

Republic of the Philippines
PROVINCE OF LA UNION
City of San Fernando

TANGGAPAN NG SANGGUNIANG PANLALAWIGAN

EXCERPT FROM THE JOURNAL OF THE 59th REGULAR SESSION OF THE 20th SANGGUNIANG PANLALAWIGAN OF LA UNION HELD AT THE SPEAKER PRO-TEMPORE FRANCISCO I. ORTEGA PROVINCIAL LEGISLATIVE BUILDING AND SESSION HALL, PROVINCIAL CAPITOL, CITY OF SAN FERNANDO, PROVINCE OF LA UNION ON AUGUST 14, 2014

Hon. Aureo Augusto Q. Nisce..... Vice-Governor / Presiding Officer

PRESENT:

Hon. Francisco "Kit" C. Ortega, Jr.	Member
Hon. Jonathan Justo A. Orros	Member
Hon. Joaquin C. Ostrea, Jr.	Member
Hon. Victoria L. Aragon	Member
Hon. Robert B. Madarang, Jr.	Member
Hon. Christian I. Rivera	Member
Hon. Ruperto A. Rillera, Jr.	Member
Hon. Bellarmin A. Flores II	Member
Hon. Manuel "Mannix" R. Ortega, Jr.	Member

ABSENT:

Hon. Reynaldo M. Mosuela	Member (OB)
Hon. Nancy Corazon M. Bacurnay	Member (OB)
Hon. Alfredo Pablo R. Ortega	Member (OB)

ORDINANCE NO. 060-2014

THE ANTI-RABIES ORDINANCE OF THE PROVINCE OF LA UNION

Sponsor: *Hon. Joaquin C. Ostrea, Jr.*
Co-Sponsors: *Hon. Francisco "Kit" C. Ortega, Jr.*
Hon. Jonathan Justo A. Orros
Hon. Reynaldo M. Mosuela
Hon. Victoria L. Aragon
Hon. Nancy Corazon M. Bacurnay
Hon. Robert B. Madarang, Jr.
Hon. Christian I. Rivera
Hon. Ruperto A. Rillera, Jr.
Hon. Bellarmin A. Flores II
Hon. Alfredo Pablo R. Ortega
Hon. Manuel "Mannix" R. Ortega, Jr.

WHEREAS, presented for consideration before this August Body, is the Committee Report of the Committee on Agriculture and Aquatic Resources relative to the proposed Provincial Ordinance on Anti-Rabies within the Province of La Union pursuant to and in line with the provisions of Republic Act 9482 otherwise known as the Anti-Rabies Act of 2007;

WHEREAS, the Committee to which the above matter was referred has considered the comments and suggestions of the participants during the committee hearing and recommends the enactment of this ordinance;

WHEREAS, it is declared a policy of the state to protect and promote the right to health of the people;

WHEREAS, said ordinance aims to protect and promote animal welfare, to conduct sustained information drive on the provisions of RA 9482 as well as the prosecution of persons who will violate the provisions of this ordinance;

WHEREAS, the August Body takes cognizance of the importance of the aforesaid law and the need to enact an ordinance to effectively implement the provisions of the same;

NOW THEREFORE, on motion of Hon. Joaquin C. Ostrea, Jr. unanimously seconded;

BE IT ORDAINED, as it is hereby ordained by the Sangguniang Panlalawigan, in session duly assembled, that:

Section 1 – Title. This Ordinance shall be known as “The Rabies Prevention and Control Program of the Province of La Union.”

