

## Republic of the Philippines QUEZON CITY COUNCIL

Quezon City 22<sup>nd</sup> City Council

PO22CC-159

55th Regular Session

ORDINANCE NO. SP- 3268 , S-2024

AN ORDINANCE MANDATING ALL COVERED ESTABLISHMENTS WITHIN THE TERRITORIAL JURISDICTION OF QUEZON CITY TO INSTALL BIDET SPRAYS ON TOILETS, IMPOSING PENALTIES FOR VIOLATIONS THEREFORE AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

## Introduced by Councilor CANDY A. MEDINA

Co-Introduced by Councilors Bernard R. Herrera, Tany Joe "TJ" L. Calalay, Dorothy A. Delarmente, M.D., Joseph P. Juico, Nikki V. Crisologo, Charm M. Ferrer, Fernando Miguel "Mikey" F. Belmonte, Aly Medalla, Dave C. Valmocina, Godofredo T. Liban II, Kate Galang-Coseteng, 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, Jose Maria M. Rodriguez and Jhon Angelli "Sami" C. Neri

WHEREAS, Bidets are considered as more hygienic alternatives than toilet papers. The term "sanitation benefits of bidets", as used in this Ordinance, refers to the hygienic practice of limiting human exposure to waste and agricultural waste dangers. These wastes may contain hazards, such as microbial pathogens and hazardous chemicals, which may be detrimental to human health if left uncontrolled;

WHEREAS, Bidets are made in several designs and the choice of materials may vary from plastic, chrome plated metal, or stainless steel, to accommodate many tastes and budgets and the foregoing conveniences and the lower cost of attachable or add-on in a toilet seat and bidets are the primary reason for introducing this Ordinance;

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WHEREAS, Bidets are primarily used to wash and clean more efficiently and effectively the genitalia, perineum, inner buttock and anus considering the spurt of its water is angled to reach easily the perineal and genital area. In addition to the aforementioned convenience, the increased pressure offers a more thorough cleansing not only of the aforementioned body area but also of any other body part, such as the feet;

WHEREAS, Section 29 of City Ordinance, SP-2503, S-2016, entitled An Ordinance Revising SP-1735, S-2006, otherwise known as "The Sanitation Code of Quezon City" states that, "all establishments shall provide adequate and clean toilet facilities for male, female, persons with disabilities and personnel";

WHEREAS, in respect of health, the use of bidets are beneficial for those who suffer from hemorrhoids or medical conditions considering that toilet paper can be harmful to the sensitive skin in the perineal area. The same is also true for older people who have less mobility, or children who cannot wipe themselves;

WHEREAS, from an environmental standpoint, bidets eliminate the need for toilet paper, saving consumers money on paper products and allowing users to reduce their carbon footprint by reducing their paper waste over time.

## NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF QUEZON CITY IN REGULAR SESSION ASSEMBLED:

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE. - This Ordinance shall be known as the "Quezon City Bidet Spray Ordinance of 2023".

SECTION 2. DECLARATION OF POLICY. – It shall be the policy of Quezon City, in its efforts to promote health and sanitation, to ensure the hygienic measure of installing bidet sprays in all toilets accessed or used by the public, in order to isolate human contact to hazardous wastes generated by excreta, urine, wastewater, solid wastes and industrial wastes which may be detrimental to human health, if left uncontrolled. It is hereby mandated that all establishments covered by this Ordinance shall provide adequate and clean toilet facilities with the required bidet sprays.

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SECTION 3. COVERAGE. – This Ordinance shall cover all toilets in the restrooms or comfort rooms of malls, hospitals, cinemas, restaurants, cafes, inns, hotels, and gasoline stations including pay lounges which can be accessed by the general public or as part of their services within Quezon City, pursuant to Presidential Decree No. 856 and other related laws.

