

Item No.: 20

Date: 21 2025 OCT



Republic of the Philippines
PROVINCE OF LEYTE
Provincial Capitol
Tacloban City

Province of Leyte
Legal Office
Date: 10-13-25

Sangguniang Panlalawigan
Province of Leyte

RECEIVED

Date: OCT 13 2025
By: JMM/V

PROVINCIAL LEGAL OFFICE

-oOo-

2nd INDORSEMENT
October 3, 2025

Respectfully returned to the Sangguniang Panlalawigan of Leyte, through SP Secretary, the attached Ordinance No. 245 214 of the Sangguniang Bayan of Matag-ob, Leyte.

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

- Ordinance No. 245 214 entitled: "HIV Prevention, Awareness, and Stigma Reduction Ordinance of Matag-ob, Leyte."

REVIEW/RECOMMENDATION/LEGAL OPINION:

This office is of the opinion that the subject Ordinance is generally in accordance with its power under Section 23 of R.A. no. 8504¹ in consonance with RA 11166². 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

¹ Section 23. *Community-based services.* – Local government units, in coordination and in cooperation with concerned government agencies, non-government organizations, persons with HIV/AIDS and groups most at risk of HIV infection shall provide community-based HIV/AIDS prevention and care services. - Health Research and Development Act

² Philippine HIV and AIDS Policy Act

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

OFFICE OF THE SANGGUNIANG PANLALAWIGAN

1ST INDORSEMENT
24 September 2025

Office of Leyte
Legal Office
Mara
12/24/25
2:47 pm

The Provincial Legal Office is respectfully requested to review and submit recommendations on the herein enclosed **Municipal Ordinance No. (245) 214** of the **Municipality of Matag-ob, Leyte**, entitled: **Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) Prevention, Awareness, and Stigma Reduction Ordinance of Matag-ob, Leyte.**


FLORINDA JILL S. DYVICO
Secretary to the Sanggunian



REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
PROVINCE OF LEYTE
MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT OF MATAG-OB



SANGGUNIANG BAYAN

ENDORSEMENT

September 19, 2025

HONORABLE LEONARDO "SANDY" JAVIER
Vice-Governor
Presiding Officer
Sangguniang Panlalawigan of Leyte



Sir:

Respectfully forwarding to your good office the herein attached **Municipal Ordinance No. (245) 214**, entitled: "HUMAN IMMUNODEFFICIENCY VIRUS (HIV) PREVENTION, AWARENESS, AND STIGMA REDUCTION ORDINANCE OF MATAG-OB, LEYTE.", subject for review by the Sangguniang Panlalawigan of Leyte.

Respectfully yours,


ANA MARIA SANORIA-ECIJA
Secretary to the Sanggunian



REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
PROVINCE OF LEYTE
MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT OF MATAG-OB



SANGGUNIANG BAYAN

CERTIFICATION OF POSTING

September 19, 2025

THIS IS TO CERTIFY that copies of **Municipal Ordinance No. (245) 214**, entitled: "HUMAN IMMUNODEFFICIENCY VIRUS (HIV) PREVENTION, AWARENESS, AND STIGMA REDUCTION ORDINANCE OF MATAG-OB, LEYTE.", of the Sangguniang Bayan of Matag-ob, Leyte are posted in Three (3) conspicuous places within the municipality of Matag-ob, Leyte for three consecutive weeks from September 18, 2025.

This certification is issued in compliance with Section 59 of R.A. 7160, otherwise known as the Local Government Code of 1991.

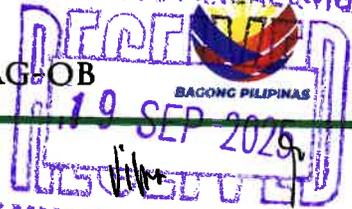
Issued this 19th. day of September, 2025.


