



Republic of the Philippines  
PROVINCE OF LEYTE  
Provincial Capitol  
Tacloban City

-oOo-

PROVINCIAL LEGAL OFFICE

Sangguniang Panlalawigan  
Province of Leyte

RECEIVED

Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
By: *J. Cami*

Item No.: 18

Date: 05 2025 AUG

Province of Leyte  
LEYTE  
*Agus*  
*07.2.25*

2<sup>nd</sup> INDORSEMENT  
June 30, 2025

Respectfully returned to the Sangguniang Panlalawigan of Leyte, through the SP Secretary, the attached Ordinance No. 1, series of 2025 of the Sangguniang Bayan of Merida, Leyte.

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

- Ordinance No. 1, series of 2025 entitled: “Merida Birthing Clinic Ordinance of 2025.”

**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)<sup>1</sup> of the Local Government Code of 1991 (R.A 7160). Hence, we recommend for the declaration of its validity.

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*

<sup>1</sup> (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, and shall:

(1) Approve ordinances and pass resolutions necessary for an efficient and effective municipal government

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PROVINCE OF LEYTE  
Palo, Leyte  
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**OFFICE OF THE SANGGUNIANG PANLALAWIGAN**

**1<sup>ST</sup> INDORSEMENT**  
24 June 2025

LEGAL OFFICE  
6-24-25

The Provincial Legal Office is respectfully requested to review and submit recommendations on the herein enclosed **Municipal Ordinance No. 01, series of 2025 of the Municipality of Merida, Leyte**, entitled: **An Ordinance establishing the Merida Birthing Clinic in the Municipality of Merida, Province of Leyte, providing funds therefor, and for other purposes.**

  
**FLORINDA JILL S. UYVICO**  
Secretary to the Sanggunian



Republic of the Philippines  
Province of Leyte  
MUNICIPALITY OF MERIDA

Sangguniang Panlalawigan  
Province of Leyte

**RECEIVED**

Date: JUN 24 2025  
By: Jemi W

**OFFICE OF THE SANGGUNIANG BAYAN**

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23 JUNE 2025

THE SANGGUNIANG PANLALAWIGAN OF LEYTE  
CAPITOL BUILDING  
PALO LEYTE

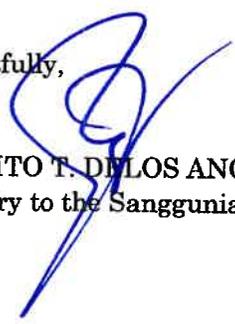
DEAR HONORABLE MEMBERS;

I have the honor to submit to the Sangguniang Panlalawigan ~~NG~~ Leyte copies of **MUNICIPAL ORDINANCE NO. 01, SERIES OF 2025 - "AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING THE MERIDA BIRTHING CLINIC IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF MERIDA, PROVINCE OF LEYTE, PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES"** enacted by the 18<sup>th</sup> Council of this Municipality, for review and consideration.

Hoping everything is in order.

Thank you.

Respectfully,

  
JOSELITO T. DE LOS ANGELES  
Secretary to the Sangguniang Bayan



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PROVINCE OF LEYTE  
MUNICIPALITY OF MERIDA

Sangguniang Panlalawigan  
Province of Leyte  
**RECEIVED**  
Date: JUN 24 2025  
By: Jenni V.

**OFFICE OF THE SANGGUNIANG BAYAN**

**EXCERPT FROM THE MINUTES OF THE 126TH REGULAR SESSION OF THE SANGGUNIANG BAYAN (18TH COUNCIL), MERIDA, LEYTE HELD ON MARCH 03, 2025 AT THE LEGISLATIVE BUILDING SESSION HALL.**

