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PREFATORY STATEMENT

WHEREAS, under Sec. 16 of the LGC in the General Welfare Clause, LGUs are mandated among other things, to promote health and safety within their respective jurisdiction;

WHEREAS, the Philippine AIDS Prevention and Control Act of 1998 (R.A. 8504) occlares that "Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS) is a disease that recognizes no territorial, social, political and economic boundaries for which there is no known cure";

WNEREAS, STI HIV/AIDS, as a threatening disease, is rapidly increasing and there is a need to address the situation at the local level;

WHEREAS, anybody is likely to be infected/affected by the possibility of STI-HIV/AIDS epidemic occurring in our city, and that any law addressing such must promote the environment that enables, encourages, and sustains voluntary behavioral change and the care and support of those affected. Thus empowerment of individuals and communities to protect themselves from STI-HIV/AIDS and People Living with AIDS remain integrated within society, and free from all forms of discrimination;

WHEREAS, the development of effective response to the possible occurrence of STI-HIV/AIDS epidemic also means active participation of people affected by it, as well as the building of partnerships amongst communities, government, the legal, health and other professions;

NOW THEREFORE, FOREGOING PREMISES CONSIDERED, on motion of City Councilor Rafael C. Omega, Jr., Chairman, Committee on Health, severally seconded by City Councilors Jose C. Alfaro, Jr., Ruben R. Capahi and Claudio P. Larrazabal; be it

RESOLVED, to enact:

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ORDINANCE NO. 142 Series of 2007

AN ORDINANCE CREATING THE ORMOC CITY STI-HIV/AIDS COUNCIL, ADOPTING POLICIES AND MEASURES FOR THE PREVENTION AND CONTROL OF STI-HIV/AIDS, AND PROVIDING PENALTIES FOR VIOLATIONS THEREOF AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

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

ARTICLE I TITLE OF THE ORDINANCE

SECTION I. Title. This Ordinance shall be known as the "Ormoc City STI-HIV/AIDS Ordinance of 2007".

ARTICLE II DECLARATION OF POLICY

SECTION I. Declaration of Policy. Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS) is a disease that recognizes no territorial, social, political and economic boundaries for which there is no known cure. The gravity of AIDS threat demands strong state action today, thus, the City Government of Ormoc shall actively promote public awareness on the causes, modes of transmission, consequences, means of prevention, control and treatment of Sexually Transmitted Infections (STI), Human Immunodeficiency Virus/Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (HIV/AIDS) through comprehensive intervention measures, city-wide educational and information campaign, organized by the local government down to barangay level.

The City of Ormoo shall consciously adhere to generally accepted principles of human rights and adopt gender perspectives in dealing with STI-HIV/AIDS even as it shall promote value orientation and employ scientifically-proven approaches. The information and education campaigns shall be carried out in all schools (secondary and tertiary), training centers, workplaces and communities.

ARTICLE III DEFINITION OF TERMS

SECTION I. Definition of Terms. As used in this Ordinance, the following terms are defined as follows:

- a) Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS) shall mean a condition characterized by a combination of signs and symptoms, caused by HIV contracted from another person and which attacks and weakens the body's immune system, making the afflicted individual susceptible to other life threatening infections and conditions.
- b) Accredited NGO or Institution is a non-government organization (NGO) or institution accredited by the City Government of Ormoc.
- c) Children refers to persons below 18 years of age or those over but are unable to fully take care of themselves or protect themselves from abuse, neglect, cruelty, exploitation or discrimination because of a physical or mental disability or condition.