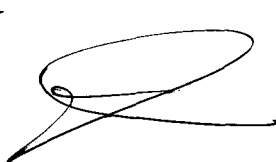
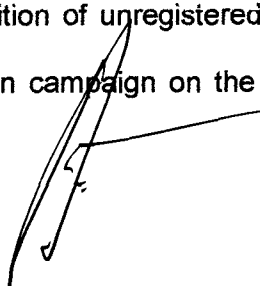
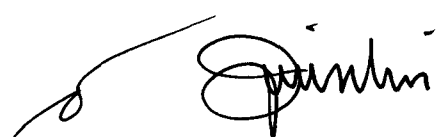
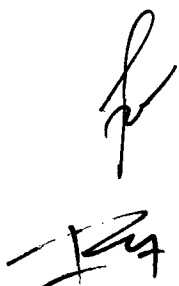
Section 2 - Declaration of Policy. It is declared the policy of the Provincial Government of La Union to protect and promote the right to health of the people. Toward this end, a system for the control and prevention of the spread and eventual eradication of human and animal rabies shall be provided and the need for responsible pet ownership established.

Section 3 - Definition of Terms. As used in this ordinance, the following words and phrases shall be construed as follows:

- a. Bitten – refers to an act by which a dog seizes, cuts or grips with its teeth so that the skin of a person has been wounded, pierced or scratched.
- b. Dog – refers to a common quadruped domestic animal belonging to the order carnivore (male or female), scientifically known as canis familiaris.
- c. Impound – refers to seize and hold in the custody of law.
- d. Owner – refers to any person keeping, harboring or having charge, care or control of a dog including his/her representative.
- e. Pound – refers to a public enclosure for stray animals.
- f. Public Place – refers to any place open to the public like parks, malls, market, streets, etc.
- g. Rabies – refers to a highly fatal disease caused by a lyssa virus, transmitted mainly through the bite of an infected animal and is characterized by muscle paralysis, hydrophobia and aerophobia, and other neurological manifestations.
- h. Rabies Vaccination/Immunoprophylaxis of Human - refers to the inoculation of humans, with modern day rabies vaccines or rabies immunoglobulin, by a trained doctor or nurse under the supervision of a qualified medical practitioner.
- i. Rabies Vaccination of Dog – refers to the inoculation of a dog with a rabies vaccine by a licensed government or private veterinarian or trained individual under the direct supervision of a licensed veterinarian. The services of the said trained individual shall be limited only to rabies vaccination injection in dogs and only during government mass vaccination campaigns.
- j. Stray Dog- refers to any dog leaving its owner's place or premise and no longer under the effective control of the owner.

Section 4 – Local Rabies Prevention and Control Program. It is hereby mandated that there shall be a Local Rabies Prevention and Control Program to be implemented by the Office of the Provincial Veterinarian, City/Municipal Veterinarian. The Program shall be a multi-sectoral effort in controlling and eliminating rabies in the Province. Among its component activities include:

1. Mass Vaccination of Dogs;
2. Establishment of a central database system for registered and vaccinated dogs;
3. Impounding, field control and disposition of unregistered , stray and unvaccinated dogs;
4. Conduct of information and education campaign on the prevention and control of rabies;



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5. Provision on pre-exposure treatment to high risk personnel and post-exposure treatment to animal bite victims;
6. Encouragement of the practice of responsible pet ownership.

Section 5 – Responsibilities of Pet Owners. All Pet Owners shall be required to:

1. Have their dog regularly vaccinated against rabies and maintain a registration card which shall contain all vaccinations conducted on their dog, for accurate record purposes.
2. Submit their dogs for mandatory registration.
3. Maintain control over their dog and not allow it to roam the street or any public place without a leash.
4. Be a responsible owner by providing their dog with proper grooming, adequate food and clean shelter.
5. Within 24 hours, report immediately any dog biting incident to the concerned officials for investigation or for any appropriate action and place such dog under observation.
6. Assist the dog bite victim immediately and shoulder the medical expenses incurred and other incidental expenses relative to the victim's injuries.

Section 6 – Responsibilities of Concerned National and Local Government Agencies, Offices and Departments.

A. Provincial/City/Municipal Veterinarian/Agriculture's Office.

1. This office shall be in charged for the conduct of mass vaccination, spaying, and castration of dogs in all barangays of its municipality.
2. Undertake free anti-rabies vaccination of dogs to areas with high incidence of rabies.
3. Strengthen the training of field personnel and the Information Education and Communication (IEC) activities on rabies prevention and control and responsible pet ownership.
4. Conduct research on rabies and its control in coordination with other agencies.

