



Republic of the Philippines
Province of Ilocos Sur
Municipality of Narvacan



OFFICE OF THE SANGGUNIANG BAYAN 2019-2022

Vice Mayor/Presiding Officer:


HON. PABLITO V. SANIDAD, SR.

Sangguniang Bayan Members:


HON. EDNA C. SANIDAD


HON. JOSEPH A. TEJADA


HON. JOVENIANO B. AMPO, JR.


HON. CHARITO C. VILORIA


HON. BERNADETTE C. LIM


HON. LORETO C. CABALLES

HON. EMILIANO C. CLARIN


HON. REINA ALEXA V. ANTOLIN

ABC President:

HON. ROMULO C. REA

SK Federated President:

HON. JOEMAR GREY A. CABICO

Attested:


MARIBEL C. CORRALES
SB Secretary

Approved:


HON. LUIS "CHAVIT" C. SINGSON
Municipal Mayor

EXCERPTS FROM THE MINUTES OF THE 14TH REGULAR SESSION OF THE SANGGUNIANG BAYAN OF NARVACAN, ILOCOS SUR HELD ON APRIL 20, 2020 AT THE MUNICIPAL SESSION HALL.

ORDINANCE NO. 28

Series of 2020

AN ORDINANCE PROHIBITING ANY PERSON FROM COMMITTING ANY ACT WHICH CAUSES STIGMA, DISGRACE, SHAME, HUMILIATION, HARASSMENT, OR DISCRIMINATION AGAINST A PERSON INFECTED, UNDER MONITORING OR INVESTIGATION DUE TO COVID-19, INCLUDING HEALTH WORKERS AND FRONTLINERS AND IMPOSING PENALTIES THEREOF

WHEREAS, on March 9, 2020, President Rodrigo Roa Duterte issued Proclamation No. 922, declaring a State of Public Health Emergency throughout the Philippines due to Covid-19 and Code Alert System was raised to Code Red Sub-Level 2. Further, Presidential Proclamation No. 929, Series of 2020 was issued declaring a State of Calamity throughout the Philippines due to Covid-19;

WHEREAS, since the emergence of Covid-19, there have been instances of public stigmatization among persons who have contracted the disease including PUIs and PUMs. This means that people are being labelled, stereotyped, separated and/or experience loss of status and discrimination because of a potential negative affiliation with the disease. Stigmatization could drive people to hide the illness to avoid discrimination or prevent people from seeking health care immediately and discourage them from adopting healthy behaviours;

WHEREAS, the Department of Health (DOH) recently warned the public against discrimination against persons reported to have contracted Covid-19 as well as PUIs and PUMs, including health and emergency workers who are in the frontlines of the battle against the rapidly spreading Covid-19. The DOH stated that "with the world confronted with a virus, with little information known, it is human to be afraid, but we must not allow hysteria and paranoia to result in irrational treatment of people";

WHEREAS, considering the gravity of the situation, there is an urgent need to combat this pervasive stigmatization on the basis of one's medical condition. There is a need to bring normalcy and order amidst the crisis, and protect the people from unjust discrimination brought on by fear and panic by the public;



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Ordinance No. 28, Series of 2020...

WHEREAS, the 1987 Philippine Constitution under Article III, Section 1 provides that every person has the right to life, liberty, security and privacy and the right to be free from discrimination. Furthermore, under Section 11 thereof, the State values the dignity of every person and guarantees full respect for human rights;

NOW THEREFORE, be it ordained by the Sangguniang Bayan of Narvacan in session duly assembled that:

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE. This Ordinance shall be known as "Narvacan's Anti-Covid-19 Discrimination Ordinance of 2020".

SECTION 2. DEFINITIONS. Persons infected, Patients Under Investigation (PUIs) and Persons Under Monitoring (PUMs) are those defined by the protocols and guidelines of the Department of Health (DOH).

Health workers are those who deliver care and services to the sick and ailing, either directly or indirectly. These include, among others, doctors, nurses, hospitals and clinic aides, and laboratory technicians.

Frontliners include those who are members of the PNP, AFP, PCG and instrumentalities of the government rendering emergency frontline services, border control and other critical services. These also include service workers who are working in private establishments providing basic necessities and such activities related to food and medicine production, i.e. public markets, supermarkets, groceries, convenience stores, hospitals, medical clinics, pharmacies and drug stores, food preparation and delivery services, water-refilling stations, manufacturing and processing plants of basic food products and medicines, banks, money transfer services, power energy, telecommunications and water supplies and other related facilities.

SECTION 3. UNLAWFUL ACTS. It shall be unlawful for any person, whether natural or juridical, to commit any act or make utterances which cause or lend to cause stigma, disgrace, shame, humiliation, harassment or otherwise discrimination against a person infected, under monitoring or investigation due to Covid-19, health worker or frontliner as defined under this Ordinance.

If any public officer refuses or fails to give assistance to a person infected, under monitoring or investigation due to Covid-19, health worker or frontliner who intends to return to his place of residence or domicile, after obtaining clearance of the Covid-19 infection from the proper health officials, he/she shall be equally liable under this Section.



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Ordinance No. 28, Series of 2020...

Any person who shall publicly claim, post on social media, spread or announce that a person is infected, is under monitoring, or investigation due to Covid-19 whether or not the same has been confirmed or validated from the list given by authorized proper health officials, agency of department, shall also be liable under this Section. If the person violating is public officer, the penalty imposed shall be in its maximum and can also be a ground for filing of an administrative case against said official EXCEPT when the patient concerned waived his/her right to privacy and for purposes of contact tracing and other medical purposes.

SECTION 4. PENALTIES. Any person caught in violation of Section 3 hereof shall be fined with:

- First Offense - Php 1,000.00
- Second Offense - Php 2,000.00
- Third Offense - Php 2,500.00 or imprisonment of one (1) month or both at the discretion of the Court

If the offender is a public officer, the maximum penalty herein shall be imposed.

If the offender is a juridical person, the President, General Manager, Corporate Secretary or person with related interest in the Corporation or Partnership or Association shall be held liable or penalized accordingly.

SECTION 5. SEPARABILITY CLAUSE. If, for any reason or reasons, any part or provision of this Ordinance shall be held unconstitutional or invalid, other parts or provision hereof which are not affected thereby, shall continue to be in full force and effect.

SECTION 6. REPEALING CLAUSE. All ordinances, rules or regulations in conflict with the provisions of this Ordinance are hereby repealed, PROVIDED, that the rights already vested under those Ordinances, rules or regulations shall be impaired.

SECTION 7. EFFECTIVITY CLAUSE. This Ordinance shall take effect upon its approval.

ENACTED.