- d) Contact Tracing refers to the method of finding and counseling the sexual partner(s) of a person who has been diagnosed as having sexually transmitted disease.
- e), Entertainment Establishments are business establishments which include bars, night clubs, beer houses, cocktail lounges, massage clinics, karaoke bars/sing-along pub houses and other similar establishments within Ormoc City.
- f) Entertainment Establishment's and other similar establishment policies - refer to the statement of provisions of work and health benefits for entertainers/employees.
- Ethics of Care embraces the universal values of liberty, g)justice and gender equity. This calls for health care providers' attitudes non-judgmental, that are nondiscriminating, non-homophobic, but norms that observe the use of non-sexist language, recognition of clients' voice as legitimate, capacity for empathy and belief on clients voice as legitimate, capacity for autonomy without coercion and intimidation.
- h) Health Certificate is a certification using the prescribed form issued by the City Health Department stating that the person is physically and mentally fit to work.
- i) Health Card a special health card issued to persons working in entertainment establishments which is certified by City Health Department weekly, stating that the individual has been examined and found fit to work.
- j) Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) refers to the virus which causes AIDS.
 - STI-HIV/AIDS Monitoring refers to the documentation and analysis of the number of STI-HIV/AIDS infections and pattern of its spread,
- STI-KIV/ALOS Prevention and Control refers to measures aimed at protecting non-infected persons from contracting STI-HIV and minimizing the impact of the condition of persons living with HIV.
 - Information Material shall mean any audio-visual, written and/or printed materials which educate the public.
- n) Medical Confidentiality refers to the relationship of trust and confidence created or existing between the patient or a person with STI-HIV/AIDS and his/her attending physician, consulting medical specialist, nurse, medical technologist and other health workers or personnel involved in any counseling, testing or professional care of the former. If also applies to any person who in his/her official capacity has acquired or may acquire such confidential information.
- Medical Practitioner licensed Doctor of Medicine engaged in health work in hospitals, clinics, sanitaria, health stations, barangay health centers and the like.
- p) Program Monitoring is the process of routine and periodic measurement and/or determination of program input/activities, outputs and the problems encountered during program implementation.

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- q) Operator refers to any natural or juridical persons who are granted a permit/license to operate an entertainment establishment.
- r) Peer Educator is a trained STI-HIV/AIDS educator who is capable of influencing and developing healthy behaviors among his/her peers within the establishment.
- s) Person with HIV refers to an individual whose HIV Antibody Test indicates that he/she is infected with HIV.
- t) Quality Healthcare Service refers to accessibility, affordability, and appropriateness and competence of the provider's knowledge on sexual and reproductive rights as prescribed by World Health Organization's (WHO) standard. A gender equity perspective in quality healthcare takes into account the differences in the likelihood of carrying out certain preventive, diagnostic, treatment and follow up procedure in men and women in the same condition of illness.
- u) Sexually Transmitted Infections (STIs) refer to any infection that may be acquired or passed through sexual contact.

ARTICLE IV EDUCATION AND INFORMATION

SECTION 1. Comprehensive STI-HIV/AIDS Education. Comprehensive STI-HIV/AIDS and Values Education strategies shall be designed by the department of health, integrated and adopted in various levels geared towards the purpose of providing substantial information/knowledge, improving attitudes and skills in the prevention and control of STI-HIV/AIDS, in both public and private sphere. Provided, that if the integration of HIV/AIDS education is not appropriate or feasible, the DECS and TESDA shall design special modules on HIV/AIDS prevention and control.

SECTION 2. Prevention and Control of HIV/AIDS. The following are ways of HIV/AIDS prevention recommended by the World Health Organization (WHO). Sexual abstinence, be faithful, careful sex, do not share contaminated needles and early diagnosis, treatment and education on HIV/AIDS. Sexual abstinence and mutual fidelity shall be emphasized as the most effective measures for STI-HIV/AIDS prevention.

SECTION 3. Media Campaign on STI-HIV/AIDS Prevention. The Ormoc City STI-HIV/AIDS council, in partnership with the Philippine Information Agency (PIA), the various media organizations, and the Ormoc City Public Information Office, shall prepare and implement a media and communications plan for a regular information dissemination campaign and advocacy.

SECTION 4. STI-HIV/AIDS Gender Sensitive IEC Materials and Education Modules. Information, Education and Communication (IEC) materials shall be designed appropriate to the needs and culture of groups being targeted in the campaign. Literatures on STI-HIV/AIDS shall utilize the local lingo to encourage and facilitate easy understanding in terms and concepts. <u>Modules on SII-HIV/AIDS prevention and control shall not in any way be used as an excuse to propagate birth control or sale or distribution of birth control devices</u>. Proper consultations shall be held among heads, leaders and representatives of respective groups, organizations, institutions and individuals who are targets for application of any course content, scope and methodology.

