

Item No.: 05

Date: 19.9.2024 MA

Republic of the Philippines
PROVINCE OF LEYTE
Palo, Leyte

Province of Leyte
Legal Office
Released: *[Signature]*
Date: 5.22.24

PROVINCIAL LEGAL OFFICE

SANGGUNIANG PANLALAWIGAN
RECEIVED
MAY 22 2024
PROVINCE OF LEYTE

2nd INDORSEMENT
May 20, 2024

Respectfully returned to the Sangguniang Panlalawigan of Leyte, through the SP Secretary, the attached Ordinance No. 2024-06 of the Sangguniang Bayan of Hilongos, Leyte, recommending for the declaration of its validity, pursuant to its power under Section 56 (C) of R.A. 7160, to the opinion of the Provincial Legal Office (PLO), an exercise of the power authorized under Section 447(5)(iv)ⁱ of the Local Government Code, in relation to RA 10068.ⁱⁱ

Furthermore, the opinions rendered herein are without prejudice to opinions rendered by higher authorities.

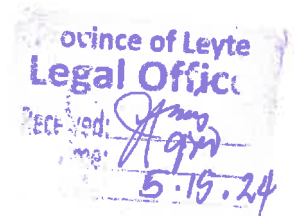
ATTY. JOSE RAYMUND A. ACOL
Asst. Provincial Legal Officer ✓

ⁱ (iv) Regulate the preparation and sale of meat, poultry, fish, vegetables, fruits, fresh dairy products, and other foodstuffs for public consumption;

ⁱⁱ "Agriculture Act of 2010"


Republic of the Philippines
PROVINCE OF LEYTE
Palo, Leyte

OFFICE OF THE SANGGUNIANG PANLALAWIGAN



1ST INDORSEMENT
14 May 2024

The Provincial Legal Office is respectfully requested to review and submit recommendations on the herein enclosed **Municipal Ordinance No. 2024-06** of the Municipality of Hilongos, Leyte, entitled: **An Ordinance Establishing A Repository of Fresh Foods, Integrated and Gracely Raised, Reserved to Respond – Food Security and Nutrition otherwise known as “Refrigerator Garden Program Ordinance”** in the Municipality of Hilongos, Leyte.


FLORINDA JILL S. UYVICO
Secretary to the Sanggunian



Republic of the Philippines
Province of Leyte
Municipality of Hilongos



OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY TO THE SANGGUNIANG BAYAN

SANGGUNIANG PAMALAYISAN



May 8, 2024

HON. LEONARDO M. JAVIER, JR.
Provincial Vice-Governor
Province of Leyte


Sir:

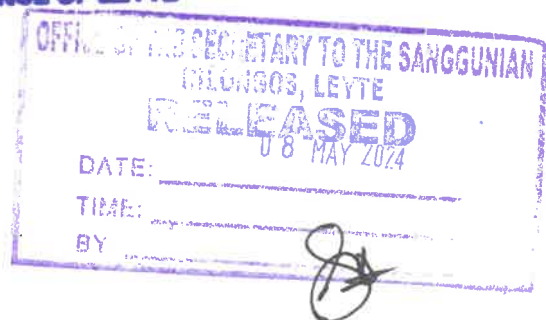
Greetings!

Respectfully forwarding fifteen (15) copies of the approved **Municipal Ordinance No. 2024- 06** : An Ordinance Establishing A Repository of fresh Foods, integrated and Gracely Raised, Reserved To Respond – Food Security and Nutrition otherwise Known as “Refrigerator Garden Program Ordinance: In The Municipality of Hilongos

Hoping this suffice.

Very respectfully yours,


CATHERINE A. FABULAR
Secretary to the Sanggunian





Republic of the Philippines
Province of Leyte
Municipality of Hilongos



OFFICE OF THE SANGGUNIANG BAYAN

SANGGUNIANG PANLALAWIGAN

MUNICIPAL ORDINANCE NO. 2024-06



AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING A REPOSITORY OF FRESH FOODS, INTEGRATED AND GRACELY RAISED, RESERVED TO RESPOND - FOOD SECURITY AND NUTRITION OTHERWISE KNOWN AS "REFRIGERATOR GARDEN PROGRAM ORDINANCE" IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF HILONGOS, LEYTE

