

Sangguniang Panglungsod

#### **RESOLUTION NO. 05-130**

A RESOLUTION WITHDRAWING "RESOLUTION NO. 05-114" BASED ON PRESIDENTIAL DECREE NO. 1869, SECTION 133, BOOK II OF REPUBLIC ACT 7160, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT CODE OF 1991 AND ON THE BASIS OF THE LEGAL OPINION OF THE OFFICE OF THE CITY ATTORNEY.

Sponsored by:

Hon. Atty. Raul R. Corro

Hon. Lucio B. Constantino

Hon. Engr. Mamerto T. Sevilla, Jr.

Hon. Melchor R. Teves

Hon. Artemio A. Simundac

Hon, Christian Glenn D. Lorica

Hon. Ma. Luisa Babaran-Echavez, M.D.

Hon. Allen F. Ampaya

Hon. Atty. Icasiano M. dela Rea

Hon. Francis Ian T. Bagatsing

Hon. Marissa Cole-Rongavilla

Hon. Mario E. Bulay, Jr.

WHEREAS, the Sangguniang Panlungsod passed Resolution No. 05-114 dated August 11, 2005 entitled "A resolution requesting the temporary suspension of the operation of E-Casino Filipino located at the Ground Floor Festival Mall, between SaveMore and Goldilocks, outside Parkway Entrance. Alabang, Muntinlupa City pending the public hearing, and for the Business Permit and Licensing Office (BPLO) to enforce the contents of Ordinance No. 99-040.";

WHEREAS, the resolution was based on Ordinance No.99-040 which regulates the establishment of bingo, on-line bingo, jai-alai (off-fronton), horse racing (off track) and other legalized gambling activities in the City of Muntinlupa;

WHEREAS, Funcade Gaming Station, a duly authorized Internet Casino Station of PAGCOR, located at Ground Floor Festival Mall, between SaveMore and Goldilocks, outside Parkway Entrance, Alabang, Muntinlupa City, was issued a Mayor's Permit by the Business Permit and Licensing Office (BPLO) on July 11, 2005 for the table games:

WHEREAS, based on the letter dated August 12, 2005 of the Sangguniang Panlungsod, through its Council Secretary, addressed to the City Mayor, a legal opinion was issued by the Office of the City Attorney on the said resolution;

WHEREAS, based on the said legal opinion and based on Presidential Decree No. 1869, Funcade Gaming Station, a sales agent of the Philippine Amusement and Gaming Corporation (PAGCOR) "enjoys a franchise from the National Government and has long been adjudged to be beyond the scope of the taxing and regulating powers of local governments":

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WHEREAS, Section 13, paragraph 2 of P.D 1869, providing for the franchise and powers of PAGCOR, expressly exempts from the payment of any tax, income or otherwise, as well as any form of charges, fees or levies, any corporation, association, agency or individual with whom PAGCOR has any contractual relationship in connection with the operation of the casinos and other. activities covered by its franchise, including those furnishing essential facilities or services, to wit:

"(2) Income and other taxes, a) Franchise Holder: No Tax of any kind or form, income or otherwise as well as fees. charges or levies of whatever nature, whether National or Local, shall be assessed and collected under this franchise from the Corporation: xxx;

WHEREAS, the legal opinion further provides that, "on the matter of local permits, on the other hand, all local chief executives are enjoined to facilitate the release of business permit, building permits and occupancy permits to PAGCOR and its contractors without delay, emphasizing that the resources generated from these PAGCOR-sanctioned operations are intended to benefit the nation's poor and disadvantaged, and are utilized to finance innumerable activities that directly affect the government's pro-poor programs. (DILG Memorandum Circular No. 101-99, June 16, 1999);

WHEREAS, it furthermore provides that "the matter of regulating, taxing or otherwise dealing with gambling is a state concern and hence, it is the sole prerogative of the state to retain it or delegate it to local governments...."

WHEREAS, it finally provides that maintaining an Internet Casino Station (ICS) that is wholly run and operated by PAGCOR, is beyond the purview of Ordinance No. 99-040 and may therefore be issued a business permit without the benefit of prior public hearings;

WHEREAS, Section 133, Book II of Republic Act 7160, otherwise known as the Local Government Code of 1991, prohibits Local Government Units (LGUs) including municipality or city from imposing taxes, fees or charges of any kind on the "National Government, its agencies and instrumentalities.";

WHEREAS, pursuant to this provision, PAGCOR and its sales agents are not required to secure business permits/licenses from the province, city or municipality where they may operate and are exempt from the authority of the LGUs to impose taxes, fees or charges on the PAGCOR Internet Casino Station (ICS):

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NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, by the Sangguniang Panlungsod, withdrawing "Resolution No. 05-114" based on Presidential Decree No. 1869, Section 133, Book II of Republic Act 7160, otherwise known as the Local Government Code of 1991 and on the basis of the legal opinion of the Office of the City Attorney.

APPROVED, by the Fourth ( $4^{th}$ ) Sangguniang PanIngsod of Muntinlupa, this  $1^{st}$  day of September, 2005, on its  $49^{th}$  Regular Session.

CONCURRED:

ATTY. RAUL R. CORRO

Councilor

MA. LUISA BABARAN-ECHAVEZ, M.D.

Councilor

MELCHOR R. TEVES

Councilor

ALLEN F. AMPAYA

Councilor

ATTY. ICASIANO M. DELA REA

Councilor

CHRISTIAN GLENN D. LORICA

Sectoral Representative President, Federation of Sangguniang Kabataan MARIO E. BULAY, JR. Councilor

ARTEMIO A. SIMUNDAC

MAMÉRTO T. SEVILLA, JR.

FRANCIS IAN T. BAGATSING

E-RONGAVILLA

Councilor

Councilor

LUCIO B.

Councilor

Councilo

MARISSA CO

Sectoral Representative President, Association of

Barangay Captains

NO:

RENE CARL S. CAYETANO

Councilor

ABSTAIN:

JOSELITO V. AREVALO

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ABSENT:

BAL NIEFES
Councilor

ALLAN REY A. CAMILON

Councilor

KEVIN B. DELGADO

ELMER S. ESPELETA

Councilor

Councilor

I HEREBY CERTIFY, as to the correctness of the foregoing Resolution.

CECILIA C. LAZARTE

Secretary

Sangguniang Panlungsod

ATTESTED:

ALDRIN L. SAN PEDRO

APPROVED:

ATTY. JAIME R. FRESNEDI

City Mayor

Date:

PBS, JR.

Approved by; Operation of Law (Sec. 54(b) RA. 7160)

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