SECTION 5. STI-HIV/AIDS Information as a Health Service. STI-HIV/AIDS education and information dissemination shall form part of the delivery of health services. The knowledge and capabilities of a11 health care providers shall be enhanced to include skills for proper information dissemination and education on STI-HIV/AIDS. It shall likewise be considered a civic duty of health care providers in the private sector to make available to the public such information necessary to control the spread of STI-HIV/AIDS and correct common misconceptions on STI-HIV/AIDS related ethical issues such 25 confidentiality, informed consent and the duty to provide treatment.

The Department of Education, Commission on Higher Education (CHED) and Technical Education Skills Development Authority (TESDA) shall take the lead in information dissemination and awareness creation on the nature of STI-HIV/AIDS and its prevention, utilizing standardized information provided by the Department of Health in all schools, colleges and universities and other indigenous learning systems including non-formal system of education.

All teachers and instructors should undergo STI-HIV/AIDS seminar or training on prevention and control and shall be supervised by the Department of Education, Commission on Higher Education (CHED), Technical Education Skills Development Authority (TESDA) or any accredited institution/organization, in coordination with the Department of Health, before they are allowed to teach on the subject.

SECTION 6. STI-HIV/AIDS Education in the Workplace. All employed or seeking employment in the government within Ormoc City, regardless of their appointment status, shall be required to undergo basic orientation on STI-HIV/AIDS to be conducted by the City Health Department in coordination with the Human Resource Management Office of the City of Ormoc.

The City Health Department shall provide the managers, supervisors and employees in private workplaces with the standardized basic information and instruction on STI-HIV/AIDS that shall include topics on confidentiality in the workplace and attitude towards infected employees and workers.

SECTION 7. STI-HIV/AIDS Education for Filipinos Going Abroad. The Public Employment Service Office (PESO) of Ormoc City, in cooperation with the City Health Department or any accredited NGO, shall conduct STI-HIV/AIDS pre-employment education seminar.

SECTION 8. STI-HIV/AIDS Education in Communities. The City Health Department together with the Social Welfare and Development Office, shall conduct educational and information campaign on STI-HIV/AIDS prevention in all barangays. The Barangay Affairs Officer, barangay officials and barangay health workers shall coordinate such campaign among concerned government agencies, non-government organization and church based groups.

SECTION 9. Information Campaign for Tourists and Transients. The City Health Department will provide IEC materials on the causes, modes of transmission, prevention and consequences of STI-HIV/AIDS infection. These shall be adequately provided at all ports of entry and exit, hotels, night spots and other tourist destinations in the city.

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SECTION 10. Compulsory STI-HIV/AIDS Education in Entertainment Industry. It shall be compulsory for all operators, managers and workers of all entertainment establishments to undergo orientation seminar on STI-HIV/AIDS prevention conducted regularly by any of the agencies such as the City Health Department, and any accredited NGOs. A certificate of attendance to the STI-HIV/AIDS Seminar shall form part of the requirements for the issuance or renewal of Health Certificate and Permit to operate.

SECTION 11. Peer Educator as a Requirement in all Establishments. All entertainment establishments must have at least one (1) peer educator within the establishment trained by the City Health Department or accredited Non-Government Organization to sustain STI-HIV/AIDS prevention campaign among the workers.

Any establishment who fails to comply with this requirement such establishment's permit to operate shall be revoked.

SECTION 12. False or Misleading Information. Misinformation on HIV/AIDS prevention and control through false and misleading advertising and claims in any of the tri-media or the promotional marketing of drugs, devices, agents or procedures without prior approval from the Department of Health (DOH) and Bureau of Food and Drugs (BFAD) and the requisite medical and scientific basis is prohibited. Information shall deemed misleading if:

- a. Advertising of the benefits or use of non-prescription drugs, devices and treatments does not comply with the specifications on indentification and labeling as approved by the Bureau of Food and Drugs (BFAD).
- b. Advertisement offers false hopes in the form of a temporary or permanent cure or relief.

Reference to laboratory data, statistics and/or scientific terms used in the advertisement or packaging comes from doubtful sources or is not quoted accurately.

Any misleading information on HIV/AIDS shall be penalized under Republic Act 8504 to wit:

Imprisonment for 2 months to 2 years, without prejudice to the imposition of administrative sanctions such as fines and suspension or revocation of professional or business license.