B. Provincial/City/Municipal Health Office.

1. Ensure the availability and adequate supply of Department of Health's prequalified human anti-rabies vaccine.
2. Provide post-exposure treatment at the minimum expense to individual bitten by animals suspected of being rabid which will consist of the initial vaccine and immunoglobulin dose.
3. Provide pre-exposure treatment to high risk personnel, such as but not limited to animal pound keepers, vaccinators, and persons tasked to conduct dog impounding and field control activities.
4. Coordinate with the City/Municipal Agriculture's Office in the development of appropriate health education strategy to inform the public on rabies prevention and control and responsible pet ownership.
5. Develop and maintain a human rabies surveillance system.

C. Department of Education, La Union Division.

1. Strengthen rabies education program through school health teaching curriculum.
2. Assist in the dog mass immunization campaigns in the community.
3. Integrate proper information and education on responsible pet ownership in the relevant subjects in the elementary and secondary levels.

D. Office of the City/Municipal Mayor.

1. Ensure that all dogs are properly immunized, registered and issued a corresponding dog tag for every immunized and registered dog.
2. Strictly enforce dog impounding activities and field control to eliminate stray dogs.
3. Ensure that dogs are leashed or confined within the premises of the owner's house or owner's fenced surroundings.

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4. Ensure the enforcement of Sections 6 of Republic Act No 8485 or the Animal Welfare Act of 1998.
5. Prohibit the trade of dog for meat.
6. Establish and maintain a dog pound where impounded dogs shall be kept.

Section 7 – Assistance of NGO’s and the Barangays. The agencies tasked to implement the anti-rabies program shall seek the assistance and participation of the NGO’s and the Barangays in any of the following activities:

1. Community Mobilization.
2. Health Education/Information Dissemination on rabies and responsible pet ownership.
3. Mass Anti-Rabies Campaign.
4. Promotion of the anti-rabies campaign during pet or any animal shows.
5. Surveillance/Reporting of rabies cases in animals and humans.
6. Any other activities geared towards the prevention and complete eradication of rabies.

Section 8 – Impounding, Field Control and Disposition of Unregistered, Stray and Unvaccinated Dogs. Unregistered, stray or unvaccinated dogs shall be put to a dog pounds and disposed of, taking into consideration of the following guidelines:

1. Unregistered, stray or unvaccinated dogs/pet shall be impounded and kept in the LGU’s designated dog pound. Owners of dog/pet are given until three (3) days to recover their dog/pet and such recovery shall entail financial obligations to defray the cost of feeding of animal. The rate of fees shall be prescribed by the Office of the Mayor. Failure on the part of the pet owner to recover their pet within the prescribed period shall mean that they had waived their right to the dog/pet.
2. Impounded healthy dog not claimed after three (3) days from the dog pound shall be placed for adoption to qualified persons, with the assistance of an animal welfare NGO, when feasible, or otherwise disposed of in any manner authorized, subject to the pertinent provisions of Republic Act No. 8485 otherwise known as the “Animal Welfare Act of 1998.”
3. It is expressly prohibited to kill a dog/pet which just bitten a person especially when such dog/pet is healthy and not manifesting/exhibiting unusual, abnormal or maddening tendencies.
4. The LGU shall not be liable for any false claims or misrepresentations in the recovery of dog/pet.
5. It is expressly prohibited to slaughter and eat dog meat in pursuance with the provisions of the Animal Welfare Act of 1998.

