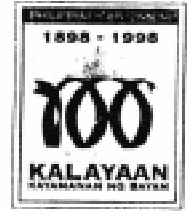




REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT
Francisco Gold Condominium II EDSA cor. Mapagmahal St.,
Diliman, Quezon City



July 21, 2003

MEMORANDUM CIRCULAR
NO. 2003-153

TO : PROVINCIAL GOVERNORS, CITY MAYORS, MUNICIPAL
MAYORS, DILG REGIONAL DIRECTORS AND ALL OTHERS
CONCERNED

SUBJECT : REITERATION OF DILG MC NO. 2000-91, DATED JULY 14,
2000, ENTITLED, IMPLEMENTATION OF REPUBLIC ACT NO.
8485, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS "THE ANIMAL WELFARE ACT
OF 1998"

Republic Act No. 8485, other wise known as the Animal Welfare Act of 1998, was passed to protect and promote the welfare of all animals in the Philippines.

Section 6 of the same Republic Act provides in part, quote.

SEC. 6 It shall be unlawful for any person to torture any animal, to neglect to provide adequate care, sustenance or shelter, or maltreat any animal or to subject any dog or horse to dogfights or horsefights, kill or cause or procure to be tortured or deprived of adequate care, sustenance or shelter, or maltreat or use the same in research or experiments not expressly authorized by the committee.

Since the passage of the said measure, however, various reports reaching the Committee on Animal Welfare indicate the continued cruelty to animals, especially dogs, in the country today.

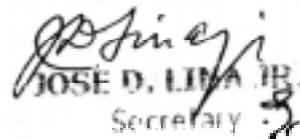
In pursuance of, and in order to promote and support animal welfare in the Philippines, DILG MC No. 2000-91 dated July 14, 2000, entitled, Implementation of Republic Act No. 8485, other wise known as "The Animal Welfare Act of 1998" is hereby reiterated.

All concerned Local Chief Executives are therefore hereby enjoined to strictly enforce the activities as provided in the same Memorandum Circular, to wit:


1. Appointment of a Veterinarian which is a mandatory position for Provincial and City Government as provided under Section 489 of the Local Government Code of 1991,
2. Enactment of an ordinance aimed at protecting and promoting animal welfare;
3. Conduct of a sustained information drive about the provisions of Republic Act no. 8485, animal rights and the hazards of eating dog and cat meat which may be infected with rabies and heat-resistant parasites; and
4. Apprehension and prosecution of those engaged in illegal trading of animals.

All DILG Regional Directors and Field Officers are hereby directed to coordinate with concerned Local Officials in ensuring the compliance of this Circular.

For strict compliance.


JOSE D. LINA JR.
Secretary

Attested by:


ATTY. ALAN ROULLO YAP
Head Executive Assistant

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