

Republic of the Philippines
PROVINCE OF LA UNION

TANGGAPAN NG SANGGUNIANG PANLALAWIGAN

EXCERPT FROM THE JOURNAL OF THE 128th REGULAR SESSION OF THE 19th SANGGUNIANG
PANLALAWIGAN OF LA UNION HELD AT THE CITY OF SAN FERNANDO,
PROVINCE OF LA UNION ON DECEMBER 06, 2012

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

PRESENT:

Hon. Francisco "Kit" C. Ortega, Jr.	Member
Hon. Jose Maria "Pepe" C. Ortega	Member
Hon. Joaquin C. Ostrea, Jr.	Member
Hon. Reynaldo M. Mosuela	Member
Hon. Victoria L. Aragon	Member
Hon. Henry B. Balbin	Member
Hon. Robert B. Madarang, Jr.	Member
Hon. Ruperto A. Rillera, Jr.	Member
Hon. Alfredo Pablo R. Ortega	Member
Hon. Manuel "Mannix" R. Ortega, Jr.	Member

ABSENT:

Hon. Rolando V. Rivera	Member (OB)
Hon. Kenneth Paolo C. Tereng	Member (OB)

ORDINANCE NO. 036-2012

**CREATING THE LA UNION HUMAN IMMUNODEFICIENCY VIRUS/ ACQUIRED
IMMUNE DEFICIENCY SYNDROME (HIV/AIDS) COUNCIL**

*Authors: Hon. Jose Maria "Pepe" C. Ortega
Hon. Francisco "Kit" C. Ortega, Jr.
Hon. Joaquin C. Ostrea, Jr.
Hon. Reynaldo M. Mosuela
Hon. Victoria L. Aragon*

EXPLANATORY NOTE

According to the Department of Health, *Human Immunodeficiency Virus* (HIV) cases in the Philippines have surged by as much as 90% between November 2010 and November 2011. Majority of inflicted individuals acquired the virus through sexual contact (MSM/Men having Sex with Men) and sharing of needles. Mother-to-child transmission rates remain to be negligible (Tubeza 2012).

The Joint United Nations Program on HIV/AIDS or UNAIDS has noted that while elsewhere HIV/AIDS growth rates have declined, the Philippines and Bangladesh have posted at least 25% increase from 2001 to 2009 (UNAIDS 2011). This is why, UNAIDS Manila Head Teresita Marie Bagasao pressed the government for immediate and decisive actions to address the further spread of the disease, blaming severe under funding for the unabated growth.

The number of new HIV/AIDS cases in the country is nearing the 8,000 mark as 200 new cases were recorded in October, 2011. The Philippine HIV/AIDS registry showed that from January 1984 to October 2011, a total of 7,884 cases have been recorded; 937 of them had progressed into AIDS, while 339 had died. In October, 2011, the number of cases recorded was 92 percent higher than 104 cases in October 2010. Public health records showed that 97 percent of the cases were males. The median age was 27 years but ranged from 15 to 65. The 20 to 29 age group had the most number of cases. Fifty four percent of the new cases were from the National Capital Region. The males having sex with males sector (MSM) is still the leading contributor of new cases, accounting for 85 percent of the new cases. Seventeen injecting drug users (IDU) contracted the virus by sharing contaminated needles. Of the 200 new cases, only one case, that of a 27-year-old male, had progressed to AIDS. He was infected through bisexual contact.

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Although the proportion of individuals diagnosed with HIV/AIDS (7,884) is relatively small compared to the total population of the country (94 million), the fact remains that Philippines is among the few countries whose HIV rates have steadily gone up in the last two decades (Macaraig 2011).

Concern of this alarming increase of HIV/AIDS in the country and of 9 (AIDS) and 51 Asymptomatic(Asymptomatic- literally means without symptoms) persons reported by DOH, ROI to have afflicted by these diseases in the Province of La Union from 1984 to present, the Provincial Government of La Union deems that there is an urgent need for the creation of a Council to deal with HIV/AIDS because its prevention and control is a shared responsibility of the national and local government thus, sincere commitment, compassion and support to those who are infected or affected with HIV/AIDS must be pursued vigorously and concrete actions must be seen happening at the local level through effective policies and programs which are in partnership with the various sectors of the society as a means to combat the proliferation of these dreaded diseases.

In order to face this shared responsibility, it is imperative for the Provincial Government of La Union to strengthen its partnership with the Department of Health (DOH), Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD), Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG), the various LGU's and sectors of society in order to address the ill-effect of HIV/AIDS.

The Provincial Government of La Union recognizes the role of every stakeholder in their desire to deliver concrete actions that are rights-based and multi-sectoral which recognized their involvement and active participation in all stages of the response including people living with HIV/AIDS and an engagement process that will reduce stigma at the institutional and community levels as a responsive mechanism.

