and effect.

SECTION 9. REPEALING CLAUSE. All ordinances, rules and regulations in conflict with the provisions of this Ordinance are hereby modified/repealed.

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


I HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing ordinance which was duly enacted by the Sangguniang Bayan of Palanan, Isabela during its **Regular Session on March 22, 2021.**



NELIA ALAMO-PLATA
 Secretary to the Sanggunian

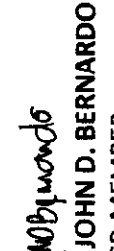
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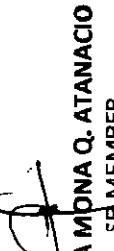

JIMMY B. GONZALES
 Municipal Vice Mayor & Presiding Officer



ELIZABETH B. OCHOA
 Municipal Mayor
 Date: 3-24-21


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