ARTICLE V

DECLARATION OF AIDS AWARENESS MONTH

SECTION 1. Declaration of AIDS Awareness Month. The month of May is declared as AIDS Awareness Month which coincides with the Commemoration Day for persons living with HIV/AIDS and the International Day of Action on Women's Health. The month of December is declared as World AIDS Prevention Month.

ARTICLE VI

FUNCTIONS AND POWER OF ORMOC CITY STI-HIV/AIDS COUNCIL

SECTION 1. Composition of Ormoc City STI-HIV/AIDS Council. The Ormoc City STI-HIV/AIDS Council which is created through this SP Ordinance shall be composed of the following:

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1. City Mayor or Duly Authorized Representative	- Chairperson
2. City Health Officer Coordinator	- Over-all
3. Chair. Committee on Health	- Member
4. City Administrator	- Member
5. City Social Services and Development Officer	- Member
6. Department of Education, City Division Superintendent	- Member
7. Department of Labor and Employment Officer	- Member
8. President of the Liga ng mga Barangay	- Member
9. Two (2) NGOs to be elected from among the accredited	
NGOs in the City	- Member
10. Representative from the Association of Entertainment	T FWHILE WI
Establishments	- Member
11. Representative from the Entertainers	- Member
12. City Police Director	- Member
13. Department of Interior and Local Government Officer	- Member
14. Representative from the Sangguniang Kabataan	
15. Representative from the Department of Health	Member
to, representative from the Department of Mealth	- Member

The Council may, from time to time, expand its membership as the need arises.

The mandated members may designate a permanent representative in his/her absence.

The term of the members of the Council shall be for (3) three years to coincide with the term of the city mayor.

SECTION 2. Functions of the Council. The Ormoc City STI-HIV/AIDS Council shall have the following functions:

a. Advisory Group to the Sangguniang Panlungsod for policy formulation/development, program conceptualization, planning and monitoring toward the prevention, control and treatment of STI-NIV/AIDS;

Coordinative Body to establish, mobilize, and strengthen linkages with the Philippine National AIDS Council (PNAC), local, national and international agencies and other stakeholders involved in the STI-HIV/AIDS prevention programs;

Lead Group to undertake information, education and communication campaigns on STI-HIV/AIDS prevention;

Monitoring Body for the implementation of RA 8504 dated July 28, 1997 entitled "Philippine AIDS Prevention and Control Act of 1998", this Ordinance and other policies approved and adopted by STI-HIV/AIDS Council.

SECTION 3. The Council will meet at least once every quarter. However as the need arises special meeting shall be called.

SECTION 4. Secretariat of the Ormoc City STI-HIV/AIDS Council. The secretariat shall be designated by the Ormoc City AIDS Council.

SECTION 5. Functions of the Secretariat of the Ormoc City STI-HIV/AIDS Council. The secretariat of the Council shall perform the following functions:

- a. Coordinate the activities of the Council.
- b. Serve as the center of communication by receiving and disseminating information from and to members of the council.
- c. Perform other secretariat functions as may be assigned by the Chairperson of the Council.

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SECTION 6. Traveling Expenses and or Allowances of Council Members and Secretariat. Members and secretariat of the Ormoc City STI-HIV/AIDS Council shall perform their duties as such and shall be entitled to the necessary traveling expenses, allowance chargeable against the fund of the Council subject to existing, accounting and auditing rules and regulations.

ARTICLE VII THE CITY SOCIAL HYGIENE CLINIC

SECTION 1. The Social Hygiene Clinic Functions. The Social Hygiene Clinic under the City Health Department shall perform the following functions;

- a. Conduct weekly consultation and issue special health card;
- Be in the frontline in the delivery of STI interventions for HIV/AIDS prevention;
- c. Provide education and information dissemination activities on the prevention and control of STI-HIV/AIDS;
- d. Monitor STI-HIV/AIDS cases handled;
- e. Refer clients to other agencies for cases that need other health and social services such as livelihood projects, alternative home, and scholarship;
- f. Ensure that children with STI-HIV/ØIDS are given priority in treatment and are referred to concerned agencies for further assistance;
- g. Perform such other duties and functions as may be prescribed by law or ordinance.

