

Republic of the Philippines  
**OFFICE OF THE SANGGUNIANG PANLUNGSOD**  
CITY OF ZAMBOANGA

ORDINANCE NO. 241

AN ORDINANCE ON RABIES CONTROL AND ERADICATION IN  
ZAMBOANGA CITY

---

Sponsor: Hon. MILABEL E. VELASQUEZ  
Co-Sponsors: Hon. CESAR M. JIMENEZ  
Hon. MANUEL JOSE M. DALIPE, JR.  
Hon. EDMUNDO S. RODRIGUEZ  
Hon. MARIA ISABELLE G. CLIMACO

---

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Rabies can be controlled, if not eradicated, by implementing a concerted and comprehensive rabies control program, such as the mandatory anti-rabies vaccination of dogs, cats and monkeys being the common source of rabies infection.

Rabies can be eliminated by employing a concerted and coordinated approach in the control of rabies in animal and human.

It has been observed that there are a number of stray animals roaming the streets and public places in the City of Zamboanga.

Some, if not all, of these stray animals are carriers of diseases or have been inflicted with viral disease fatal to man, such as "Rabies."

It is the primordial task of the City Government of Zamboanga to protect the welfare and interest of its constituents pursuant to the provisions of Republic Act No. 7160, otherwise known as the Local Government Code of 1991.

Be it ordained by the Sangguniang Panlungsod of Zamboanga City, that:

ARTICLE I – TITLE AND PURPOSE

SECTION 1. This Ordinance shall be known as "The Rabies Control and Eradication Ordinance of the City of Zamboanga."

SECTION 2. This Ordinance is hereby promulgated for the effective control and eradication of rabies in the City of Zamboanga.

ARTICLE II – DEFINITION OF TERMS

1. Vaccination against rabies- means the inoculation of all susceptible animals with rabies vaccine licensed by the Bureau of Animal Industry, Department of Agriculture. Such vaccination must be performed or supervised by a licensed veterinarian.

2. Susceptible animals – refer to all warm-blooded animals that can be infected with the viral disease rabies.
3. Mandatory – means the compulsory vaccination of all dogs and cats for all owners to comply.
4. Monkey – this term is commonly applied to a large number of primate, excluding only the tree shrews, the lemurlike forms, the apes and humans.
5. Owner – means any person keeping, harboring, or having charge or control of, or permitting any susceptible animal to habitually be or remain on, or be lodged or fed within such person's house, yard or premises.
6. Has been bitten – means has been seized with the teeth so that skin of the person has been wounded or pierced, including scratches.
7. Enclosed premises – means the owner's house, or fenced yard, where other people have no reason to enter except to conduct business with the members of the household.
8. Restrained – means tethered, leashed or caged.

### ARTICLE III – CITY RABIES CONTROL AND ERADICATION COORDINATING COUNCIL

SECTION 3. A City Rabies Control And Eradication Coordinating Council (CRCCC) shall be formed and shall possess the main authority to coordinate in the implementation of this Ordinance and other rabies control-related activities as it may deemed necessary.

SECTION 4. The Office of the City Veterinarian shall be responsible in the execution of the rabies control and eradication program of the City Government of Zamboanga and shall act as the Secretariat of the City Rabies Control and Eradication Coordinating Council.

SECTION 5. The Council shall be composed of the following, subject to additional membership as the need arises:

1. Chairman: City Mayor
2. Executive Officer: City Veterinarian
3. Members:
  - a) City Health Officer
  - b) City Schools Division Superintendent
  - c) DILG representative
  - d) SP Committee on Health and Sanitation representative
  - e) President, Liga ng mga Barangay
  - f) Philippine Veterinary Medical Association, as the NGO representative
  - g) Department of Agriculture representative
  - h) Department of Health representative

- i) The Chief of the Zamboanga City Medical Center or representative
- j) Zamboanga City Police Office representative
- k) Media representative

SECTION 6. A Barangay Rabies Control and Eradication Committee shall be formed to coordinate with the City Rabies Control and Eradication Coordinating Council (CRCCC) in carrying out effectively the implementation of the Rabies Control and Eradication Program in the barangay level. It shall be composed of the following:

- 1. Chairman: Punong Barangay
- 2. Members: Chairman, Committee on Health  
Chairman, Committee on Agriculture  
Barangay Health Volunteers and Workers  
School Principals  
Head, Sub-Health Centers

#### ARTICLE IV – RABIES CONTROL PROGRAM

SECTION 7. Vaccination against rabies of every healthy dog, cat and monkey, reaching three (3) months of age and older shall be mandatory.

SECTION 8. Animals vaccinated before three (3) months old shall be revaccinated at four months old.

SECTION 9. All vaccinated dogs, cats and monkeys and all other susceptible animals shall receive a booster dose or be revaccinated every year thereafter.

SECTION 10. Since it is not economically feasible nor justifiable from public health standpoint to vaccinate all livestock against rabies, only valuable animals like race horses, breeders and dairy cattle may be immunized at the expense of the owners.

