

MEMORANDUM CIRCULAR NO. <u>21-11</u> Series of 2021

SUBJECT : IMPLEMENTATION OF TEMPORARY MEASURES AND ENHANCED COMPLIANCE MONITORING TO ADDRESS THE RISING NUMBER OF COVID-19 CASES

WHEREAS, to address the rising number of COVID-19 cases, and upon consultation with the DOH Technical Advisory Group (TAG), IATF Resolution No. 103, Series of 2021 was issued to implement "*the various measures in areas under General Community Quarantine (GCQ) until 04 April 2021*;"

WHEREAS, to ensure the utmost protection of the health of the Filipino people, IATF Resolution No. 104, Series of 2021 endorsed to the President for his approval that the provinces of Bulacan, Cavite, Laguna, and Rizal be placed under General Community Quarantine (GCQ), together with the cities and municipality of the National Capital Region (NCR), and prescribed additional restriction measures in the said areas;

WHEREAS, on 21 March 2021, the Memorandum from the Executive Secretary of the Office of the President was issued approving the temporary measures under IATF Resolution No. 104, Series of 2021 to address the rising cases of COVID-19 in the country;

WHEREFORE, foregoing premises considered, the following temporary and enhanced measures are hereby implemented in the National Capital Region (NCR) and contiguous provinces of Bulacan, Cavite, Laguna, and Rizal from 22 March 2021 until 4 April 2021 --

SEC. 1. Reduction in Operations of Dine-in Restaurants, Cafes, and Establishments. Dine-in restaurants, cafés, and establishments shall be limited to delivery, take-out, and any outdoor or *al fresco* dining, *provided that* additional engineering and administrative controls are put in place, such as but not limited to, placing of acrylic or similar dividers, limited to two persons per table with appropriate seating arrangements (one-seat apart in a diagonal configuration).

Venue capacity of outdoor dine-in restaurants and cafés shall be reduced to a maximum of fifty percent (50%).

SEC. 2. Temporary Closure of Some Business Establishments and Activities. The operations of the following business establishments and activities are hereby suspended --

- a. Gyms and fitness centers;
- b. Internet cafes; and
- c. Spas and full body massage places.

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SEC. 3. Alternative Work Arrangements. Business establishments are advised to continue implementing alternative work arrangements for their employees to further prevent the spread of COVID-19.

SEC. 4. Reiteration of IATF Resolution No. 103 on Temporary Control Measures. Temporary control measures pursuant to IATF Resolution No. 103, Series of 2021 are hereby REITERATED:

- A. Suspension of the following businesses/industries in areas placed under General Community Quarantine:
 - i. Driving schools;
 - ii. Entertainment, amusement and recreation industries i.e. traditional cinemas and video- and interactive- game arcades;
 - iii. Libraries, archives, museums, and cultural centers;
 - iv. Limited social events at accredited establishments of the DOT; and
 - v. Limited tourist attractions, except for open air tourist attractions.
- B. Reduction of maximum venue capacity to thirty percent (30%) for essential business gatherings (DOT-DTI JMC No. 2020-003, Series of 2020, as amended).
- C. Cockfighting and cockpit operations, even those in areas placed under Modified General Community Quarantine (MGCQ), shall remain suspended.

SEC. 5. Enhanced Compliance Monitoring. The DTI, through the Fair Trade Enforcement Bureau and Regional or Provincial Offices, shall enhance its regular monitoring activities to confirm and ensure STRICT compliance with minimum public health and safety standards and protocols.

All feedback and complaints from the general public may be coursed through the DTI Consumer Care Hotline 1-384.

SEC. 6. Repealing Clause. The provisions of all relevant DTI Memorandum Circulars otherwise unaffected by the aforementioned temporary measures shall remain in full force and effect.

SEC. 7. Effectivity. Given the presence of a public health emergency, this Circular shall take effect immediately upon compliance with publication and filing requirements.

Issued this 23rd day of March 2021.

RAMON M. LOPEZ Secretary

