

AN ORDINANCE REGULATING, FIXING THE LOCATION OF, AND IMPOSING PERMIT AND LICENSE FEES ON, THE BUSINESS OF NIGHT CLUBS, DANCE HALLS, CABARETS AND DANCING SCHOOLS, AND PROVIDING PENALTIES FOR VIOLATIONS THEREOF.

Be it ordained by the Municipal Board of the City of Manila, that:

SECTION 1. DEFINITIONS.- For the purpose of this ordinance, each of the following words and phrases shall be taken in the sense hereinbelow indicated:

(a) "Night Club" shall include any place or establishment selling food or drink to the public where customers are regularly allowed to dance; provided that no professional hostesses or dancers are allowed therein.

(b) "Dance Hall" shall include any place or establishment where dancing is permitted to the public in consideration of an admission, entrance, or any other fee paid on, before or after the dancing, and where professional hostesses or dancers are employed.

(c) "Dancing School" shall include any establishment where ballroom dancing is taught and permitted to the public in consideration of an enrollment, entrance, admission, membership, or any other fee.

(d) "Professional Hostess" or "dancer" shall include any person who dances at any dance hall as herein defined for a fee or remuneration paid directly or indirectly in money or other things representative of value by the operator or by the person with whom he or she dances.

(e) "Operator" shall include the owner, manager, administrator, or any other person who operates and is responsible for the operation of any night club, dance hall, or dancing school in accordance with the provisions of this ordinance.

SEC. 2. LOCATION.- No dance hall or night club shall be established within the radius of two hundred meters from the City Hall or any other public building, public school, church, hospital, athletic stadium, public park or any institution of learning or of charity and no dance hall or night club shall be established within a radius of 150 meters from another dance hall or night club respectively.

SEC. 3. BUILDING REQUIREMENT.- (a) In each night club, dance hall, or dancing school there shall be a dancing place properly ventilated, well lighted and maintained under sanitary conditions at all times, while the establishment is open, leaving no dark corners therein. The building should be safe for dancing purposes.

(b) In such establishment there shall be no private rooms or separated compartments, except those assigned for lavatories, dressing rooms for ladies, bar and kitchen: Provided, however,

That the dancing and the dining hall of every night club, or dance hall, which is also authorized to operate a hotel, shall be on a floor separated from its lodging rooms. There shall be in each night club, dance hall or dancing school at least two sets of lavatories, one exclusively for women and another for men. The building shall not be occupied or used for dancing purposes unless a certificate is first obtained from the City Engineer stating that the building is safe for dancing purposes.

(c) Every night club or dance hall shall be provided with only one entrance and it shall have no direct or indirect communication whatsoever with any dwelling place, house or building except for parking vehicles in order to avoid congestion and blocking the traffic. The parking place must be within an open ground provided with one door for entrance and another for exit.

SEC. 4. DAYS AND HOURS OF OPERATION.- Night clubs or dance halls shall not open earlier than 6:00 o'clock post meridian and shall close not later than 2:00 o'clock ante meridian of the following day except when the following day is Sunday or legal holiday, in which case it may remain open until 3:00 o'clock ante meridian: Provided, further, that in case any of the establishments above mentioned is also duly licensed to operate a regular restaurant, cafe or a refreshment parlor, it may remain open before and after said hours to serve only meals or refreshments without permitting dancing to take place therein. Dancing school shall not open earlier than 8:00 o'clock ante meridian and shall close not later than 2:00 o'clock ante meridian of the following day, if the following day is ordinary working day, and 3:00 o'clock ante meridian if the following day is Sunday or legal holiday.

SEC. 5. RESTRICTION AS TO PERSONS.- (a) Minors under eighteen years of age, persons carrying deadly weapons of any description, except government officials performing their public function, and intoxicated persons, shall not be admitted or allowed to remain in any night club or dance hall, either as customers or as employees, or under any other capacity: Provided, however, that persons under eighteen years of age may be admitted in such establishments when they are in private parties or accompanied by their parents or guardians.