SECTION 11. Since there is no recommended rabies vaccine preparation for wildlife including those exhibited in zoological parks, only a pre-exposure rabies immunization of animal handlers at such facilities, are recommended.

SECTION 12. Raising of wildlife as pets in homes, offices, schools and institutions shall not be encouraged.

SECTION 13. Former wildlife which has graduated into pets such as rabbits may be vaccinated against rabies at the expense of owners.

SECTION 14. Information and education campaign. This includes seminars, radio broadcasts, newspaper announcement and articles and other forms of advertisements to be used to advance public consciousness on responsible pet ownership and rabies control.

SECTION 15. Multi-Sectoral Collaboration. Crucial participation of government and non-government organizations, civic groups, animal welfare and rights groups, shall be encouraged for a successful drive.

SECTION 16. It shall be the duty of each licensed veterinarian, when vaccinating any dog, cat, monkey and other susceptible animals, to complete a certificate of rabies vaccination (in duplicate) for each animal vaccinated.

SECTION 17. The certificate shall include the following information:

1. Owner's name, address and telephone number
2. Description of the animal vaccinated  
( species, breed, sex, color, age, and name)
3. Dates of vaccination and vaccination expiration
4. Vaccine producer
5. Manufacture's serial number of vaccine
6. Veterinarian's signature

SECTION 18. The owner will be provided with a copy of the vaccination certificate. The veterinarian will retain one copy of the certificate for the duration of at least one (1) year from the date of vaccination.

SECTION 19. The cost of rabies vaccination shall be borne by the owner of dog, cat and monkey and other susceptible animals, unless there are mass animal rabies vaccinations subsidized by the city government.

#### ARTICLE V – ANNUAL ANIMAL REGISTRATION OR LICENSING

SECTION 20. Registration of dogs, cats and monkeys shall be mandatory and shall be made every year thereafter.

SECTION 21. A registration fee of One Hundred Pesos (P100.00) shall be charged for each dog, cat and monkey registered for the purpose, the same to be paid to the Office of the City Treasurer through the barangay treasurer. Twenty-five (P25.00) pesos of which shall form part of the barangay fund for the registration and animal collar tag purposes and seventy-five (P75.00) pesos to be remitted to the City Treasurer, the same to constitute as a special fund to implement this Ordinance. Thereafter, the fee of seventy-five (P75.00) pesos shall be collected every year to be paid to the Office of the City Treasurer.

SECTION 22. Every vaccinated dog, cat and monkey shall be registered by their owner with their respective Barangay Treasurer. Upon presentation of a vaccination certificate duly prepared and signed by a licensed veterinarian, the registration officer shall provide the owner with a Certificate of Registration and animal collar tag as proof of registration.

SECTION 23. All registered dogs, cats and monkeys shall be kept by their owner with proper restraint when moving from one place to another or shall be confined within the premises of the animal owners.

SECTION 24. Unregistered dog, cat and monkey over the age of three (3) months shall be surrendered by the owners.

SECTION 25. Any dog, cat and monkey found roaming in public places, such as thoroughfares, plazas, schools, markets, churches, hospitals and other government premises having no restraint and/or leash and unaccompanied by their rightful owners shall be seized and impounded.

SECTION 26. All surrendered, seized and impounded dogs, cats and monkeys shall be disposed in the following manner:

- a. May be given away to deserving citizen for adoption after being vaccinated and registered, the cost of registration of which shall be borne by the adopting party.
- b. Humanely destroyed under the supervision of the City Veterinarian or his duly authorized representative and the carcasses be buried or burned.

SECTION 27. Police personnel of the Zamboanga City Police Office, in coordination with the City Veterinarian or his duly authorized representative, shall be authorized to destroy stray dogs, cats and monkeys and other susceptible animals exhibiting signs of rabies and other infectious animal diseases.

SECTION 28. The City Veterinarian or his duly authorized representative and/or a police officer may enter any land for the purpose of seizing or destroying an animal which is liable to be seized under this article or any animal exhibiting infectious and contagious disease.

SECTION 29. Elimination shall be based on the presence or absence of an animal tag and/or a registration or vaccination certificate.

#### ARTICLE VI – REPORTING OF BITING INCIDENTS

SECTION 30. The owner of an animal which has bitten any person or the person who has been bitten shall immediately report the incident to the City Rabies Control and Eradication Coordinating Council, through a veterinary health worker, public health care worker or to a police officer or the Barangay Rabies Control and Eradication Committee.

SECTION 31. A veterinary health worker, public health care worker, police officer or the Barangay Rabies Control and Eradication Committee receiving such information shall immediately report the incident to the City Rabies Control and Eradication Coordinating Council.



## ARTICLE VII – POST EXPOSURE MANAGEMENT IN ANIMALS

SECTION 32. Any domestic animal that is bitten or scratched by a stray dog or cat which is not available for testing or observation shall be regarded as having been exposed to a rabid animal.

