

EXCERPT FROM THE MINUTES OF THE 7<sup>TH</sup> SPECIAL SESSION OF THE 14<sup>TH</sup> SANGGUNIANG PANLALAWIGAN OF THE PROVINCE OF AURORA HELD AT THE SP SESSION HALL, PROVINCIAL CAPITOL, BALER, AURORA ON APRIL 3, 2020

PRESENT:

HON. MARIANO C. TANGSON,	Acting Vice-Governor, Temporary Presiding Officer
HON. ISIDRO P. GALBAN,	Regular Member, 1 <sup>st</sup> District
HON. PHILIP BUTCH M. BAUTISTA,	Regular Member, 1 <sup>st</sup> District
HON. JASON G. MARTINEZ,	Regular Member, 1 <sup>st</sup> District
HON. JENNIFER A. ARANA,	Regular Member, 2 <sup>nd</sup> District
HON. EUGENE B. CALUGTONG,	Regular Member, 2 <sup>nd</sup> District
HON. LORDAN B. ROXAS,	Regular Member, 2 <sup>nd</sup> District
HON. NICASIO M. SALAMERA,	Regular Member, 2 <sup>nd</sup> District
HON. RAFAEL M. DE MAYO,	Ex-Officio Member, LNB Pres.
HON. ONASIS Q. RONQUILLO,	Ex-Officio Member, PCL Pres.

ABSENT:

HON. JESUS V. PALMERO,	Regular Member, 1 <sup>st</sup> District
HON. JOVENE MIKE B. ALPUERTO,	Ex-Officio Member, SKF Pres.
HON. MARY JANE B. DONATO,	Ex-Officio Member, IPM Rep.

**PROVINCIAL ORDINANCE NO. 320**

**AN ORDINANCE REQUIRING THE MANDATORY USE OF FACE MASK AND STRICT OBSERVANCE OF AT LEAST ONE (1) METER PHYSICAL DISTANCING BY ALL PERSONS IN THE PROVINCE OF AURORA DURING THE ENHANCED COMMUNITY QUARANTINE AND ANY EXTENSION, AND PROVIDING PENALTIES FOR VIOLATION THEREOF**

**(Author: Hon. Lordan B. Roxas)**

**Co-Authors: All the Members of the Sangguniang Panlalawigan**

**WHEREAS**, Presidential Proclamation No. 922, s. of 2020, declares a State of Public Health Emergency throughout the Philippines due to the Corona Virus Disease 2019 (Covid 19) enjoining all government agencies and local government units to mobilize the necessary resources to undertake critical, urgent and appropriate response and measures in a timely manner to curtail and eliminate the threat of Covid 19;

**WHEREAS**, Proclamation No. 929, s. 2020, declares a state of calamity throughout the Philippines for a period of six months, unless earlier lifted or extended as circumstances may warrant;

**WHEREAS**, Section 2 of the same proclamation imposed an Enhanced Community Quarantine throughout the entire Luzon beginning March 17, 2020 until April 13, 2020 unless earlier lifted or extended as circumstances may warrant;

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to Section 468. (a) (iv) of the Local Government Code of 1991 the Sangguniang Panlalawigan shall adopt measures to protect the inhabitants of the province from harmful effects of man-made or natural disasters and calamities;

**WHEREAS**, under Section 5.1.1 of DILG Memorandum Circular No. 2020 – 062, entitled as Suppletory LGU Guidelines on the implementation of Enhanced Community Quarantine in Luzon and State of Public Health Emergency due to the Covid 19 threat, *“all LGU's are charged with the promotion of health and safety within their jurisdiction. As such they are to take the lead in the prevention and control of the spread of covid 19 at the local level”*;

**WHEREAS**, in order to overcome the present threat of Covid 19 the Provincial Government of Aurora must require the cooperation of all persons who are living and residing and commercial establishment operating in the province to defeat the said threat of Covid 19;

**WHEREAS**, all person's are enjoined to work together and help support our health workers and frontliners and ensure that the Enhanced Community Quarantine is strictly implemented and everyone is directed to be part of the solution in reducing the local or community transmission of the disease;

**WHEREAS**, to fight this invisible enemy, the mandatory use of face masks can significantly reduce the contagion in the community especially by persons who are asymptomatic but may already be carriers of Covid 19 virus;

**WHEREAS**, a health advisory from the Department of Health requires everyone to strictly observe at least one meter physical distancing to ensure that the virus is not passed on to other persons from an infected person;

**NOW THEREFORE**, on motion of Honorable Loran B. Roxas unanimously seconded;

**BE IT ENACTED**, by the Sangguniang Panlalawigan, in session duly assembled;

**SECTION 1. Short Title.** – This ordinance shall be known as the **Mandatory Wearing of Facemask and Strict Social and Physical Distancing**.

**SECTION 2. Coverage.** – All persons who are found within the territorial jurisdiction of the Province of Aurora are covered by this ordinance.

**SECTION 3. Mandatory Use of Face Masks.** – Every person is required to wear facemask or other forms of protective equipment at all times when going outside of his/ her residence or workplace, to purchase essential items or to attend to urgent matters, when entering government buildings and offices and other public places.

