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Item No.: 02
Date: 05 2025 AUG



Republic of the Philippines
PROVINCE OF LEYTE
Provincial Capitol
Tacloban City

-oOo-

Sangguniang Panlalawigan
Province of Leyte

PROVINCIAL LEGAL OFFICE

RECEIVED

Date: JUL 30 2025
By: Ferris V

2nd INDORSEMENT

July 10, 2025

Province of Leyte
Legal Office
Released by
[Signature]
7-29-25

Respectfully returned to the Sangguniang Panlalawigan of Leyte, through the SP Secretary, the attached Ordinance No. 498 of the Sangguniang Bayan of Babatngon, Leyte.

Issues/concerns for review/recommendation/legal opinion is/are as follows:

- Ordinance No. 498 entitled: **“Libreng Sakay” Free Ride Program Ordinance.**”

REVIEW/RECOMMENDATION/LEGAL OPINION:

This office opines that the subject Ordinance is, in general, within the legislative authority of the Sangguniang Bayan under Sections 447(a)(1)¹ the Local Government Code of 1991 (R.A 7160). Hence, we recommend for the declaration of its validity, subject to the submission of its IRR in relation to its specific implementation.

We hope to have assisted you with this request. Please note that the opinion rendered by this Office are based on the facts available and may vary or change when additional facts and documents are presented or changed. This opinion is likewise without prejudice to the opinions rendered by higher and competent authorities and/or the courts.

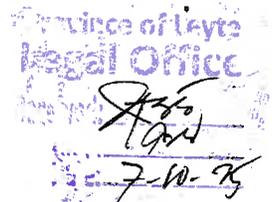
ATTY. JOSE RAYMUND A. ACOL
Provincial Legal Officer 

¹ a) The sangguniang bayan, as the legislative body of the municipality, shall enact ordinances, approve resolutions and appropriate funds for the general welfare of the municipality and its inhabitants pursuant to Section 16 of this Code and in the proper exercise of the corporate powers of the municipality as provided for under Section 22 of this Code.

Republic of the Philippines
PROVINCE OF LEYTE
Palo, Leyte
-000-

OFFICE OF THE SANGGUNIANG PANLALAWIGAN

1ST INDORSEMENT
09 July 2025



The Provincial Legal Office is respectfully requested to review and submit recommendations on the herein **Ordinance No. 498** of the **Municipality of Babatngon, Leyte**, entitled: **An Ordinance establishing a free ride program for high school students, known as "Libreng Sakay", in the Municipality of Babatngon, Leyte, providing for the acquisition and operation of land and sea municipal vehicles for said program and providing funds thereof.**


FLORINDA JILLS UYVICO
Secretary to the Sanggunian

Republic of the Philippines
Province of Leyte
Municipality of Babatngon



OFFICE OF THE SANGGUNIANG BAYAN

09 July 2025

Honorable Leonardo M. Javier, Jr.,
Vice Governor and Presiding Officer, and

The Honorable Members
Sangguniang Panlalawigan
Province of Leyte
Legislative Bldg., Capitol Grounds
Tacloban City

SANGGUNIANG PANLALAWIGAN



Dear Honorable Ladies and Gentlemen,

Respectfully endorsed to the Honorable Sangguniang Panlalawigan of Leyte is **ORDINANCE NO. 498** entitled: "AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING A FREE RIDE PROGRAM FOR HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS, KNOWN AS "LIBRENG SAKAY," IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF BABATNGON, LEYTE, PROVIDING FOR THE ACQUISITION AND OPERATION OF LAND AND SEA MUNICIPAL VEHICLES FOR SAID PROGRAM AND PROVIDING FUNDS THEREOF." Said ordinance is being forwarded to that Body for review in compliance with Section 56(a) of Republic Act 7160.

Enclosed please find the following:

1. **ORDINANCE NO. 498**
2. **Certificate of Posting**

Please find them in order and praying for your favorable action thereof.

Very truly yours,


ALMA A. BALDOMAR
Secretary II
Secretary to the Sanggunian-designate

Enclosed:
As stated





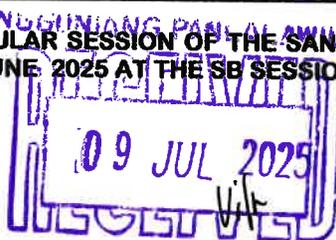
SANGGUNIANG BAYAN
BABATNGON, LEYTE

RELEASED
SANGONG-PILIPINAS

OFFICE OF THE SANGGUNIANG BAYAN

BY: [Signature]
DATE: July 8, 2025
TIME: 9:00 AM

EXCERPT FROM THE MINUTES OF THE 148th REGULAR SESSION OF THE SANGGUNIANG BAYAN OF BABATNGON, LEYTE HELD ON THE 23rd DAY OF JUNE 2025 AT THE SB SESSION HALL, LEGISLATIVE BUILDING, BABATNGON, LEYTE.



MAYOR'S OFFICE
BABATNGON, LEYTE

RECEIVED

ORDINANCE NO. 498

BY: [Signature]
DATE: 07-02-25
TIME: 3:42 pm

AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING A FREE RIDE PROGRAM FOR HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS, KNOWN AS "LIBRENG SAKAY," IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF BABATNGON, LEYTE, PROVIDING FOR THE ACQUISITION AND OPERATION OF LAND AND SEA MUNICIPAL VEHICLES FOR SAID PROGRAM AND PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFOR.