SECTION 33. When bitten by a rabid animal, unvaccinated dogs and cats shall be destroyed without delay provided the animals have not bitten any human.

SECTION 34. Livestocks known to have been exposed to rabies within eight (8) months shall not be allowed to be slaughtered.

## ARTICLE VIII – MANAGEMENT OF ANIMALS THAT BITE HUMANS

SECTION 35. A dog, cat or monkey that has bitten a person shall be confined at the City Pound and observed for fourteen (14) days and evaluated by a licensed veterinarian for signs of rabies during confinement and before release.

SECTION 36. Any illness in the animal shall be reported immediately to the attending licensed physician.

SECTION 37. If signs suggestive of rabies developed, the animal shall be humanely killed and the head carefully removed for laboratory examination and the body disposed of properly.

SECTION 38. Any person bitten by any animal shall immediately report the incident to a licensed physician who shall evaluate the case and institute proper medical procedure.

SECTION 39. Any dog, cat or monkey that has bitten a person and is unavailable for observation and/or testing because it has escaped or died, shall be regarded as a rabies suspect.

SECTION 40. In cases related to rabies, the physician and veterinarian shall always have close coordination for proper decisions.

## ARTICLE IX – LIABILITY OF OWNERS OF BITING ANIMALS

SECTION 41. Whenever a stray animal bites any person, the owner thereof shall be liable for all the treatment and dog examination related expenses incurred by the bite victim.

SECTION 42. Unless the bite was inflicted by a restrained and registered animal, or had occurred within the owner's enclosed premises with the animals duly registered, in which case, arrangements shall be made between the owner and the bite victim.

## ARTICLE X – APPROPRIATIONS

SECTION 43. The sum of Four Million Two Hundred Thousand (P4,200,000.00) Pesos is hereby appropriated out of the revenues of the City Government as an initial outlay for the implementation of this Ordinance. Thereafter, the funds to be used for the purpose of this Ordinance shall come from the subsequent appropriation in the annual budget of Zamboanga City and from fees and fines collected hereinafter.

SECTION 44. Donations. In order to carry out effectively the aims and objectives of this program, the city, through the City Rabies Control and Eradication Coordinating Council, may accept donation in cash as well as in kind, from foreign international organizations or body as well as from Filipino Citizens residing abroad or in the Philippines, or from government and private entities within the Philippines.

## ARTICLE XI – PENALTIES FOR VIOLATION OF THE ORDINANCE

SECTION 45. Any animal owner who fails to abide by any of the provisions of this Ordinance shall be subjected to a fine of not less than Five Hundred (P 500.00) Pesos, nor more than Two Thousand Five Hundred (P2,500.00) Pesos, or imprisonment of not less than one (1) month and not more than six (6) months, or both such fine and imprisonment to be imposed at the discretion of the competent court.

## ARTICLE XII – ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISION

SECTION 46. It shall be the responsibility of the Office of the City Veterinarian to administer the animal rabies control and eradication program of the city, pursuant to the provision of this Ordinance. For this purpose, the City Government shall provide said officer with an adequate number of personnel and the necessary means and/or equipment to carry out this work successfully.

SECTION 47. The City Health Officer shall be responsible to monitor all human victims of dog bites and rabies cases.

SECTION 48. The City Veterinarian and the City Health Officer shall submit incident report, on a case to case basis, to the City Rabies Control and Eradication Coordinating Council.

SECTION 49. The City Rabies Control and Eradication Coordinating Council is hereby authorized to supervise the implementation of this Ordinance and to promulgate the necessary rules and regulations for its implementation.

#### ARTICLE XIII – SEPARABILITY CLAUSE

SECTION 50. If, for any reason or reasons, any part or provision of this Ordinance 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.

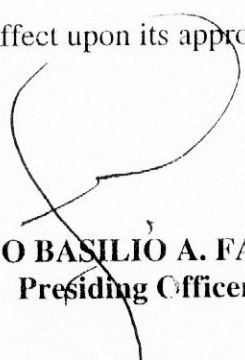
#### ARTICLE XIV– REPEALING CLAUSE

SECTION 51. All ordinances or provisions of ordinances which are inconsistent herewith are hereby deemed repealed or modified accordingly.

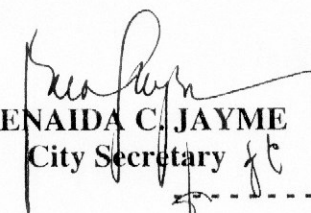
#### ARTICLE XV – EFFECTIVITY

SECTION 52. - This Ordinance shall take effect upon its approval.

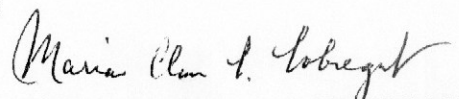
ENACTED: July 11, 2002

  
**ERICO BASILIO A. FABIAN**  
Presiding Officer

ATTESTED:

  
**ZENAIDA C. JAYME**  
City Secretary

APPROVED:

  
**MARIA CLARA L. LOBREGAT**  
City Mayor

JUL 11 2002