



Republic of the Philippines  
**QUEZON CITY COUNCIL**  
Quezon City  
22<sup>nd</sup> City Council

PR22CC-729

51<sup>st</sup> Regular Session

RESOLUTION NO. SP- **9529** , S-2023

**A RESOLUTION AMENDING SECTIONS 9, 21 AND 28(C) OF RESOLUTION NO. SP-9000, S-2022, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS "A RESOLUTION AMENDING THE INTERNAL RULES OF PROCEDURE OF THE 22<sup>ND</sup> QUEZON CITY COUNCIL," TO REMOVE THE PROVISIONS ALLOWING FOR THE CONDUCT OF PLENARY SESSIONS AND COMMITTEE HEARINGS THROUGH VIDEO AND TELECONFERENCE EXCEPT FOR SPECIAL SESSIONS**

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*Introduced by Councilors DOROTHY A. DELARMENTE, M.D. and KATE GALANG-COSETENG*



*Co-Introduced by Councilors Tany Joe "TJ" L. Calalay, Joseph P. Juico, Nikki V. Crisologo, Charm M. Ferrer, Fernando Miguel "Mikey" F. Belmonte, Candy A. Medina, Aly Medalla, Dave C. Valmocina, Tatay Rannie Z. Ludovica, Godofredo T. Liban II, 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, Marra C. Suntay, 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, Eric Z. Medina, Emmanuel Banjo A. Pilar, Vito Sotto Generoso, Victor "Vic" Bernardo, Alfredo "Freddy" Roxas and Jhon Angelli "Sami" C. Neri*

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*WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020, the Quezon City Council adopted Resolution No. SP-8141, S-2020, which declared Quezon City under a State of Calamity due to the COVID-19 pandemic;*

*WHEREAS, to ensure that public services will not be affected by the pandemic, the 21<sup>st</sup> Quezon City Council adopted and slowly transitioned to the use of videoconferencing applications;*

*WHEREAS, as part of the government's response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the 21<sup>st</sup> Quezon City Council amended its Internal Rules of Procedure, through Resolution No. SP-7934, S-2019, in order to adopt the use of video and teleconferencing applications and other appropriate information and communications technology systems in the conduct of plenary sessions and committee hearings;*

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WHEREAS, the 22<sup>nd</sup> Quezon City Council decided to continue the use of video and teleconference applications, and include said use as part of its Internal Rules of Procedure, through Resolution No. SP-9000, S-2022, specifically second paragraph of Section 9, third paragraph of Section 21, and paragraph (c) of Section 28;


WHEREAS, the second paragraph of Section 9 of the Internal Rules of Procedure reads as "The committee, as determined by its Chairperson, may opt to conduct meetings or hearings through video or teleconference, or other appropriate information and communications technology systems in case of force majeure or occurrence of an emergency, which may prevent its members from physically attending the committee meetings or hearings. Provided that, in the absence of force majeure, the Committee Hearing may still be conducted through video or teleconference under the following circumstances: lack of venue, the measure in the committee agenda is certified urgent by the Office of the City Mayor, and the measures in the agenda is not more than three (3)";

WHEREAS, the third paragraph of Section 21 of the Internal Rules of Procedure reads as "In the event of a force majeure or the occurrence of a national or local emergency which may prevent the physical attendance of the members of the Sangguniang Panlungsod, the regular or special session may be held through the use of video or teleconference, or other appropriate information and communications technology systems, in order to accommodate the members who are unable to physically attend by reason of serious risk to their health and safety. However, if the member of the Sangguniang Panlungsod has a pending measure under second reading, the physical presence of the proponent is mandated to ensure a productive and comprehensive deliberation of the measure";

WHEREAS, paragraph (c) of Section 28 of the Internal Rules of Procedure reads as "In the event of a force majeure or the occurrence of a national or local emergency which may prevent the physical attendance of the members of the Sangguniang Panlungsod, the regular or special session may be held through the use of video or teleconference, or other appropriate information and communications technology systems, in order to accommodate the members who are unable to physically attend by reason of serious risk to their health and safety. However, the physical presence of the officers of the Sangguniang Panlungsod shall be highly encouraged except when it is determined that such physical attendance may result to serious injury to health and safety of the said officer";

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WHEREAS, Section 50 of the Internal Rules of Procedure of the 22<sup>nd</sup> City Council provides that the Committee on Laws, Rules, and Internal Government assisted by the Secretary to the Sanggunian, shall conduct a continuing study, review and evaluation of the existing Rules of the Sangguniang Panlungsod and prepare an updated set of rules which shall be attuned with the needs of the Sangguniang Panlungsod;

WHEREAS, with the steady decline in the number of COVID-19 cases and the easing of restrictions and gradual return to normal life, there is no longer a need to include the use of video and teleconference applications to perform the mandate of the legislative branch of the Quezon City Government;

WHEREAS, there is a need to amend and update the Internal Rules of Procedure of the 22<sup>nd</sup> City Council and remove the provisions on allowing the use of video and teleconference to safeguard the probity of the Council's legislative procedures.

NOW, THEREFORE,

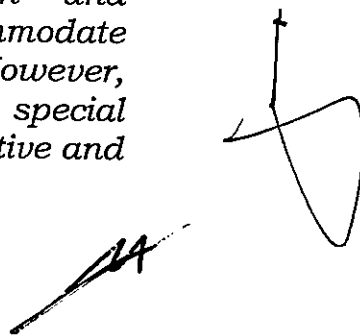
BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF QUEZON CITY IN REGULAR SESSION ASSEMBLED, to amend, as it does hereby amend, Sections 9, 21 and 28(c) of Resolution No. SP-9000, S-2022, otherwise known as "A Resolution Amending the Internal Rules of Procedure of the 22<sup>nd</sup> Quezon City Council," to remove the provisions allowing for the conduct of plenary sessions and committee hearings through video and teleconference except for special sessions.

RESOLVED FURTHER, that Section 28 shall be adjusted accordingly upon the removal of paragraph (c).

RESOLVED FURTHER, that the third paragraph of Section 21 shall be amended accordingly to read as follows:

"A special session may be held through the use of video or teleconference, or other appropriate information and communications technology systems, in order to accommodate the members who are unable to physically attend. However, the proponent of the measure that is subject of the special session must be physically present to ensure a productive and comprehensive deliberation of the measure."

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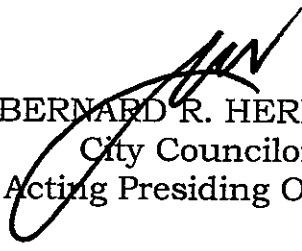
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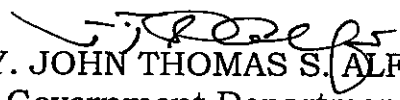
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*RESOLVED FINALLY, that the Secretary to the Sangguniang Panlungsod shall make the necessary adjustments to ensure that the integrity of the plenary sessions and committee hearings shall be protected through the Council's return or transition to fully physical legislative processes and procedures.*

*ADOPTED: December 11, 2023.*

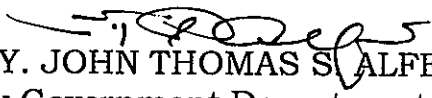
  
BERNARD R. HERRERA  
City Councilor  
Acting Presiding Officer

ATTESTED:

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

CERTIFICATION

*This is to certify that this Resolution was APPROVED by the City Council on Second Reading on December 11, 2023 and was CONFIRMED under Suspended Rules on the same date.*

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