ANA MARIA SANORIA-ECIJA
Secretary to the Sanggunian



REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
PROVINCE OF LEYTE
MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT OF MATAG-OB

SANGGUNIANG PANGALAWIGAN



SANGGUNIANG BAYAN

I HEREBY CERTIFY that this is a true and accurate copy of the resolution duly adopted by the Sangguniang Bayan of Matag-ob, Leyte on August 11, 2025.

ANA MARIA SANORIA-ECIJA
Secretary to the Sanggunian

ATTESTED:

HON. ARTEMIO T. ALMOROTO
Senior SB Member

HON. JOEL N. DENOY
SB Member

HON. EVANGELINE C. CARNO
SB Member

HON. RICARDO L. GIVA
SB Member

HON. RODOLFO N. SUÑIR
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HON. LUZ M. BOLDERO
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HON. JOSE B. YAP
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HON. EDUARDO I. TOLEDO
SB Member

HON. ANA LOVE D. BORDEN
Ex-Officio Member, SK Fed. Pres.

HON. JOEL G. TACOY
Ex-Officio Member, LNB
President

HON. ROMEO N. ALBARIDA
Municipal Vice-Mayor
Presiding Officer

EXCERPTS FROM THE MINUTES OF THE 7th REGULAR SESSION OF THE SANGGUNIANG BAYAN OF MATAG-OB, LEYTE FOR THE TERM PERIOD COVERED JUNE 30, 2025 TO JUNE 30, 2028 HELD AT THE LEGISLATIVE SESSION HALL ON AUGUST 11, 2025.

MUNICIPAL ORDINANCE NO. (245) 214

HUMAN IMMUNODEFFICIENCY VIRUS (HIV) PREVENTION, AWARENESS, AND STIGMA REDUCTION ORDINANCE OF MATAG-OB, LEYTE.

Author : Hon. Luz M. Boldero
Co-authors : Hon. Joel N. Denoy
: Hon. Joel G. Tacoy
Hon. Ana Love D. Borden
Hon. Eduardo I. Toledo

Section 1. Title. This Ordinance shall be known as the "HIV Prevention, Awareness, and Stigma Reduction Ordinance of Matag-ob, Leyte."

Section 2. Declaration of Principles and Policy

We, the people of Matag-ob, Leyte stand for health, dignity, and respect for all. We understand that HIV is a health condition—not a moral failure and it should never be a reason for shame, discrimination, or fear. Through this ordinance, we aim to foster a culture of empathy, education, and support, especially for our youth, women, LGBTQIA+ community, and all persons living with HIV.

Section 3. Objectives. This ordinance aims to:

- Prevent the spread of HIV through accurate information, non-judgmental education, and access to services;
- Encourage early and voluntary HIV testing without fear of judgment or breach of privacy;
- Support and empower People Living with HIV (PLHIV) through access to care, treatment, and psychosocial services;
- Promote the active participation of youth, women, and marginalized groups in HIV response efforts;
- Eliminate stigma, myths, and harmful beliefs about HIV and people affected by it;

1

"The Town of United and Happy People"

Mun. Ord. # (245) 214
August 11, 2025



Second Floor, Legislative Building, Municipal Government Complex, Diversion Rd.,
Barangay San Guillermo, Matag-ob, Leyte 6532 The Philippines

www.matag-ob.gov.ph • osb@matag-ob.gov.ph • +63 906-221-4617



REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
PROVINCE OF LEYTE
MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT OF MATAG-OB



SANGGUNIANG BAYAN

I HEREBY CERTIFY that this is a true and accurate copy of the resolution duly adopted by the Sangguniang Bayan of Matag-ob, Leyte on August 11, 2025.

ANA MARIA SANORIA-ECIJA
Secretary to the Sanggunian

ATTESTED:

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Ex-Officio Member, LNB
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HON. ROMEO N. ALBARIDA
Municipal Vice-Mayor
Presiding Officer

- f. Integrate HIV services into the broader work of the Municipal Health Office and local governance programs.

Section 4. Scope

This Ordinance shall apply to all residents, public and private institutions, schools, health facilities, and workplaces within the Municipality of Matag-ob, Leyte.