**PRESENT:**

<b>HON. RODRIGO M. WENCESLAO</b>	, Municipal Vice Mayor, Presiding Officer
<b>HON. CHENIL C. CALDERON</b>	, Municipal Councilor, Assistant Floor Leader
<b>HON. JOEL A. MARSON</b>	, Municipal Councilor
<b>HON. JESUS ANTONIO R. MARTINEZ</b>	, Municipal Councilor
<b>HON. EMARITO A. LUZARES</b>	, Municipal Councilor, Majority Floor Leader
<b>HON. CAMILO L. DEJON</b>	, Municipal Councilor
<b>HON. FELIPE H. PEREZ, JR.</b>	, Municipal Councilor
<b>HON. NENFA C. OYAO</b>	, Municipal Councilor
<b>HON. STEPHANIE M. MIRALLES</b>	, Municipal Councilor
<b>HON. RONILLO O. LABANG</b>	, Mun. LnB President (Ex-Officio)
<b>HON. ASHLEY NOREEN J. DIAZ</b>	, Mun. SK Fed. President (Ex-Officio)

**ABSENT:**

NONE

**-RESOLUTION NO. 18-25-032-**

**A RESOLUTION ADOPTING MUNICIPAL ORDINANCE NO. 01, SERIES OF 2025, ENTITLED "AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING THE MERIDA BIRTHING CLINIC IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF MERIDA, PROVINCE OF LEYTE, PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFROM AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES."**

**NOW, WHEREFORE, ON MOTION OF Hon. Stephanie M. Miralles, duly seconded by MASS, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SANGGUNIANG BAYAN (18<sup>TH</sup> COUNCIL) OF MERIDA, LEYTE, TO ENACT:**

**-MUNICIPAL ORDINANCE NO. 01-**  
**Series of 2025**

**AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING THE MERIDA BIRTHING CLINIC IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF MERIDA, PROVINCE OF LEYTE, PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.**

**WHEREAS, it is the duty of the local government to protect and promote the right to health of its constituents, especially mothers and newborns, by ensuring access to quality maternal and child healthcare services;**

**WHEREAS, the Municipality of Merida recognizes the urgent need to establish a birthing facility that will provide safe, accessible, and affordable maternity care, reducing maternal and infant mortality rates and addressing home-based deliveries without proper medical assistance;**

**WHEREAS, Republic Act No. 10354, or the Responsible Parenthood and Reproductive Health Act of 2012, mandates local government units (LGUs) to provide maternal health services, including safe delivery and postnatal care;**

**WHEREAS, this ordinance aims to establish a fully functional birthing clinic in the municipality, ensuring that every pregnant woman receives the necessary medical attention during pregnancy, childbirth, and postpartum periods.**

**SECTION 1. TITLE - This Ordinance shall be known as the "Merida Birthing Clinic Ordinance of 2025."**

**SECTION 2. OBJECTIVES - The Merida Birthing Clinic shall be established to:**

- 1. Provide safe and affordable maternal and newborn care services.**
- 2. Reduce maternal and neonatal mortality rates in the municipality.**
- 3. Ensure that all pregnant women have access to skilled birth attendants and quality health facilities.**
- 4. Promote safe motherhood by offering prenatal, delivery, postnatal, and family planning services.**

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5. *Encourage facility-based deliveries and discourage unsafe home births.*
6. *Improve maternal and child health through public education, nutrition, and immunization programs.*

**SECTION 3. CREATION OF THE MERIDA BIRTHING CLINIC**

*There is hereby established a government-operated birthing clinic in the Municipality of Merida, to be managed by the Medical Doctor hired and contracted as Head of Facility in coordination with the Department of Health (DOH), Philippine Health Insurance Corporation (PhilHealth), and other relevant agencies.*

*The location of the clinic shall be determined by the municipal government, ensuring accessibility to residents, particularly those from Geographically Isolated and Disadvantaged Areas (GIDAs).*

**SECTION 4. SERVICES OFFERED**

*The Merida Birthing Clinic shall provide, but not be limited to, the following services:*

1. *Prenatal and Postnatal Care – Regular check-ups, monitoring of pregnancy conditions, provision of vitamins and supplements.*
2. *Normal spontaneous deliveries (NSD) – Assisted childbirth under the supervision of skilled birth attendants (midwives, nurses, and physicians).*
3. *Basic Emergency Obstetric and Newborn Care (BEmONC) – Management of pregnancy-related emergencies before referral to higher-level facilities.*
4. *Newborn Care Services – Immediate newborn care, essential immunizations, and newborn screening.*
5. *Family Planning and Reproductive Health Services – Counseling and provision of contraceptive options.*
6. *Maternal Nutrition and Breastfeeding education – Promotion of exclusive breastfeeding and proper maternal nutrition.*
7. *Health Education and Advocacy – Community outreach programs on maternal and child health.*
8. *Referral System – Coordination with hospitals for complicated pregnancies requiring advanced medical care.*