AUTHOR: Hon. HILARION S. MENZON
Sangguniang Bayan Member
CO-AUTHOR: Hon. Christian C. Lawsin; Hon. Kemuel Rue M. Corsiga
Hon. Ildefonso B. Odon; Hon. Federico P. Elizaga, Jr.; Hon. Alex Veloso Bello
ABC Pres. Hon. Edgardo Y. Morden; SK Federation Hon.Pres. Jude Lemwel B. Vethimvas

WHEREAS, education is a fundamental right and a cornerstone of national development;

WHEREAS, ensuring access to quality education for all students, particularly those from economically disadvantaged families, is crucial for progress;

WHEREAS, many high school students in Babatngon, Leyte, face significant challenges in attending school due to financial constraints, particularly transportation costs;

WHEREAS, the Municipality of Babatngon recognizes the vital role of education in empowering its youth and fostering a skilled workforce; The Local Government Unit (LGU) aims to improve the quality of life for its constituents by investing in human capital development;

WHEREAS, the establishment of a free ride program using municipally-owned vehicles will significantly alleviate the financial burden on parents and encourage higher school attendance rates;

WHEREAS, this program aims to support families in ensuring their children's regular school attendance, ultimately contributing to the goal of having at least one professional in every family;

NOW, THEREFORE, be it ordained by the Sangguniang Bayan of the Municipality of Babatngon, Leyte, in session assembled:

Section 1. Short Title. – This Ordinance shall be known as the "Libreng Sakay" Free Ride Program Ordinance.

Section 2. Declaration of Policy. – It is the declared policy of the Municipality of Babatngon to provide free transportation to all high school students residing within the municipality through the operation of municipally-owned vehicles. This will ensure access to quality education and contribute to the overall development of the community, specifically aiming for at least one professional per family.

Section 3. Coverage. – The Libreng Sakay program shall cover all bonafide high school students enrolled in public and private high schools within the Municipality of Babatngon, Leyte, regardless of their socio-economic status;



students. - The establishment of designated routes and schedules for the free ride program, strategically designed to cover areas with high concentrations of high school students. - The hiring and training of qualified drivers and attendants. - The implementation of a system for student registration and identification. - Regular maintenance and repair of the vehicles. - Monitoring the program's effectiveness and making necessary adjustments.

Section 5. Funding. – The necessary funds for the implementation of the Libreng Sakay program, including the acquisition of vehicles, operational costs, maintenance, and personnel, shall be sourced from Special Education Fund (SEF) and the Municipal General Fund, subject to the availability of funds and budgetary appropriations.

Section 6. Monitoring and Evaluation. – The Municipal School Board and Committee on Education shall regularly monitor and evaluate the effectiveness of the program, including student attendance rates, feedback from parents and students, and the overall impact on the community. A report shall be submitted to the Municipal Council annually.

Section 7. Penalties. – Any violation of the provisions of this Ordinance shall be subject to penalties as provided for under existing municipal ordinances.

Section 8. Separability Clause. – If any provision of this Ordinance is declared invalid or unconstitutional, the remaining provisions shall remain in full force and effect.

Section 9 - Effectivity. This Ordinance shall take effect fifteen (15) days after posting in three (3) conspicuous places.

ENACTED and APPROVED this 23rd day of June 2025 at Babatngon, Leyte.

I HEREBY CERTIFY to the correctness of the foregoing ordinance.


ALMA A. BALDOMAR
Secretary II
Secretary to the Sanggunian-Designate

ATTESTED:


HON. ROSARY PEARL G. CATUDIO
Municipal Vice-Mayor and
Presiding Officer


HON. CHRISTIAN C. LAWSIN
Sangguniang Bayan Member


HON. KEMUEL RUE M. CORSIGA
Sangguniang Bayan Member

(Vacation Leave)
HON. KARL JOMAR L. EMBANA
Sangguniang Bayan Member


HON. ILDEFONSO B. ODON
Sangguniang Bayan Member


HON. FEDERICO P. ELIZAGA, JR.
Sangguniang Bayan Member


HON. HILARION S. MENZON
Sangguniang Bayan Member



OFFICE OF THE SANGGUNIANG BAYAN

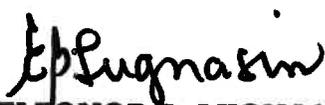
ORDINANCE NO. 498
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HON. ALEX V. BELLO
Sangguniang Bayan Member


HON. EDGARDO Y. MORDEN
President
Liga ng mga Barangay


HON. JUDE LEWEL B. VETHIMVAS
President
Pambayang Pederasyon ng
Sangguniang Kabataan

APPROVED:


HON. ELEONOR B. LUGASIN
Municipal Mayor

Date: 07 July 2025







OFFICE OF THE SANGGUNIANG BAYAN

CERTIFICATION

TO WHOM THIS MAY CONCERN:

This is to certify that POSTING in prominent places in the Municipal Hall and some conspicuous places in the locality was undertaken starting 08 July 2025 and copies of said ordinance shall remain posted for three (3) consecutive weeks, pursuant to Sec. 59 (b) of Republic Act 7160, in relation to hereunder ordinance, to wit:

1. **ORDINANCE NO. 498 – AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING A FREE RIDE PROGRAM FOR HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS, KNOWN AS “LIBRENG SAKAY,” IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF BABATNGON, LEYTE, PROVIDING FOR THE ACQUISITION AND OPERATION OF LAND AND SEA MUNICIPAL VEHICLES FOR SAID PROGRAM AND PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFOR.**

Made this 8TH day of July 2025 at Babatngon, Leyte.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "A 33".

ALMA A. BALDOMAR
Secretary II
Secretary to the Sanggunian-designate