ARTICLE VIII

PRACTICES AND PROCEDURES, TESTING, SCREENING AND COUNSELING

SECTION 1. Practices and Procedures. The City of Ormoc shall strictly achere to the principles and guidelines on safe practices and procedures, necessary to protect any person from HIV transmission as mandated in Articles II and III of RA 8504. Procedures on testing, screening and counseling shall observe the ethics of care and medical confidentiality in dealing with individuals having vulnerable conditions for contracting STI-HIV/AIDS.

SECTION 2. STI-HIV/AIDS Core Team. All hospitals and other appropriate health care facilities shall establish an STI-HIV/AIDS Core Team (HACT), HACT is multi-disciplinary group of health workers with policy making, implementing, coordinating, assessing, training, research and other project development functions on related to the diagnosis, management and care of STImatters patients and the prevention and control of STI-HIV/AIDS HIV/AIDS infection in the hospital. Its primary objectives are to facilitate the provision of safe, comprehensive and compassionate care to STI-HIV/AIDS patients by properly trained personnel; to mobilize and community resources towards minimizing the impact of hospital STI-HIV/AIDS infection on the patient and his family; and to efforts to prevent and control the transmission of coordinate all STI-HIV/AIDS infection.

SECTION 3. Consent as a requisite for HIV Testing. No compulsory HIV testing shall be allowed, Voluntary testing for individuals with a high risk for contracting HIV shall be encouraged, provided that a written informed consent must first be obtained. Such consent shall be obtained from the person concerned if he/she is of legal age or from the parents or legal guardian in the case of a minor or mentally incapacitated individual.

SECTION 4. Prohibitions on Compulsory HIV Testing. Compulsory HIV testing as a precondition to employment, admission to educational institutions, the exercise of freedom of abode, entry or continued stay in the city or the right to travel, the provision of medical service or any other kind of service shall be deemed unlawful.

SECTION 5. Exception to the Prohibition on Compulsory Testing. Compulsory HIV testing may be allowed only in the following instances:

- a) When a person is charged with any of the crimes punishable under Article 264 and 266 as amended by Republic Act No. 8353, 335, and 338 of Republic Act No. 3815, otherwise known as the "Revised Penal Code" or under Republic Act No. 7659.
- b) When the determination of the HIV status is necessary to resolve relevant issues under Executive Order No. 309, otherwise known as "Family Code of the Philippines"
- c) When complying with the provisions of Republic Act No. 7170, otherwise known as the "Organ Donation Act" and Republic Act No. 7719, otherwise known as the "National Blood Services Act".

SECTION 6. Pre-test and Post-test Counseling. All testing centers, hospitals, clinics or laboratories which perform any HIV test shall be required to provide and conduct free pre-test counseling and post-test counseling for persons who avail of their HIV/AIDS testing services. However, such counseling services must be provided only by persons who meet the standards set by the Department of Health.

ARTICLE IX SPECIAL PROTECTION FOR CHILDREN

SECTION 1. Special Care and Support Services for Children of Persons with HIV/AIDS. The City Government of Ormoc through the City Social Welfare and Development Officer (CSWD) shall provide special care and support services for children of persons with HIV/AIDS.

ARTICLE X HEALTH AND SUPPORT SERVICES

SECTION 1. Universal Access to STI Healthcare Services. Access to STI healthcare services/assistance shall be extended to all individuals regardless of sex, gender, age, social status, political belief, tradition and religion.

SECTION 2. Adherence to Quality Health Care and Ethics of Care. Medical practitioner or other staff assisting or directly providing health services/examinations/education to clients shall adhere to the basic principles of ethics of care. They shall also be sensitive to gender and sexual orientation in their treatment to patients/clients, informing them of their rights.

SECTION 3. Special Care and Support Services for Pregnant Women with HIV/AIDS. The City of Ormoc shall provide special care and support services for pregnant women with HIV/AIDS.

ARTICLE XI STI-HIV/AIDS MONITORING

SECTION 1. Monitoring Programs. The Ormoc City AIDS Council shall develop a comprehensive STI-HIV/AIDS monitoring program to determine and monitor the magnitude and progression of HIV infection in Ormoc City, and for the purpose of evaluating the adequacy and efficacy of the counter-measures being employed.