HON. BERNADETH M. NERVES

Principal Author:

Chairperson, Committee on Health, Nutrition and Sanitation
Chairperson, Committee on Social Services, Women, Family Affairs,
Children and Gender and Development

WHEREAS, Article 2, Section 15 of the Philippine Constitution ensures that the State shall protect and promote the right to health of the people and instils health consciousness among them. Further, Section 16, explicitly articulates that the State shall protect and advance the right of the people to a balanced and healthy ecology in accord with the rhythm and harmony of nature;

WHEREAS, by virtue of Republic Act No. No. 7160, otherwise known as the Local Government Code of 1991, the State recognizes the Local Government Units (LGUs) as effective partners in achieving national goals essential to attain the priority needs and service requirements of its communities; and

WHEREAS, Republic Act No. 11148, otherwise known as the "Kalusugan at Nutrisyon ng Mag-Nanay Act", the State declares its determination to eliminate hunger and reduce all forms of malnutrition. The State further maintains that ensuring healthy lives, promoting well-being, ending hunger and food insecurity, and achieving good nutrition for all ages are essential to the attainment of sustainable development;

WHEREAS, the State scales up health and nutrition interventions through a strengthened integrated strategy and sustainable manner to improve the nutritional status and address the malnutrition for maternal, neonatal, child health and nutrition in the first one thousand (1,000) days of life in collaboration with Civil Society Organizations and private sectors;

WHEREAS, Section 3 (l) of Republic Act No. 7160, states the participation of the private sectors in the local governance, particularly of basic services, shall be encouraged to ensure the viability of local autonomy as an alternative strategy for sustainable development;

WHEREAS, Section 2 of Republic Act No. 11037, otherwise known as the "Masustansyang Pagkain para sa Batang Pilipino Act", in recognition of the demonstrated relationship between food and nutrition, ensuring the growth development and capacity to learn of students, the State shall establish a comprehensive national feeding program that will address the problem of undernutrition among Filipino children;

WHEREAS, food security remains a challenge in the Philippines, given its geographic location brought by numerous threats of natural calamities and disasters, health crises and among that have rendered farm produce unusable or increased food prices due to food shortage;

CATHERINE A. FABULAR
Secretary to the Sanggunian

RICHARD BENEDICT V. OGARIO
Ex-Officio Member/President,
Liga ng mga Barangay (on official travel)

CRIS ANTONIO B. ONG
SB Member
(on official travel)

MANUEL M. CABISAN
SB Member

MANUEL V. LORA
SB Member

MANUEL R. VILLAHERMOSA
Municipal Mayor

BERNADETH M. NERVES
SB Member

EDWIN F. FALLER
SB Member

ALBERT R. VILLAHERMOSA
Municipal Vice-Mayor

HON. CECILLE ANTONIETTE C. SABRIDO
Ex-Officio Member / President, Pambayang Pederasyon ng Sangguniang Kabataan

FRANCISCO M. ORTEGA
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TRINIDAD V. ZARATE
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ALINE B. REOMA
SB Member

WHEREAS, Republic Act No. 10068, otherwise known as the "Agriculture Act of 2010" provides for the development and promotion of organic agriculture in the Philippines; and Rule 14.4 of its Implementing Rules and Regulations states that the Local Government Units (LGUs) as frontliners in the implementation of the programs shall pass appropriate ordinances and/or resolutions, specifying the participatory and bottom-up approach to grassroot organic agriculture programs and projects;

WHEREAS, the Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG) thru its Memorandum Circular No. 2023-001 shows support in cognizant to the role of barangay as essential partners of the national government in contributing to address hunger and ensuring food security in the country thru the Halina't Magtanim ng Prutas at Gulay (HAPAG) sa Barangay Project;

WHEREAS, Civil Society Organizations (CSO's) put forward important commitments and promotion of strong multi-sectoral approaches to tackle all forms of malnutrition, a strong focus on strengthening ties with the government. CSOs stakeholders committed to invest in nutrition-specific and nutrition-sensitive interventions including nutrition advocacy and programming.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED, by the Sangguniang Bayan of Municipality of Hilongos, Leyte in regular session assembled;

SECTION 1. TITLE. This Ordinance shall be known as REFRIGERATOR Garden Program Ordinance of Municipality of Hilongos, Leyte.

