



Republic of the Philippines
QUEZON CITY COUNCIL

Quezon City
23rd City Council

PO23CC-112

45th Regular Session

ORDINANCE NO. SP-**3534**, S-2026

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING QUEZON CITY ORDINANCE NO. SP-2541, S-2016 TO STRENGTHEN AND EXPAND THE MANDATE AND OPERATION OF THE QUEZON CITY SHELTER HOME FOR SENIOR CITIZENS (BAHAY ARUGA), AND ENHANCE STANDARDS OF GERIATRIC AND PSYCHOSOCIAL CARE, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREOF

Introduced by Councilor LUIGI D. PUMAREN

Co-Introduced by Councilors Tany Joe "TJ" L. Calalay, Bernard R. Herrera, Dorothy A. Delarmente, M.D., Joseph P. Juico, Charm Ferrer, CPA, MPA, JD, Nicole "Nikki" V. Crisologo, Mikey F. Belmonte, Candy A. Medina, Atty. Voltaire Godofredo "Bong" Liban III, Aly Medalla, Dave C. Valmocina, Atty. Christoffer Allan "Tope" Liquigan, Albert Alvin "Chuckie" L. Antonio III, Wencerom Benedict C. Lagumbay, Atty. Vicente Belmonte Jr., Edgar "Egay" G. Yap, Nanette Castelo Daza, Imee Rillo, Atty. Jesus Miguel Suntay, Raquel S. Malañgen, Joseph Joe Visaya, Alfred Vargas, MPA, Karl Edgar Castelo, Shaira "Shay" L. Liban, Ram V. Medalla, Maria Eleanor "Doc Ellie" R. Juan, O.D., Emmanuel Banjo A. Pilar, Kristine Alexia Matias, RN, Victor "Vic" D. Bernardo, Vito Sotto Generoso, Jose Maria "Mari" M. Rodriguez, and Jhon Angelli "Sami" C. Neri

WHEREAS, the 1987 Constitution of the Republic of the Philippines mandates the State to adopt an integrated and comprehensive approach to health development and social services;

WHEREAS, Republic Act No. 9994, otherwise known as the Expanded Senior Citizens Act of 2010, recognizes the role of the elderly in nation-building and mandates the State to implement programs that uphold their welfare and ensure their dignity;



WHEREAS, the establishment of a dedicated Senior Care Home is a fundamental social service aimed at providing holistic, rights-based, and compassionate residential care to poor, frail, and/or homeless senior citizens who have no family support or available caregivers;

WHEREAS, the Quezon City Council passed Ordinance No. SP-2541, S-2016, otherwise known as the Quezon City Senior Citizens' Shelter Home Ordinance of 2016, which establishes a shelter home for senior citizens in Quezon City that serves as a transition house and temporary shelter for senior citizens who may be found and/or reported as abandoned, neglected, vagrant, and/or homeless;

WHEREAS, in view thereof, the Quezon City Government established "Bahay Aruga" as Quezon City Senior Citizens' Shelter Home;

WHEREAS, Quezon City acknowledges the increasing incidence of indigence, abandonment, neglect, and abuse among its senior citizens;

WHEREAS, there is a need to strengthen and expand the mandate and operation of the Quezon City Shelter Home For Senior Citizens (Bahay Aruga).

NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF QUEZON CITY IN REGULAR SESSION ASSEMBLED:

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE. – This Ordinance shall be known as the "Bahay Aruga, the QC Senior Citizen Shelter Ordinance of Quezon City."

SECTION 2. DECLARATION OF POLICY. – It is the policy of Quezon City Government to uphold the dignity and ensure the total well-being of all senior citizens, especially those who are indigent, abandoned, or neglected and to provide a safe, comfortable, and therapeutic residential environment where the basic physical, social, psychological, and spiritual needs of the residents are met with compassion and professionalism.

SECTION 3. DEFINITION OF TERMS. – For the purposes of this Ordinance, the following terms shall be defined as follows:

- a. **Bahay Aruga/Senior Care Home:** A residential facility established and operated by the Quezon City Government to provide twenty-four (24)-hour compassionate care and supervision for frail, sick, indigent, abandoned, and/or neglected senior citizens;



- b. **Senior Citizen/Older Person:** Any resident of Quezon City who is sixty (60) years old or above; and
- c. **Indigent Senior Citizen:** A senior citizen who has no permanent source of income, compensation, or regular financial support from immediate family, and whose overall economic status falls below the poverty threshold set by the Department of Economy, Planning, and Development (DEPDev).