Section 9 – Dog Population Control. In the furtherance of the provision of the ordinance to eradicate rabies, there is a need to control the dog population and minimize the number of unwanted stray dogs. As such, it is hereby mandated:

1. That the City/Municipal Veterinarian/Agriculture’s Office and the City/Municipal Health Office with the assistance of NGOs and the barangays shall undertake an educational and promotional campaign on responsible pet ownership, including the option of spaying or neutering their dogs.
2. That the LGU in La Union shall provide an incentive system whereby owner of dog/pet which have been spayed or neutered will be given a subsidized or discounted pet registration fee.
3. That the dog which have been impounded three times shall only be released after having been spayed or neutered, at the expense of the pet owner.

Section 10 – Other Means of Treating Rabies. “Tandok”, a common folk treatment of rabies shall not be considered as a first aid treatment for rabies and not in any way take the place of the standard medical treatment. Tandok practitioners who falsely assured a rabies patient of the efficacy of tandok as a cure of rabies and administered the same and has resulted to serious or fatal consequences shall be recommended for prosecution by the City/Municipal Health Office to the proper authorities.

Section 11 – Penalties.

1. Pet owners who fail or refuse to have their dog registered and immunized against rabies shall be punished by a Fine of Two Thousand Pesos (P2,000.00).
2. Pet owners who refuse to have their dog put under observation after said dog has bitten an individual shall be meted a fine of Five Thousand Pesos (P5,000.00).
3. Pet owners who refuse to put leash on their dog when they are brought outside the house shall be meted a fine of Five Hundred Pesos (P500.0) for each incident.
4. Any person found guilty of trading dog meat shall be penalized of a fine not exceeding Five Thousand Pesos (P5,000.00) or imprisonment not exceeding six (6) months, or both in the discretion of the court.
5. An impounded dog shall be released to its owner upon payment of a fine of not less than Five Hundred Pesos (P500.00) but not more than One Thousand Pesos (P1,000.00).

Section 12 – Sharing of Proceeds of Fines (as Penalties). Sharing of proceeds of Fines shall be distributed as follows:

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|--------------------------------|-------|
| a. Province share | - 30% |
| b. Component City/Municipality | - 30% |
| c. Barangay | - 40% |

Section 13 – Implementing Rules and Regulations. The Office of the Provincial Governor shall issue the necessary rules and regulations for the efficient and effective implementation of any and all provisions of this Ordinance within sixty (60) days from the effectivity of this ordinance.

Section 14. Appropriations. The Provincial Government of La Union shall appropriate an initial amount of P100,000.00 from any available existing appropriations necessary to implement the provisions of this ordinance. Any amount therefore, necessary to carry out the implementation of this ordinance shall be appropriated as the need of it arises.


Section 15. Repealing Clause. All ordinances and administrative regulations or part or parts thereof which are inconsistent with any provisions of this ordinance are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

Section 16. Separability Clause. If, for any reasons, any provisions, or parts hereof shall be held to be unconstitutional or invalid, other parts or provisions hereof which are not affected thereby shall continue to be in full force and effect.


Section 17. Effectivity. This ordinance shall take effect after posting and publication as provided by law.

APPROVED.

I HEREBY CERTIFY to the correctness of the foregoing resolution.


DONATO A. RIMANDO
 Secretary to the Sanggunian

ATTESTED:


AUREO AUGUSTO Q. NISCE
 Presiding Officer
 Vice-Governor



FRANCISCO "KIT" C. ORTEGA, JR.
Sangguniang Panlalawigan Member



ROBERT B. MADARANG, JR.
Sangguniang Panlalawigan Member



JONATHAN JUSTO A. ORROS
Sangguniang Panlalawigan Member



CHRISTIAN I. RIVERA
Sangguniang Panlalawigan Member



JOAQUIN C. OSTREA, JR.
Sangguniang Panlalawigan Member



RUPERTO A. RILLERA, JR.
Sangguniang Panlalawigan Member



VICTORIA L. ARAGON
Sangguniang Panlalawigan Member

BELLARMIN A. FLORES II
Sangguniang Panlalawigan Member



MANUEL "MANNY" R. ORTEGA, JR.
Sangguniang Panlalawigan Member

APPROVED:



MANUEL C. ORTEGA
Governor

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