SECTION 2. DECLARATION OF POLICY. It shall be the policy of the municipality to reduce incidence of hunger and malnutrition focusing the first one-thousand days of life through biodiversity farming, organically-integrated and sustainably resilient communal farming and household gardening that will provide food on the table of every family in the barangays.

Enabling Civil Society Organizations to be an active sustainability partners in promoting food security and nutrition advocacy-related activities such as campaigning, raising awareness in support to good initiatives in nutrition-specific and nutrition sensitive interventions.

The municipality adheres to the principles of sustainable development and healthy environment responsibility through recycling of farm and household waste. Also, it recognizes the right of the people to a balanced ecology.

SECTION 3. DEFINITION OF TERMS. As used in this Ordinance, the following terms shall mean:

- A. **Barangay Community Garden** - refers to a piece of land or several patches of land operated and cultivated by the barangay for the purposes of planting and growing vegetables and fruit bearing trees.
- B. **Civil Society Organizations** - any non-profit, voluntary citizens group which is locally organized and an active sustainability partners in promoting food security and nutrition advocacy-related activities such as campaigning, raising awareness in support to good initiatives in nutrition-specific and nutrition sensitive interventions.

CATHERINE A. FABULAR
Secretary to the Sanggunian

RICHARD BENEDICT V. OGARIO
Ex-Officio Member/President,
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CRIS ANTONIO B. ONG
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MANUEL M. GABISAN
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- C. **Container Gardening** – refers to micro model farming where a family unit or household is producing fruits and vegetables in containers for personal consumption.
- D. **Hydroponics** – method of growing food using mineral nutrients solutions in water without soil (soilless based).
- E. **REFRIGERATOR Garden** – an innovative and adaptive Food Security and Nutrition Program of the Municipality of Hilongos, Leyte.
- F. **Square Foot Gardening** – is a simple method of creating small, orderly, and highly productive kitchen gardens.
- G. **Vertical Gardening** - refers to a special kind of urban gardening suitable for small spaces, particularly for decorating the walls and roof in various styles. It is alternative method gardening by expanding the scope of growing plants in a vertical space.

SECTION 4. MANDATORY ESTABLISHMENT OF REFRIGERATOR GARDEN. It is hereby prescribed that every household within the Municipality of Hilongos is hereby enjoined to establish its own **REFRIGERATOR GARDEN** in accordance with the following guidelines:

- A. Shall prepare garden plots, empty containers, sacks in their vicinity to be ready for planting of vegetable seedlings;
- B. Shall adopt organic farming practices in the propagation of seedlings from land preparation to harvesting;
- C. Shall utilize biodegradable waste such as decomposed kitchen and garden waste as fertilizers inputs;
- D. Shall contribute some of their produce to be used for Food Security and Nutrition Programs of the barangay such as feeding programs for children;
- E. Shall set aside some vegetables, fruits from their produce for seed purposes to sustain future seed requirement;
- F. Shall attend trainings/seminars on organic vegetables gardening program and compost making; and
- G. Shall prepare/utilize fresh vegetables that will serve food on the table of every family

SECTION 5. ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITY OF THE BARANGAY. The Barangay Nutrition Council shall provide the following:

- A. A community garden shall be established in an available site.
- B. Simple nursery for growing of vegetable seedlings.
- C. Provide designated compost pile or pile for organic waste materials to be deposited and promote growth of beneficial microorganism.

MANUEL R. VILLAHERMOSA
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For sustainability, the adoption of REFRIGERATOR Garden Program and Updated Food Security, Nutritional and Health Data Board shall form part under the Food Security and Nutrition Program in the barangay. This will be reflected on the Barangay Nutrition Action Plan (BNAP) as nutritional projects, programs and activities (PPAs) and should be integrated to the Barangay Development Plan (BDP) and to Barangay Annual Investment Plan (AIP) with budget allocation on the Barangay Annual Budget.

The Barangay Nutrition Committee (BNC) together with the Women's Association shall work together in updating and maintaining the record of malnourished children ages 0-59 months, pregnant women and lactating mothers. They are the primary beneficiaries of the REFRIGERATOR Garden program of the barangay, it may also include the indigent and vulnerable members of the community.

SECTION 6. ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNIT (LGU).