**SECTION 5. FUNDING AND SUSTAINABILITY**

1. *The Municipal Budget Office shall include the operational and maintenance costs of the birthing clinic in the Annual Investment Plan (AIP).*
2. *The Municipal Government shall seek financial and technical assistance from the DOH, PhilHealth, and other national and international agencies to sustain its operations.*
3. *The clinic shall be PhilHealth-accredited to ensure financial sustainability through reimbursements for maternity services provided to insured mothers.*
4. *There shall be a created separate Trust Account of the Merida Birthing Clinic at LBP Ormoc Branch, Ormoc City, Leyte for purposes of self-sustainability and deposits of reimbursements from PhilHealth.*

OVER-



**SECTION 6. MANAGEMENT AND PERSONNEL**

*The Head of the Facility (Medical Doctor) shall oversee the administration of the Merida Birthing Clinic, which shall be staffed by the following personnel:*

1. *Licensed Midwives – At least Four (4) midwives working in shifts to ensure 24/7 coverage. Three (3) Regular Shifts and One (1) Reliever.*
2. *Nurses and Support Staff – To assist in deliveries, postnatal care, and administrative tasks. Four (4) Nurses, Three (3) Regular Shifts and One (1) Reliever.*
3. *One (1) Administrator - oversees daily operations, ensuring smooth functioning, staff support, and adherence to regulations, while also managing finances, programs, and communication.*
4. *Three (3) Utility/Watchman - promoting a comfortable and supportive environment.*
5. *One (1) Ambulance Driver - ensuring the safe and timely transportation of expectant mothers and newborns, often responding to emergencies and providing vital support during childbirth.*
6. *Medical Technologists and Laboratory Staff (if applicable)-For basic laboratory tests and newborn screening.*

*The Municipal Government may also partner with private practitioners, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), and volunteer healthcare workers to supplement services.*

**SECTION 7. COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION AND ADVOCACY**

1. *Barangay Health Emergency Response Teams (BHERTS) shall assist in the identification of pregnant women in their communities and ensure they avail of prenatal and birthing services.*
2. *The clinic shall conduct regular maternal health campaigns to educate women on safe pregnancy, childbirth, and newborn care.*
3. *Incentives for facility-based deliveries may be provided (e.g, free maternity kits transportation assistance) to encourage women to give birth at the clinic rather than at home.*

**SECTION 8. REGULATORY COMPLIANCE AND ACCREDITATION**

1. *The Merida Birthing Clinic shall adhere to the DOH licensing standards and shall obtain necessary permits and certifications.*
2. *The facility shall be accredited by PhilHealth under its Maternity Care Package (MCP) program.*
3. *The Municipal Government shall ensure compliance with Republic Act No.9709 (Newborn Hearing Screening Act), Republic Act No. 9288 (Newborn Screening Act), and other applicable laws.*

**SECTION 9. MONITORING AND EVALUATION**

1. *The Head of Facility (Medical Doctor) shall submit quarterly reports to the Sangguniang Bayan regarding the performance, accomplishments, and challenges of the birthing clinic*
2. *A Maternal Health Review Board may be established to evaluate maternal health indicators and propose improvements.*
3. *The Sangguniang Bayan's Health Committee shall conduct annual inspections of the facility to ensure proper implementation of services.*

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**SECTION 10. PENALTIES AND SANCTIONS**

1. Any personnel found guilty of gross negligence, malpractice, or misconduct in the performance of their duties shall be subject to administrative sanctions in accordance with civil service laws.
2. Any unauthorized collection of fees from patients beyond approved charges shall be strictly prohibited and subject to disciplinary action.