Section 5. Definitions
(Additionally Humanized and Expanded)

HIV (Human Immunodeficiency Virus): A virus that weakens the immune system over time. It can be prevented, detected, and treated.

AIDS (acquired immunodeficiency syndrome): A condition that may develop in people with HIV if untreated, but it is not a death sentence. With proper care, people with HIV can live long, full lives.

PLHIV: People living with HIV. They are our neighbors, friends, family members—deserving of love, not fear.

Stigma: Prejudice or judgment toward people with HIV, often based on misinformation or fear.

Discrimination: Actions or policies that treat people unfairly based on their HIV status.

Section 6. Rights of People Living with HIV (PLHIV) in Matag-ob, Leyte shall have the right to:

- Confidentiality – No one may disclose their HIV status without informed consent;
- Non-discrimination – No person shall be denied schooling, employment, or services because of their HIV status;
- Access to treatment and support – PLHIV shall be given assistance in accessing ART (antiretroviral therapy), counseling, and psychosocial support;
- Participation – PLHIV shall be invited to participate in programs that affect their health and well-being.



REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
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MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT OF MATAG-OB



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ANA MARIA SANORIA-ECIJA
Secretary to the Sanggunian

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HON. ROMEO N. ALBARIDA
Municipal Vice-Mayor
Presiding Officer

Section 7. Youth and School-Based Interventions

- a. Schools shall integrate age-appropriate, values-based HIV and sexuality education into the curriculum;
- b. Peer educators and trained health advocates shall be allowed to conduct learning sessions;
- c. Youth shall be empowered to speak openly about health, relationships, and safe practices.

Section 8. Friendly, Accessible, and Confidential HIV Testing Services

The MHO shall:

- ❖ Offer free and voluntary HIV testing that respects privacy;
- ❖ Ensure pre- and post-test counseling is available in a non-judgmental setting;
- ❖ Partner with regional testing centers, mobile clinics, treatment hubs, and outreach programs.

Section 9. Training of Health Workers and LGU Staff. All municipal health workers, barangay health workers, and frontliners shall undergo training on:

- ❖ HIV basics and current medical facts;
- ❖ Gender sensitivity and confidentiality;
- ❖ Communicating with empathy and cultural sensitivity;
- ❖ Handling disclosure and referrals with care.

Section 10. Community Engagement and Partnerships. We acknowledge that fighting HIV is not the job of government alone. The Municipality shall engage:

- ❖ Faith leaders, who can help heal and educate without judgment;
- ❖ Youth groups and student councils, who bring energy and openness;
- ❖ LGBTQIA+ leaders, who offer perspective and courage;
- ❖ Barangay councils, as champions of education and awareness.

Section 11. Public Information Campaign. The LGU shall support continuous and creative campaigns such as:

- ❖ HIV Awareness Month activities in the month of JULY



REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
 PROVINCE OF LEYTE
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SANGGUNIANG BAYAN

I HEREBY CERTIFY that this is a true and accurate copy of the resolution duly adopted by the Sangguniang Bayan of Matag-ob, Leyte on August 11, 2025.

ANA MARIA SANORIA-ECIJA
 Secretary to the Sanggunian

ATTESTED:

HON. ARTEMIO T. ALMOROTO
 Senior SB Member

HON. JOEL N. DENOY
 SB Member

HON. EVANGELINE C. CARNO
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 Ex-Officio Member, LNB
 President

HON. ROMEO N. ALBARIDA
 Municipal Vice-Mayor
 Presiding Officer

Information campaign shall not only focus in the month of July. There shall be conducted a year-round continuing education among students and parents.

- ❖ Mural painting or art contests that tell stories of resilience
- ❖ Candlelight Memorials to honor those lost to HIV and renew hope
- ❖ Radio programs, infographics, and storytelling that inform and inspire

Section 12. Anti-Discrimination Measures. It is unlawful for any person, institution, or employer to:

- ❖ Refuse employment or dismiss someone due to HIV status;
- ❖ Exclude a student from school based on HIV status;
- ❖ Harass, ridicule, or isolate someone known or perceived to be living with HIV.
- ❖ Violators shall be fined or required to attend anti-stigma education sessions.