The Municipal Agriculture Office (MAO), Municipal Nutrition Committee (MNC), Municipal Health Office (MHO), Public Service Employment Office (PESO) and Municipal Social Welfare Development Office (MSWDO), shall have the following responsibilities;

A. Municipal Agriculture Office (MAO).

1. Provide technical assistance to the communities and civil society organizations (CSOs), particularly in the implementation of integrated/bio-diversified agricultural program, provision of agricultural support services and facilities, free organic fertilizers and bio-pesticides, improvement and development of local distribution channels, prevention and control of plant pests and diseases;
2. Sourcing of vegetable seeds, fruit-bearing trees and other kinds of seedling nurseries from the Local MAO, Provincial Agriculture Office and the Department of Agriculture, Regional Office No. 8;
3. Promote and encourage new technology using kitchen wastes as organic fertilizers, composting, bio-organic concoction and integrated vegetable home gardening and taking advantage of ecological solid waste;

B. Municipal Nutrition Committee and Municipal Health Office (MHO).

1. Provide technical support in formulation of Barangay Nutrition Action Plan (BNAP), updated Operation Timbang Plus (OPT+) and nutritional status in every barangay, as well as promote integrated organic household gardening that will serve as food basket or main source of vegetable to sustain dietary needs of every family;
2. Ensure formulation, updating or revision of the Municipal Nutrition Action Plan (MNAP), to include and support the establishment and maintenance of REFRIGERATOR Garden Program;
3. Integrate in the Comprehensive Development Plan (CDP), as well as in the Local Development Plan (LDP) and Annual Investment Programs (AIP), applicable programs and activities to promote food security and nutrition programs such seminars/trainings on basic methods of home gardening program, community gardening, updated food security, nutritional and health data board to ensure adequate funding for nutritional impact.

CATHERINE A. FABULAR
Secretary to the Sanggunian

RICHARD BENEDICT V. OGARIO
Ex-Officio Member/President,
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SB Member

MANUEL V. TORRA
SB Member

- 4. Maintains, monitoring and evaluate the nutritional status of every barangay and implement nutrition and health intervention programs focusing on F1KD.

C. Municipal Social Welfare and Development Office (MSWDO).

- 1. Through the Enhanced Partnership Against Hunger and Poverty (EPAHP) program of Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) Office that ventures on collaborative efforts to increase farm productivity and income, ensure food and nutrition security and mitigate hunger and malnutrition in the urban and rural communities;
- 2. Formulation, implementation and coordination of social welfare and development policies and programs for and with the poor, vulnerable and disadvantaged;
- 3. Create greater synergy and convergence in engaging the rural communities to enhance social capital and optimize the economic resource base, through supplementary feeding, food production programs and essential support services;
- 4. Adoption of Community Participation Procurement to allow participation of CSOs as partners and service providers in the program;

D. Public Employment Service Office (PESO)

- 1. Ensure responsive and efficient delivery of employment service and provision of information on other DOLE employment and self-employment program leading to higher labor market outcomes;
- 2. Facilitate the implementation, initiate, and organize livelihood and self-employment bazaars, in coordination with government and non-government institutions to enhance the employment capacity skills of CSOs;
- 3. Transition public assistance recipients to employment and eventual self-sufficiency and to ensure that low-income individuals and families receive necessary health, nutrition, financial and employment services;

SECTION 7. COLLABORATION WITH THE CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANIZATIONS. Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) in every barangay shall commit the promotion of organic communal and household gardening. They shall be an active partner implementer in enhancing governance – focusing on engaging households – to create an enabling sustainable barangays, which includes supporting the programs of national, regional, provincial and municipal strategies to improve nutritional status and diet quality of the community, converging on the first one-thousand days of life (F1KD), a multi-sectoral collaboration, promotion, propagation development and implementation of organic agriculture from production and use of agricultural bio-system techniques, addressing gender inequities, and facilitating gender and youth-sensitive interventions. CSOs shall be involved in the planning, implementation, monitoring, and evaluation of the REFRIGERATOR Garden Program.

