

Republic of the Philippines Region IV-A (CALABÁRZON) **Province of Cavite**

CITY OF GENERAL TRIAS

OFFICE OF THE SANGGUNIANG PANLUNGSOD

CITY ORDINANCE NO. 20-30 (GENERAL)

Author

: SP Member Reienel R. Ferrer

Chair, Committee on Youth & Development

Sponsors

: SP Member Alfredo S. Ching

SP Member Vivencio Q. Lozares, Jr. SP Member Jonas Glyn P. Labuguen

SP Member Gary A. Grepo

SP Member Hernando M. Granados SP Member Clarissel J. Campana-Moral

SP Member Jowie S. Carampot

SP Member Kristine Jane M. Perdito-Barison

SP Member Isagani L. Culanding SP Member J-M Vergel M. Columna SP Member Walter C. Martinez SP Member Florencio D. Ayos

SP Member Richard Parin

PENALIZING THE IRRESPONSIBLE DISSEMINATION OF FALSE INFORMATION REGARDING THE CORONAVIRUS DISEASE 2019 (COVID-19) THROUGH VERBAL, TEXT, SOCIAL MEDIA POSTING, AND OTHER PLATFORMS.

WHEREAS, Article II, Section 15 of the 1987 Philippine Constitution states that the State shall protect and promote the right of the people and instill health consciousness among them;

WHEREAS, the Local Government Units (LGUs) are enjoined to render full assistance and cooperation and mobilize the necessary resources to undertake critical, urgent, and appropriate response and measures in a timely manner to curtail and eliminate the COVID-19 threat pursuant to Section 2 of Presidential Proclamation No. 922 series of 2020 declaring a State of Public Health Emergency throughout the Philippines;

WHEREAS, under item (f) of Section 6 of the Republic Act No. 11469 entitled as "Bayanihan to Heal as One Act" states that in addition to acts or omissions already penalized by existing laws, the following offenses shall be punishable: (f) Individuals or groups creating, perpetrating, or spreading false information regarding the COVID-19 crisis on social media and other platforms, such information having no valid or beneficial effect on the population, and are clearly geared to promote chaos, panic, anarchy, fear, or confusion; and those participating in cyber incidents that make use or take advantage of the current crisis situation to prey on the public through scams, phishing, fraudulent emails, or other similar acts;

WHEREAS, publication of any false information related to COVID-19 is a sign of irresponsibility of an individual or an entity which impedes all measures set to eliminate the virus in our community;

NOW THEREFORE, on the motion of SP Member Reienel R. Ferrer duly seconded by SP Member Alfredo S. Ching,

Be it ordained by the Sangguniang Panlungsod of General Trias, that:

SECTION 1. TITLE - This Ordinance shall be known as the "Anti-False Information Ordinance".

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Republic of the Philippines Region IV-A (CALABARZON) **Province of Cavite**

CITY OF GENERAL TRIAS

OFFICE OF THE SANGGUNIANG PANLUNGSOD

Continuation...page 2 of City Ordinance No. 20-30 (General):

SECTION 2. COVERAGE - All persons within the territorial jurisdictions of the City of General Trias are covered by this Ordinance.

SECTION 3. ACTS PUNISHABLE - It shall be unlawful for any person to commit the following:

> a. Libel - The unlawful or prohibited acts of libel as defined in Article 355 of the Revised Penal Code, as amended, committed through a computer system or any other similar means which may be devised in the future.

SECTION 4. PERSONS LIABLE - Any person who shares false information related to COVID-19 through social medias, texts, posts, and any other similar forms.

SECTION 5. PENALTIES - Any person in violation of this Ordinance shall be fined as follows:

First Offense

Reprimand,

Second Offense

Php 2 500.00, and

Third Offense

Php 5 000.00.

SECTION 6. ENFORCEMENT OR IMPLEMENTATION - This Ordinance shall be implemented by the Office to the City Mayor through the Sangguniang Barangay and other office or personnel as may be deputized by the Local Chief Executive. The Sangguniang Barangay shall create a team who will handle cases involving the violations of this Ordinance.

SECTION 7. SEPARABILITY CLAUSE - If, for any reason/s, any provision of this Ordinance shall be held invalid, other parts or provisions hereof shall continue to be in full force and effect.

SECTION 8. CONSTRUCTION – Nothing in this Ordinance shall be construed as defeating, qualifying, modifying, or superseding in any way, manner, or extent the guidelines, rules, and protocols issued by the Department of Health, IATF-EID, or authorized agencies of the Government on the proper handling, procedure, and management response for PUIs, PUMs, and persons found afflicted with or undergoing treatment for or have recovered from the COVID-19 pandemic.

SECTION 9. EFFECTIVITY CLAUSE - This Ordinance shall take effect upon its approval.

ORDAINED under SECOND READING on 28 APRIL 2020.

Jonas GLYN P PLABUGUEN GARY A. GREPO SP Member

CLARISSEL J. CAMPAÑA-MORAL

SP Member

SP Member

JOWIE S CARAMPOT SR Member

PERDITO-BARISON KRISTINE JANE M.

SP Member

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Republic of the Philippines Region IV-A (CALABARZON) Province of Cavite CITY OF GENERAL TRIAS

OFFICE OF THE SANGGUNIANG PANLUNGSOD

Continuation...page 3 of City Ordinance No. 20-30 (General):

YSAGANU GWAN

ISAGANI L. CULANDING

SP Member

J-M VERGEL M. COLUMNA SP Member WALTER C. MARTINE

SP Member

FLORENCIO D AYOS

VIVENCIO Q. LOZARES, JR. SP Member

RICHARD R. PARIN SP Member

HERNANDO M. GRANADOS SP Member ALFREDO S. CHING SP Member/LNB President

REIENEL R. FERRER SP Member/SKF President

CERTIFIED TRUE AND CORRECT:

WENCESLAO F. CAMINGAY Secretary to the Sanggunian

ATTESTED:

MAURITO C. SISON
City Vice Mayor/Presiding Officer

APPROVED:

ANTONIO A. FERRER
City Mayor

wpc/app/dga

Jo A