



Republic of the Philippines  
Province of Laguna  
**MUNICIPALITY OF LOS BAÑOS**  
*Special Science and Nature City*  
**OFFICE OF THE SANGGUNIANG BAYAN**  
Municipal Hall, National Highway, Brgy. Timugan,  
Los Baños, Laguna 4030 Philippines  
Email: losbaños@laguna.net

**EXCERPTS FROM THE MINUTES OF THE TWENTY-SECOND (22<sup>ND</sup>) REGULAR SESSION  
OF THE SANGGUNIANG BAYAN HELD ON JUNE 14, 2021 AT THE SANGGUNIANG BAYAN  
SESSION HALL, NATIONAL HIGHWAY, BRGY. TIMUGAN, LOS BAÑOS, LAGUNA.**

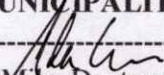
Present : Vice Mayor Josephine Sumangil – Evangelista, Presiding Officer  
S.B. Member Marlo PJ A. Alipon  
S.B. Member Mike Dexter A. Concio  
S.B. Member Mark Lester B. Dizon  
S.B. Member Rodora Perez-Loares  
S.B. Member Jozylyn N. Manansala, SK Fed. President  
S.B. Member Arlene P. delos Santos, Liga President  
Secretary Dona T. Alborida  
Ms. Jellyn S. De Una, LLSA II

Absent : S.B. Member Miko C. Pelegrina  
S.B. Member Janos S. Lapiz  
S.B. Member Geronimo A. Ciceron  
S.B. Member Cris Dayril B. Bagnes

Visitor(s) : Barangay Captain Ambito L. Meneses, Barangay Tadlac  
Ma. Rowena Salgado, Barangay Tadlac  
Maureen Quillooy, Barangay Tadlac  
Danny Rose Ann Apilad, Barangay Tadlac

**RESOLUTION NO. 2021-117**

**RESOLUTION REQUESTING TO THE MUNICIPAL HEALTH OFFICE FOR THE  
PROVISION OF FREE COVID-19 TESTING TO PREGNANT WOMEN, DIALYSIS PATIENTS  
AND OTHER VULNERABLE PATIENTS IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF LOS BAÑOS.**

Author : Councilor  Mike Dexter A. Concio

**WHEREAS**, on March 11, 2020, the World Health Organization (WHO) declared the Corona Virus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) a global pandemic;

**WHEREAS**, on October 6, 2020, Department of Health (DOH) issued Department Memorandum No. 2020-0439 with subject “Omnibus Interim Guidelines on Prevention, Detection, Isolation, Treatment and Reintegration Strategies for COVID-19”. It provides interim guidelines on surveillance, screening, contact tracing, quarantine or isolation, and testing as part of COVID-19 response;

**WHEREAS**, the same memorandum provides for the guidelines on risk-based testing of COVID-19 cases which identified subgroups arranged in order of greatest to lowest need of rRT-PCR testing. Ten (10) subgroups (Subgroup A-J) were identified where Subgroup (F) includes other vulnerable patients and those living in confined spaces. Among them are pregnant patients who shall be tested during the peripartum period, dialysis patients, patients who are immunocompromised, patients undergoing chemotherapy or radiotherapy and patients who will undergo elective surgical procedures with high transmission. They shall be tested at the discretion of the attending physician;



**WHEREAS**, viral testing of patients in outpatient hemodialysis facilities is being recommended for preventing COVID-19 from entering health facility, detecting cases quickly and stopping transmission. Testing practices should aim for rapid turnaround time in order to facilitate effective interventions;

**WHEREAS**, pregnant women are at risk for contracting the virus. In general, they are immunocompromised, thus, may be at higher risk from developing severe disease (pneumonia and respiratory failure) from COVID-19;

**WHEREAS**, the currently recommended test to confirm COVID-19 infection is the Real-Time reverse transcription polymerase chain reaction (rRT-PCR) assay which detects the viral RNA. The use of rapid antigen test (AgT) as a substitute for rRT-PCR is allowed for diagnostic testing of close contacts in communities, in closed or semi-closed institutions with confirmed outbreaks and in remote settings where rRT-PCR is not immediately available. The use of AgT is also allowed in the hospital setting where the turnaround time is critical to guide patient cohort management;

**WHEREAS**, in its article dated November 21, 2019, the Philippine News Agency stated that the average cost of a hemodialysis session in the country is about Php 4,500.00. Given that the recommended frequency of sessions per week is three (3) times, then the total amount of expenses for a dialysis patient is Php 13,500 per week. There are government agencies subsidizing treatment costs but most patients incur out of pocket expenses;

**WHEREAS**, in view of the pandemic, vulnerable patients like pregnant women who are about to give birth, patients who will undergo hemodialysis treatment and patients who will undergo surgical procedures shall be tested for COVID-19 infection. This means additional cost for childbirth, weekly treatment and surgical operation;


**WHEREAS**, the Sangguniang Bayan strongly recommends for the provision of free COVID-19 testing to pregnant women, dialysis patients and other vulnerable patients in the Municipality of Los Baños;

**NOW THEREFORE**, on motion of Councilor Mike Dexter A. Concio duly seconded by Councilor Marlo PJ A. Alipon and concurred by all members present;

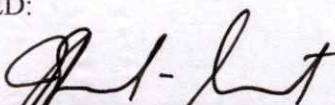
**RESOLVED, AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED**, to request to the Municipal Health Office for the provision of free COVID-19 testing to pregnant women, dialysis patients and other vulnerable patients in the Municipality of Los Baños.

**UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED** : June 14, 2021

I HEREBY CERTIFY to the correctness of the above-quoted Resolution.

  
**DONA T. ALBORIDA**  
Secretary to the Sangguniang Bayan

CERTIFIED ADOPTED:

  
**HON. JOSEPHINE H. SUMANGIL - EVANGELISTA**  
Vice Mayor / Presiding Officer