SECTION 8. MUNICIPAL MONITORING, EVALUATION, ASSESSMENT and LEARNING (MMEAL) TEAM. The Municipal Monitoring, Evaluation, Assessment and Learning (MMEAL) Team composed the following:

MANUEL R. VILLAHERMOSA
Municipal Mayor

BERNADETH M. NERVES
SB Member

EDWIN F. FALLER
SB Member

ALBERT R. VILLAHERMOSA
Municipal Vice-Mayor

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SB Member

MANUEL V. JORA
SB Member

MANUEL R. VILLAHERMOSA
Municipal Mayor

Chairman : Municipal Agriculture Officer

Vice-Chairman : Municipal Health Officer

Members :

- Sangguniang Bayan Member, Chairperson Committee on Agriculture, Fishery and Food Security
- Sangguniang Bayan Member, Chairperson Committee on Health, Nutrition, Sanitation, Social Services and GAD
- Municipal Nutrition Action Officer
- Municipal Social Worker Development Officer
- Civil Society Organization Desk Officer
- GAD Focal Person
- President, Hilongos People's Council
- President of Municipal Agricultural and Fishery Council
- President, Barangay Nutrition Scholar
- President, Barangay Health Workers

The following are the duties and responsibilities of the MMEAL Team:

- Conduct regular barangay visitation to verify the implementation, development, and sustainability of REFRIGERATOR Garden Program.
- Prepares and maintains accomplishment report base on MMEAL template and submits to Municipal Nutrition Committee for feedbacking and Program Implementation Review (PIR).
- Evaluate, validate, and declare the barangay as outstanding implementor of REFRIGERATOR Garden base on the output and outcomes of the program.
- Undertakes other nutrition-related activities as deemed necessary to such role.

SECTION 9. CAPACITY BUILDING. To sustain and broaden base for the implementation of this ordinance within sixty (60) calendar days from the effectivity of this ordinance and periodically thereafter, the barangay shall coordinate with the Municipal Agriculturist on the conduct of orientation and capacity development for the implementation and progress of the REFRIGERATOR Garden Program and sustainable Food Security and Nutrition (FSN) Program.

SECTION 10. INCENTIVES. The Municipality shall grant incentives and awards to barangays with outstanding implementation of REFRIGERATOR GARDEN PROGRAM and visible decrease on prevalence of malnutrition focusing the first one-thousand days of life (F1KD) during the Nutrition Month Celebration every month of July.

SECTION 11. APPROPRIATION. The Municipality as well as the Barangay shall appropriate substantial budget to ensure the implementation and to support the REFRIGERATOR GARDEN PROGRAM Ordinance under the Food Security and Nutrition Program of the Municipality.

SECTION 12. IMPLEMENTING RULES AND REGULATIONS. The Implementing Rules and Regulations will be formulated by the Executive Department thru the Municipal Nutrition Committee (MNC) and Strengthening Participation and Accountability through Civil Society Organizations and Engagement with Sub-National and National Government (SPACES) Hilongos Team, thirty (30) days after this ordinance will be published in a newspaper of regional circulation.

BERNADETH M. NERVES
SB Member

EDWINE F. FALLER
SB Member

ALBERT R. VILLAHERMOSA
Municipal Vice-Mayor

HON. CECILLE ANTONIETTE C. SABRIDO
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SECTION 13. SEPARABILITY CLAUSE. In the event that any part or provision of this Ordinance is held unconstitutional or invalid, other parts or provisions not otherwise affected shall remain in full force and effect.

SECTION 14. REPEALING CLAUSE. All other ordinances or provisions thereof inconsistent herewith are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SECTION 15. EFFECTIVITY. This Ordinance shall take effect upon its approval.

ENACTED this 15th day of April, 2024, during the Fifteenth Regular Session of the Sixteenth Sangguniang Bayan of Hilongos.

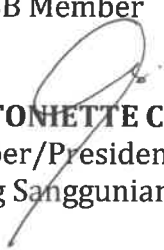
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RICHARD BENEDICT V. OGARIO
Ex-Officio Member/President, Liga ng mga
Barangay (on official travel)


CECILLE ANTONETTE C. SABRIDO
Ex-Officio Member/President, Pambayang
Pederasyon ng Sangguniang Kabataan


I HEREBY CERTIFY to the correctness of the foregoing ordinance.


CATHERINE A. FABULAR
Secretary to the Sanggunian

ATTESTED:


ALBERT R. VILLAHERMOSA
Municipal Vice-Mayor/Presiding Officer

APPROVED:


MANUEL R. VILLAHERMOSA
Municipal Mayor
Date: May 8, 2024