[QUEZON CITY ORDINANCE NO. SP-2294, S-2014, July 09, 2014]

19th City council 26th Regular Session

AN ORDINANCE PROHIBITING THE SCHOOL AUTHORITIES AND MEMBERS OF PARENT-TEACHER ASSOCIATION (PTA) IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS IN QUEZON CITY FROM REQUIRING THE PAYMENT OF ANY FEE OR VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTION PRIOR TO OR AS A CONDITION PRECEDENT FOR THE ENROLLMENT AND/OR GRADUATION OF STUDENTS.

Introduced by Councilor RANULFO Z. LUDOVICA.

Co-Introduced by Councilors Julienne Alyson Rae V. Medalla, Precious Hipolito Castelo, Voltaire Godofredo L. Liban III, Roderick M. Paulate, Ramon P. Medalla, Estrella C. Valmocina, Anthony Peter P. Crisologo, Ricardo T. Betmonte, Jr., Dorothy A. Delarmente, Lena Marie P. Juico, Victor V. Ferrer, Jr, Alexis R. Herrera, Allan Benedict S. Reyes, Gian Carlo G. Sotto, Franz S. Pumaren. Eufemio C. Lagumbay, Jose Mario Don S. De Leon, Jaime F. Borres, Jesus Manuel C. Suntay, Marvin C. Rillo, Vincent DG. Belmonte, Raquel S. Malañgen, Jessica Castelo Daza, Bayani V. Hipol, Jose A. Visaya, Godofredo T. Liban II, Andres Jose G. Yllana, Jr., Allan Butch T. Francisco, Karl Edgar C. Castelo, Candy A, Medina, Diorelta Maria G. Sotto, Rogelio "Roger" P. Juan, Melencio "Bobby" T. Castelo, Jr., Donato C. Matias and Ricardo B. Corpuz.

WHEREAS, under Section 17, Article II of the 1987 Philippine Constitution, it is the declared policy of the State to give priority to education, x-x-x to foster patriotism and nationalism, accelerate social progress, and promote total human liberation and development;

WHEREAS, Section 1, Article XIV of the same Constitution likewise provides that the State shall protect and promote the right of the citizens to quality education at alt levels, and shall take appropriate steps to make such education accessible to all;

WHEREAS, Paragraph (2), Section 2, Article XIV of the same Constitution clearly mandates that the State shall establish and maintain a system of free public education in the elementary and high school levels, x-x-x";

WHEREAS, despite the aforesaid Constitutional provisions making education accessible to all and establishing the system of free public education in the

elementary and high school levels, the parents, particularly those belonging to the poor families, are still hesitant and afraid to send their children to school for fear that they might incur exorbitant expenses because there are school authorities and members of Parent-Teacher Association (PTA) in public school who are continually collecting fees or contributions in a mandatory manner and requiring the payment thereof as a condition precedent for the enrollment and/or graduation of students;

WHEREAS, there are contributions allowed by the Department of Education (DepEd) to be collected from parents or students such as the Boy/Girl Scouts membership, Anti-TB Fund Drive, PTCA. School Publication and Membership in Student Organizations, but the same must be on a voluntary basis and cannot be used as a condition precedent for the admission or graduation of students in a given school year;

WHEREAS, to thwart the said practices of some erring school authorities and PTA officers/members, the Department of Education issued DepEd Order No. 19, S-2008 mandating the implementation of "No Collection Policy" in all public elementary and secondary schools which was reiterated in subsequent DepEd Order No. 40, S-2008 and DepEd Order No. 40, S-2009;

WHEREAS, cognizant of the aforementioned DepEd Orders, some school authorities and PTA Officers/Members remain uncurbed in their practice of collecting the authorized contribution in compulsory manner, thereby creating the impression that even the public education is not truly for the poor, but for tha middle class and affluent families. Consequently, giving rise to the numerous complaints in the barangay government and other concerned offices;

WHEREAS, the school authorities, being the subordinates of the Department of Education, shall faithfully comply and cause the implementation of the latter's DepEd Orders;

WHEREAS, pursuant to DepEd Order No. 54, S-2009, the PTA, as an organization operating in the school, shall adhere to all existing policies and implementing guidelines issued or hereafter may be issued by the Department of Education and that includes the implementation of "No Collection Policy" in alt public elementary and secondary schools;

WHEREAS, these nefarious and illegal activities of some school authorities and PTA officers/members have resulted in the continued increase in the number of out-of-school youth vitally affecting public order and safety and contributing to the influx of street children in the metropolis;

WHEREAS, to make public education accessible to all and to wipe out all conceivable forms of graft and corruption in public schools, there is a need to penalize those persons who serve as an obstacle to the dreams and aspirations of persevering students and parents;

WHEREAS, under Section 458 (a)(1)(v) of Republic Act No. 7160, otherwise known as the Local Government Code of 1991, the City Council may approve ordinances and resolutions necessary for an efficient and effective city government and in this connection shall enact ordinances intended to prevent, suppress and impose appropriate penalties for x-x-x fraudulent devices and ways to obtain money or