**SECTION 11. SEPARABILITY CLAUSE.** If, for any reason, any part of or provision of this Ordinance shall be held to be unconstitutional or invalid, other parts of provisions hereof which are not affected thereby shall continue to be in full force and effect.

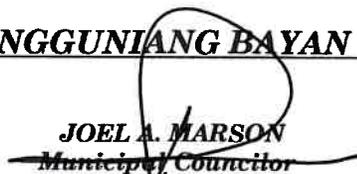
**SECTION 12. EFFECTIVITY CLAUSE**

This ordinance shall take effect immediately after its approval and publication in a local newspaper or posting in at least three (3) conspicuous places within the Municipality of Merida

ENACTED BY THE SANGGUNIANG BAYAN (18TH COUNCIL) OF MERIDA, LEYTE AT ITS REGULAR SESSION HELD ON THE 03<sup>RD</sup> DAY OF MARCH 2024.

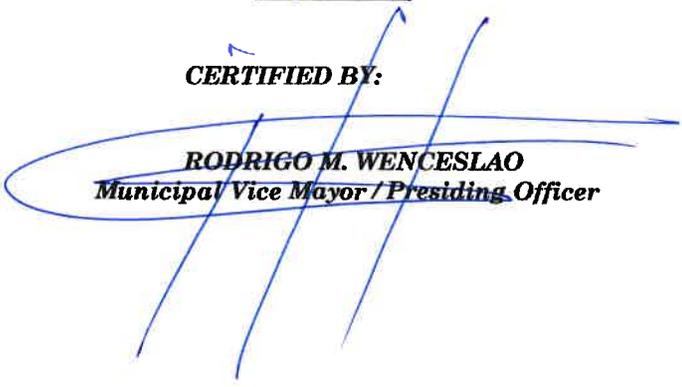
APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.

**SANGGUNIANG BAYAN MEMBERS**

 <b>CHENIE C. CALDERON</b> Municipal Councilor Assistant Floor Leader	 <b>JOEL A. MARSON</b> Municipal Councilor	 <b>JESUS ANTONIO R. MARTINEZ</b> Municipal Councilor
 <b>EMARITO A. LUZARES</b> Municipal Councilor Majority Floor Leader	 <b>FELIPE H. PEREZ, JR.</b> Municipal Councilor	 <b>CAMILO L. DEJON</b> Municipal Councilor
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	 <b>RONILLO O. LABANG</b> Ex-Officio (Mun. InB President)	

APPROVED BY HIS HONOR, THE MUNICIPAL MAYOR ON MARCH 31, 2025.

APPROVED BY:  
  
**ENGR. ROLANDO M. VILLASEÑICO**  
Municipal Mayor

CERTIFIED BY:  
  
**RODRIGO M. WENCESLAO**  
Municipal Vice Mayor / Presiding Officer

ATTESTED BY:  
  
**JOSELITO T. DELOS ANGELES**  
Secretary to the Sangguniang Bayan



Republic of the Philippines  
Province of Leyte  
MUNICIPALITY OF MERIDA

OFFICE OF THE SANGGUNIANG BAYAN

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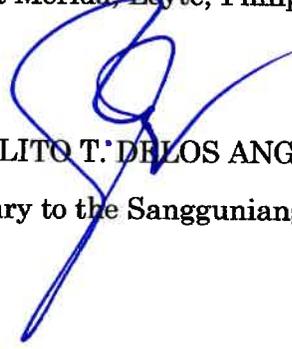
CERTIFICATION

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

THIS IS TO CERTIFY that **MUNICIPAL ORDINANCE NO. 01, SERIES OF 2025 – “AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING THE MERIDA BIRTHING CLINIC IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF MERIDA, PROVINCE OF LEYTE, PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”** had been posted in three (3) conspicuous places in the locality within three (3) consecutive weeks from MARCH 04, 2025 to APRIL 05, 2025.

THIS CERTIFICATION has been issued in compliance to Section 511 (1), Title One, book IV of RA 7160, otherwise known as the Local Government Code of 1991.

DONE AND ISSUED this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of JUNE 2025 at Merida, Leyte, Philippines.

  
JOSELITO T. DELOS ANGELES  
Secretary to the Sangguniang Bayan 