SECTION 4. BAHAY ARUGA. – The Quezon City Senior Home Care shall be called “Bahay Aruga.”

SECTION 5. ELIGIBILITY FOR ADMISSION. – The following shall be eligible for admission to the Bahay Aruga:

- a. Sixty (60) years old and above;
- b. Certified as an Indigent Senior Citizen by the Barangay; and
- c. The Barangay shall determine the condition of the Senior Citizen if he/she is homeless, abandoned, neglected, or a victim of abuse with no available and capable family member to provide care.

Bahay Aruga shall prioritize individuals requiring immediate protective custody and those with mild to moderate physical frailty.

SECTION 6. SERVICES. – In addition to the functions of the Shelter Home for Senior Citizens stated in Section 5 of Quezon City Ordinance No. SP-2541, S-2016, the Bahay Aruga shall provide, at no cost, the following services:

- a. Safe, clean, and comfortable lodging, including clothing and appropriate assistive devices;
- b. Three (3) nutritious and balanced meals daily, with snacks, tailored to the geriatric residents’ dietary needs;
- c. Medical check-up by a Resident Physician of Bahay Aruga;
- d. Provision of basic over-the-counter medicines;



- e. *Psychosocial and Therapeutic Services, if needed, which can include, individual and group counseling, emotional support, and activities such as Occupational and Recreational Therapy to promote mental wellness and maintain functional capacity; and*
- f. *Social and Spiritual Activities such as organized recreational events, celebration of birthdays and holidays, and regular spiritual activities based on the residents' faith.*

SECTION 7. DISCHARGE PROTOCOL. – *The Social Services Development Department and the Office for the Senior Citizens' Affairs shall develop a comprehensive, rights-based, and humane Admission and Discharge Protocol in compliance with Department of Social Welfare and Development standards. No Senior Citizen shall be arbitrarily discharged from the Senior Care Home without a clear and justifiable case conference and a safety plan for reintegration, therefore removing the two-week limit stay in Quezon City Ordinance No. SP-2541, S-2016.*

SECTION 8. ADMINISTRATION AND SUPERVISION. – *The Bahay Aruga shall be under the direct administrative control and supervision of the Social Services Development Department and the Office for the Senior Citizens' Affairs.*

SECTION 9. APPROPRIATIONS. – *Appropriations intended for the operation of the Bahay Aruga shall be subject to the available fund of the City.*

SECTION 10. PARTNERSHIPS AND SUPPORT SERVICES. – *The Bahay Aruga may collaborate with government agencies, non-governmental organizations, and private entities to provide comprehensive support services, including health care, legal assistance, vocational training, and spiritual programs.*

SECTION 11. IMPLEMENTING AGENCY. – *The Social Services Development Department and the Office of the Senior Citizens' Affairs shall be the primary implementing bodies.*

SECTION 12. SEPARABILITY CLAUSE. – *If any provision of this Ordinance is declared unconstitutional or invalid, the other provisions not affected thereby shall remain in full force and effect.*

SECTION 13. REPEALING CLAUSE. – *All ordinances, resolutions, rules and regulations or parts thereof inconsistent with the provisions of this Ordinance are hereby repealed, amended, or modified accordingly.*

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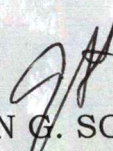


SECTION 14. EFFECTIVITY CLAUSE. – This Ordinance shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its complete publication in a newspaper of general circulation and its posting in at least three (3) conspicuous public places in Quezon City.

ENACTED: May 4, 2026.

CERTIFICATION

This is to certify that this Ordinance was ENACTED by the City Council on Second Reading on May 4, 2026 and was PASSED on Third/Final Reading on May 18, 2026.


GIAN G. SOTTO
City Vice Mayor
Presiding Officer

APPROVED: AUG 07 2026


MA. JOSEFINA G. BELMONTE
City Mayor

ATTESTED:


ATTY. JOHN THOMAS S. ALFEROS, III
City Government Department Head III
(Secretary to the Sanggunian)