(b) No person shall be employed as a professional hostess or dancer, unless she is at least twenty-one years of age and has obtained a written certificate from the City Health Officer that she is free from any contagious or infectious disease: Provided, That a person below twenty-one years of age but not less than eighteen years of age may be employed with the written consent of her parents or guardians and with the health certificate above provided. No professional hostess or dancer shall be allowed to continue working as such upon discovery by the City Health Officer that she is suffering from any contagious or infectious disease, or after conviction of any disorderly, immodest, or immoral conduct, or violation of any provision of this ordinance. The medical certificate herein required shall be obtained every month.

SEC. 6. SUPERVISION.- Night clubs, dance halls and dancing schools shall be under the supervision of the City Mayor who may assign one or more policemen therein to maintain peace and order in or around their premises and enforce the provisions of this ordinance.

SEC. 7. REQUISITES FOR OPERATION.- No person shall operate any night club, dance hall or dancing school without first obtaining a permit from the Mayor and the City Health Officer and a license from the City Treasurer.

SEC. 8. MAYOR'S PERMIT FEES.- There shall be paid to the City Treasurer the sum of Fifty Pesos (P50.00) for every new permit issued by the Mayor to operate a night club, dance hall or dancing school under this ordinance.

SEC. 9. LICENSE FEES.- There shall be paid to the City Treasurer for every license issued by him to operate a night club, dance hall or dancing school the following quarterly license fees:

For night club	P 500.00
For dance hall	750.00
For dancing school	75.00

Should a night club, dance hall or dancing school have separate dancing spaces, the same shall be considered as one if located in the same building with the same entrance.

SEC. 10. REVOCATION.- The Mayor shall revoke any permit or license granted under this ordinance upon satisfactory evidence that gambling or playing of any prohibited game or prostitution has taken place within the premises of any night club, dance hall, or dancing school.

SEC. 11. STATUS OF EXISTING DANCE HALLS OR DANCING SCHOOLS.- Night clubs, dance halls and dancing schools in operation upon the approval of this ordinance that are within the prohibited zone or distance provided for in Sec. 2 hereof, or do not comply with the building requirements provided for in Sec. 3 of this ordinance shall be given one year's notice within which to close, transfer or otherwise comply with the provisions of this ordinance.

SEC. 12. REMEDY IN CASE OF CONFLICT.- When a public building, public school, church, hospital, athletic stadium, public park or any institution of learning or of charity shall be established within the radius of two hundred meters from any dance hall or dancing school already in operation the Mayor shall serve notice to the operator of such dance hall or dancing school giving him reasonable time within which to close or transfer said establishment to another place, where the same can be allowed under the provisions of this Ordinance.

SEC. 13. PENALTIES.- In case of violation of any of the provisions of this ordinance, the permit for the operation of any night club, dance hall or dancing school shall be withdrawn by the Mayor and the license thereof revoked, forfeiting to the City all sums paid therefor, and any person or persons responsible for any violation of Secs. 4, 5 and 7 of this ordinance shall, upon conviction, be punished with imprisonment, for not more than six months or fine of not more than two hundred pesos, or both imprisonment and fine in the discretion of the court.

SEC. 14. REPEALING CLAUSE.- All ordinances or parts of ordinances inconsistent with this ordinance are hereby repealed.

SEC. 15. EFFECTIVITY.- This ordinance shall take effect upon its approval.

Enacted, December 29, 1949.

Approved, *January 10, 1950*

APPROVED:

Manuel de la Fuente
MANUEL DE LA FUENTE
Mayor, City of Manila

Segundo Agustin
SEGUNDO AGUSTIN
President, Municipal Board

ATTESTED:

Carmelo S. Mendoza
CARMELO S. MENDOZA
Secretary to the Mayor

Rodolfo S. Rohles
RODOLFO S. ROHLES
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