SECTION 4. DEFINITION OF TERMS. – As used in this Ordinance, the following terms are defined as follows:

- a. COVERED ESTABLISHMENT refers to any service establishment, such as, but not limited to malls, hospitals, cinemas, restaurants, cafes, inns, hotels, and gasoline stations with 2 or more branches/franchises within the territorial jurisdiction of Quezon City. Carinderias, Food Parks, and School Canteens are not included in this Ordinance;
- b. BIDET SPRAY refers to a hand-held triggered nozzle that is placed near the toilet; it provides a spray of water used for anal cleansing and cleaning of the genitals after using the toilet for defecation and urination; and
- c. MICRO AND SMALL ENTERPRISES (MSE's) shall refer to any business activity or enterprise engaged in industry, agribusiness and/or services, whether single proprietorship, cooperative, partnership or corporation whose total assets under the following categories:

Micro - not more than Php3,000,000.00

Small - Php3,000,001.00 to Php15,000,000.00

Nano Enterprise – shall refer to unregistered livelihoods of self-employed individuals or informal economy enterprises with a capitalization of not more than Php50,000.00.

SECTION 5. LEAD AGENCY. – The Quezon City Health Department Sanitation Division shall be the Lead Agency in the implementation, enforcement, monitoring and evaluation of this Ordinance. The provisions of this Ordinance shall likewise apply in cases where requirements and/or compliances from the Department of Building Official is required.

The Lead Agency shall formulate the proper guidelines and protocols that will be observed in the exercise of this power, in order to ensure compliance.

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SECTION 6. MONITORING AND EVALUATION. – It shall be the duty of the Lead Agency to inspect and to oversee annually, or as more often as possible, the full compliance and operation maintenance of bidet sprays in the toilets of the covered establishments.

SECTION 7. VIOLATIONS AND PENALTIES. – Without prejudice to the violation of Presidential Decree No. 856 or the Sanitation Code of the Philippines, and other existing laws, rules and orders, the following fines and penalties shall be imposed under this Ordinance:

- a. A STERN WARNING AND A 30-DAY GRACE PERIOD shall be given to all covered establishments for the repair of any bidet spray, upon inspection, found to be non-operative and non-compliance.
- b. Upon lapse of the grace period, the following fines and penalties shall be imposed:
  - i. FIRST OFFENSE: Written Warning and/or Notice of Violation.
  - ii. SECOND OFFENSE: A fine of Php3,000.00.
  - iii. THIRD OFFENSE: A fine of Php4,000.00 and a Cease-and-Desist Order recommendation by the Quezon City Health Department (QCHD) to the Business Permits and Licensing Department (BPLD).
  - iv. FOURTH OFFENSE: A fine of Php5,000.00 and a Closure Order recommendation by the Quezon City Health Department (QCHD) to the Business Permits and Licensing Department (BPLD).
- c. The aforementioned fines shall be imposed to the owners, operators and/or managing officers of the covered establishments who failed to comply with the implementation of this Ordinance, and/or those who have been issued with compliance but failed to maintain the operative condition of their bidet sprays.

SECTION 8. SEPARABILITY CLAUSE. – In case any provision of this Ordinance is held invalid, the other provisions not affected thereby, shall continue in full force and effect.

SECTION 9. REPEALING CLAUSE. – All laws, issuances, orders, rules and regulations or parts thereof, which are inconsistent with this Ordinance, are hereby repealed and modified accordingly.

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SECTION 10. EFFECTIVITY CLAUSE. – This City Ordinance shall take effect immediately after posting at conspicuous places in the Quezon City Hall, and publication in a newspaper of general circulation.

ENACTED: February 12, 2024.

GIAN G. SOTTO City Vice Mayor Presiding Officer

ATTESTED:

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

APPROVED: MAR 1 4 2024

MA. JOSEFINA G. BELMONTE City Mayor

## CERTIFICATION

This is to certify that this Ordinance was APPROVED by the City Council on Second Reading on February 12, 2024 and was PASSED on Third/Final Reading under Suspended Rules on the same date.

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