SECTION 2. Reporting Procedures. All hospitals, clinics, laboratories, and testing centers shall adopt measures in assuring the reporting and confidentiality of any medical record, personal data, file, including all data which maybe access from various data banks or information system. The City Health Department shall receive, collate, evaluate all STI-HIV/AIDS related medical reports. A coding system that promotes client anonymity shall be utilized.

SECTION 3. Contact Tracing. STI-HIV/AIDS contact tracing and all other related health intelligence activities may be pursued by the City Health Department, provided that any gathered information shall remain confidential and classified, and can only be used for statistical and monitoring purposes and not as a basis or qualification for any employment, school attendance, freedom of abode or travel.

SECTION 4. Submission of Work Policies. It shall be compulsory for all operators and/or managers of all establishments to provide the city government copies of the entertainment establishments' policies in accordance with labor laws and other related national and local policies.

SECTION 5. Research Investigators. All research investigations related to STI-HIV/AIDS should observe strict adherence to the ethical guidelines set by the Philippine National AIDS Council.

ARTICLE XII

DISCRIMINATORY ACTS AND CONFIDENTIALITY OF INFORMATION

SECTION 1. Discriminatory Acts. Discrimination in any form and place against persons perceived or suspected with HIV (i.e. employment process, assignment or termination from work, schools, hospitals, health institutions, travel and habitation) shall be unlawful. Any act of discrimination related to this Ordinance shall be penalized under Republic Act 8504 to wit:

Imprisonment for six (6) months to four (4) years and a fine not exceeding Ten Thousand Pesos (\$10,000.00). In addition, licenses/permits of schools, hospitals and other institutions found guilty of committing discriminatory acts and policies described in this Act shall be revoked.

SECTION 2. Prohibition Against Divulging of Confidential Information of Persons with STI, HIV/AIDS. Any person who divulges confidential information about the HIV/AIDS status of a person shall be penalized under Republic Act 8504 to wit:

Imprisonment for six (6) months to four (4) years, without prejudice to administrative sanctions such as fines and suspension or revocation of the violator's license to practice his/her profession, as well as the cancellation or withdrawal of the license to operate any business entity and the accreditation of hospitals, laboratories or clinics.

ARTICLE XIII

ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE ENTERTAINERS AND ENTERTAINMENT ESTABLISHMENTS

SECTION 1. All entertainers working in any entertainment establishment should have a special health card which is certified by the City Health Department every week.

SECTION 2. No entertainment establishments shall be allowed to operate without sanitary permit issued by the City Health Department and no entertainers without special health card shall be allowed to work in such entertainment establishment.

ARTICLE XIV IMPLEMENTING RULES AND REGULATIONS

SECTION 1. Implementing Rules and Regulations. The Ormoc city STI-HIV/AIDS Council shall formulate and issue appropriate rules and regulations necessary for the implementation of this Ordinance within one (1) month but not more than three (3) months from approval thereof.

ARTICLE XV APPROPRIATION

SECTION 1. Appropriation. An amount of not less than Three Hundred Thousand Pesos (Php300,000.00) shall be appropriated for the implementation of this Ordinance including projects and operations of the Ormoc City AIDS Council.

ARTICLE XVI FINAL PROVISIONS

SECTION 1. All pertinent and applicable provisions of R.A. 8508, and the rules and regulations implementing thereof, are hereby adopted as part of this ordinance.

SECTION 2. Separability Clause. If for any reason, any section or provision of this Ordinance is declared unconstitutional or invalid all other sections or provisions hereof which are not affected by such declaration shall continue to be in full force and effect.

SECTION 3. Repealing Clause. All Ordinances, local issuances or rules inconsistent with the provisions of this Ordinance are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SECTION 4. Effectivity Clause. This Ordinance shall take effect on the day following its publication once in a newspaper of general circulation in Ormoc City, and its posting at conspicuous places in the City Hall of Ormoc for 3 consecutive weeks whichever occurs later.

RESOLVED, FURTHER, to furnish copies of this ordinance to His Honor, the City Mayor, the City Administrator, the City Health Officer, the Chairman, Committee on Health and others concerned, -all in Ormoc City;

ENACTED, January 31, 2008.



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