Section 13. Funding and Support. A portion of the LGU budget shall be allocated annually for:

- ❖ Procurement of IEC materials and testing kits;
- ❖ Training and development of peer educators;
- ❖ Referrals for specialized HIV care;
- ❖ Emergency support to indigent PLHIV.

Section 14. Monitoring and Evaluation. A Local HIV Monitoring Team shall be created, led by the MHO, and shall include:

- ❖ Youth representatives
- ❖ Health and education sectors
- ❖ NGOs and civil society organizations
- ❖ They shall track progress, identify challenges, and recommend improvements.

Section 15. Composition of the Local HIV AIDS Council

DESIGNATION	NAME
Chairperson	Municipal Mayor



REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
PROVINCE OF LEYTE
MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT OF MATAG-OB



SANGGUNIANG BAYAN

I HEREBY CERTIFY that this is a true and accurate copy of the resolution duly adopted by the Sangguniang Bayan of Matag-ob, Leyte on August 11, 2025.

ANA MARIA SANORIA-ECIJA
Secretary to the Sanggunian

ATTESTED:

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Senior SB Member

HON. JOEL N. DENOY
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HON. ROMEO N. ALBARIDA
Municipal Vice-Mayor
Presiding Officer

Vice-Chairperson	SB Member, Chairman, Cmte. on Health
	Municipal Health Officer (MHO)
	Municipal Social Welfare Officer (MSWDO)
	Municipal Local Government Operations Officer (MLGOO)
	DepEd, District Supervisor
	LNB President
	Religious Group Representative
	LGBTQIA Representative

Section 16. Separability Clause. If any section or provision of this ordinance is declared invalid or unconstitutional, the remaining provisions shall not be affected.

SECTION 17. Amendments Clause. This ordinance may be amended or modified as necessary through the appropriate legislative process.

Section 18. Effectivity Clause. This ordinance shall take effect upon approval and publication in accordance with the law.

ENACTED this 11th day of August 2025 in the Municipality of Matag-ob, Leyte with the foregoing votes:

AYES - 10

1. Hon. Artemio T. Almoroto
2. Hon. Joel N. Denoy
3. Hon. Evangeline C. Carno
4. Hon. Ricardo L. Giva
5. Hon. Rodolfo N. Suñir
6. Hon. Luz M. Boldero
7. Hon. Jose B. Yap
8. Hon. Eduardo I. Toledo
9. Hon. Ana Love D. Borden
10. Hon. Joel G. Tacoy

NAYES - 0

ABSTAIN - 0

Carried Unanimously.



REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
 PROVINCE OF LEYTE
MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT OF MATAG-OB



SANGGUNIANG BAYAN

I HEREBY CERTIFY that this is a true and accurate copy of the ordinance duly enacted by the Sangguniang Bayan of Matag-ob, Leyte on August 11, 2025.

ANA MARIA SANORIA-ECIJA
 Secretary to the Sanggunian

**ATTESTED AND CERTIFIED
 TO BE DULY ADOPTED:**

HONORABLE ARTEMIO T. ALMOROTO
 Senior SB Member

HONORABLE JOEL N. DENOY
 SB Member

HONORABLE EVANGELINE C. CARNO
 SB Member

HONORABLE RICARDO L. GIVA
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HONORABLE ANA LOVE D. BORDEN
 Ex-Officio Member, Mun. SK Federation President

HONORABLE JOEL G. TACOY
 Ex-Officio Member, LNB President

HONORABLE ROMEO N. ALBARIDA
 Municipal Vice-Mayor
 Presiding Officer

APPROVED:

HONORABLE BERNARDINO G. TACOY
 Municipal Mayor

Date Signed