JOSE MARIA "PEPE" C. ORTEGA
Board Member

Be it enacted by the Sangguniang Panlalawigan of La Union in session duly assembled that:

Section 1. Title. This ordinance shall be known and cited as the "La Union Human Immunodeficiency Virus/ Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (HIV/AIDS) Council or La Union HIV/AIDS Council" for short.

Section 2. Declaration of Policy. It is hereby the declared policy of the Provincial Government of La Union to extend full support to the program of the National Government in controlling and preventing the spread of (HIV/AIDS) diseases through the creation of the La Union HIV/AIDS Council which is formed to strengthen its partnership with the Department of Health (DOH), Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD), Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG), the various LGU's and sectors of society in order to address the ill-effect of HIV/AIDS.

Section 3. Definition of terms. The following terms, as used in this Ordinance, shall be defined and understood, to wit-

1. **Human Immunodeficiency Virus or HIV** - is a virus that is transmitted from person to person through the exchange of body fluids such as blood, semen, breast milk and vaginal secretions.
2. **Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome or AIDS** - is a condition that describes an advanced state of HIV infection. With AIDS, the virus has progressed, causing significant loss of white blood cells (CD4 cells) or any of the cancers or infections that result from immune system damage. Those illnesses and infections are said to be "AIDS-defining" because they mark the onset of AIDS. Like HIV, there is no known cure for AIDS.

Section 4. Composition. The La Union HIV/AIDS Council shall be composed of the following:

Chairman	Provincial Governor
Vice-Chairman	Chairman, Committee on Health and Sanitation Of the Office of the Sangguniang Panlalawigan
Over-all Coordinator	Provincial Health Officer

Members

- Chiefs- of -Hospitals
- Chairman, Committee on Education of the Office of the Sangguniang Panlalawigan
- Provincial Social Welfare and Development Officer
- President, Liga Ng Mga Barangay
- SK Federation President
- DILG Provincial Director
- PNP Provincial Director
- NGO Representative from Entertainment Establishments
- GAD Provincial Focal Point Officer

Section 5. Functions. The Council shall:

1. Be the central planning and policy-making body for the comprehensive delivery of the integrated HIV/AIDS Prevention and Control Program in the Province of La Union;
2. Be responsible in the promotion of public awareness about the causes, modes of transmission, consequences, means of prevention and control of HIV/AIDS through a comprehensive province-wide education and information campaign;
3. Conduct educational and information campaign promoting value formation and focusing on the family as a basic social institution which shall be carried out in all communities, workplaces, school and training centers;
4. Seek to eradicate conditions that aggravate the spread of HIV infection, including but not limited to poverty gender inequality, prostitution, drug abuse and ignorance;
5. Secure from government agencies, private institution and non-government organizations support necessary for the effective implementation of the HIV/AIDS prevention and control program in the Province; and,
6. Design a mechanism to monitor proper implementation, program and projects in relation to the drive against HIV/AIDS

Section 6. Operational Coordination. The Provincial Health Office shall coordinate all the activities of the council and provide logistical support and secretariat services to the same.

Section 7. Internal Rules. The council shall formulate its internal rules, set its regular and special meetings, timetable structure and other guidelines, rules and procedures.


Section 8. Separability Clause. If, for any reason, any section or provision of this ordinance is declared unconstitutional, or inconsistent with any national law, other sections or provisions thereof, which are not affected thereby, shall continue to be in full force and effect

Section 9. Repealing Clause. All ordinances, resolutions, rules and regulations, or parts thereof, in conflict with, or inconsistent with any provisions of this Ordinance are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.


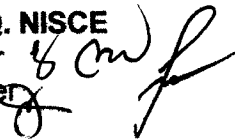
Section 10. Effectivity. This Ordinance shall take effect in accordance with the provisions of the Local Government Code of 1991.

APPROVED.

I HEREBY CERTIFY to the correctness of the foregoing ordinance.


CARIDAD J. VILUAN
 Secretary to the Sanggunian

ATTESTED:


AUREO AUGUSTO Q. NISCE
 Vice-Governor
 Presiding Officer 

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


HENRY B. BALBIN
Sangguniang Panlalawigan Member


JOSE MARIA "PEPE" C. ORTEGA
Sangguniang Panlalawigan Member



ROBERT B. MADARANG, JR.
Sangguniang Panlalawigan Member


JOAQUIN C. OSTREA, JR.
Sangguniang Panlalawigan Member


RUPERTO A. RILLERA, JR.
Sangguniang Panlalawigan Member


REYNALDO M. MOSUELA
Sangguniang Panlalawigan Member


ALFREDO PABLO R. ORTEGA
Sangguniang Panlalawigan Member


VICTORIA L. ARAGON
Sangguniang Panlalawigan Member


MANUEL "MANNIX" B. ORTEGA, JR.
Sangguniang Panlalawigan Member

APPROVED:


MANUEL C. ORTEGA
Governor