The face mask required is a protective mask used to cover the nose, mouth and chin like surgical, medical or N95 mask or any reusable or washable face mask usually sold in commercial or drug stores or pharmacies;

Earloop masks, indigenous materials, reusable or do-it-yourself masks, face shields, handkerchiefs or such other protective equipment can be utilized to effectively lessen the transmission of Covid-19.

Medical personnel and frontliners shall use the DOH recommended mask.

**SECTION 4. Strict Observance of Social and Physical Distancing.** – All persons are required to strictly observe Social and Physical Distancing of one (1) meter from other persons while outside of their residence and while in public. For this purpose, physical contact such as but not limited to hand shaking, kissing and hugging are prohibited.

**SECTION 5. Distribution of Face Mask.** – The Provincial Government, with the cooperation of the Municipalities and barangays and through the assistance of relevant government offices shall distribute facemasks to residents. The Barangay Officials shall ensure that the authorized member of a family has a reusable or disposable mask to wear each time that he or she will go outside of his/her residence to do essential activities or when going to work at exempted establishments.

In the absence of the above mentioned face masks, the use of equivalent mask or protective cover shall be allowed.

**SECTION 6. Compliance in Commercial or Private Establishment.** – To effectively promote and encourage compliance to this ordinance, all Private commercial Establishments allowed to operate in the Province of Aurora shall:

- a. Conspicuously display at or near the entrance of the establishment a copy of this ordinance;
- b. Strictly prohibit the entry of anyone who is not wearing any face mask or an equivalent thereof; and
- c. Strictly require every customer to observe physical distancing of at least one (1) meter.

**SECTION 7. Penalties.** – Any person who fails to wear face mask or equivalent or does not exercise physical distancing shall be meted out the following penalties:

**First (1<sup>st</sup>) Offense** – The offender shall be required to attend community service and awareness lecture on Covid 19 for at least three hours as conducted by the Provincial, Municipal and/or Barangay Health Officials;

**Second (2<sup>nd</sup>) Offense** – The offender shall be strictly prohibited and monitored from leaving his or her place of residence for a period of one week, except for an emergency medical situation or in case of imminent danger;

**Third (3<sup>rd</sup>) Offense** – The offender shall be strictly prohibited and monitored from leaving his or her place of residence during the duration of the Enhanced Community Quarantine or any extension thereof, which shall not exceed a period of one month, except for an emergency medical situation or in case of imminent danger.

Any private commercial establishment who fails to observe the provision of Section 6 shall be meted out the following:

**First (1<sup>st</sup>) Offense** – The offending establishment shall be required to pay a fine of P1000.00;

**Second (2<sup>nd</sup>) Offense** – The offender shall be required to pay a fine of P2000.00;

**Third (3<sup>rd</sup>) Offense** – The offender shall be required to pay a fine of P2500.00 and suspension for three months of its business permit shall be recommended to the Municipality which has jurisdiction over it.

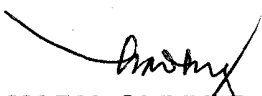
**SECTION 8. Budgeting.** – The Provincial Government shall appropriate the necessary funds to implement this ordinance from its Approved Annual Budget for 2020.

**SECTION 9. Information and Education Campaign.** – The Provincial Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Office, in cooperation with the Provincial Health Office and the Provincial information Office, and coordination with the Municipal Health Office, Municipal Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Office and Barangay Officials of each municipality shall disseminate information in the implementation of this ordinance to the public immediately upon the effectivity of this ordinance.

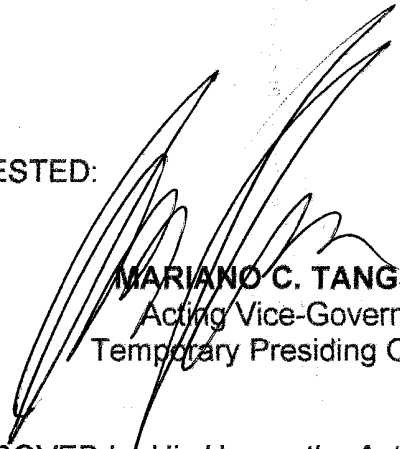
**SECTION 10. Effectivity.** – This ordinance shall take effect immediately subject to the requirement of posting as per Section 511 of the Local Government Code.

**ENACTED.** April 3, 2020

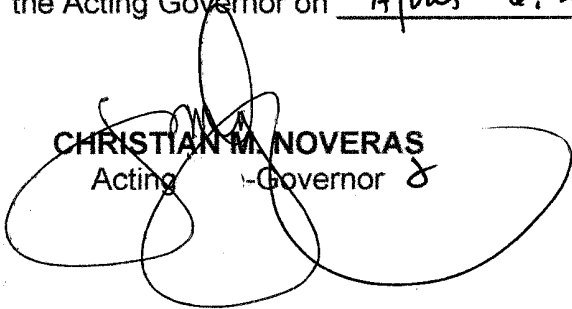
I HEREBY CERTIFY to the correctness of the foregoing Ordinance.

  
**MARIA OLIVIA D. MAZA**  
Secretary to the Sanggunian

ATTESTED:

  
**MARIANO C. TANGSON**  
Acting Vice-Governor  
Temporary Presiding Officer

APPROVED by His Honor, the Acting Governor on April 6, 2020

  
**CHRISTIAN M. NOVERAS**  
Acting Governor