

Item No.: 13

Date: 16 2026 FEB.



Republic of the Philippines
PROVINCE OF LEYTE
Provincial Capitol
Tacloban City

PROVINCE OF LEYTE
LEGAL OFFICE
RELEASED

-oOo-

By: [Signature]
Date: 2-12-26 Time: 9:24

PROVINCIAL LEGAL OFFICE

Sangguniang Panlalawigan
Province of Leyte

RECEIVED

Date: FEB 12 2026
By: [Signature]

2nd INDORSEMENT

February 9, 2026

Respectfully returned to the Sangguniang Panlalawigan of Leyte, through SP Secretary, the attached Ordinance No. 14 of the Sangguniang Bayan of Merida, Leyte.

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

- Ordinance No. 14 entitled: "The System of Partnership between the municipal Government and the Local Peoples Council Ordinance of Merida, Leyte."

REVIEW/RECOMMENDATION/LEGAL OPINION:

This office opines that the subject Ordinance is, in general, within the legislative authority of the Sangguniang Bayan under Section 3(g)¹ of the Local Government Code of 1991 (R.A 7160) in consonance with Section 109(b)(1)² of the same. 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 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 [Signature]

¹ (g) The capabilities of local government units, especially the municipalities and barangays, shall be enhanced by providing them with opportunities to participate actively in the implementation of national programs and projects;

² (1) Mobilize people's participation in local development efforts;

Republic of the Philippines
PROVINCE OF LEYTE
Palo, Leyte
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OFFICE OF THE SANGGUNIANG PANLALAWIGAN

1ST INDORSEMENT
06 February 2026

PROVINCE OF LEYTE
LEGAL OFFICE
RECEIVED
By: 
Date: 2.9.26 Time: 9:44

The Provincial Legal Office is respectfully requested to review and submit recommendations on the herein enclosed **Municipal Ordinance No. 14, series of 2025 of the Municipality of Merida, Leyte**, entitled: **An Ordinance establishing a system of partnership for participatory governance between the Municipal Government and the people of Merida, Leyte.**


FLORINDA J. S. UYVICO
Secretary to the Sanggunian



Republic of the Philippines
Province of Leyte
MUNICIPALITY OF MERIDA

Sangguniang Panlalawigan
Province of Leyte
RECEIVED
Date: FEB 05 2026
Jomli

OFFICE OF THE SANGGUNIANG BAYAN

02 FEBRUARY 2025

THE SANGGUNIANG PANLALAWIGAN OF LEYTE
CAPITOL BUILDING
PALO LEYTE

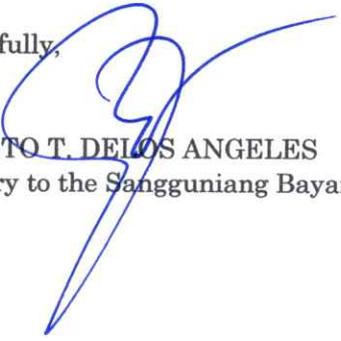
DEAR HONORABLE MEMBERS;

I have the honor to submit to the Sangguniang Panlalawigan of Leyte copies of **MUNICIPAL ORDINANCE NO. 14, SERIES OF 2025 – “AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING A SYSTEM OF PARTNERSHIP FOR PARTICIPATORY GOVERNANCE BETWEEN THE MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT AND THE PEOPLE OF MERIDA, LEYTE”** enacted by the 19th Council of this Municipality, for review and consideration.

Hoping everything is in order.

Thank you.

Respectfully,


JOSELITO T. DELOS ANGELES
Secretary to the Sangguniang Bayan



Republic of the Philippines
PROVINCE OF LEYTE
MUNICIPALITY OF MERIDA

Sangguniang Panlalawigan
Province of Leyte
RECEIVED
Date: FEB 05 2026
By: [Signature]

OFFICE OF THE SANGGUNIANG BAYAN

EXCERPT FROM THE MINUTES OF THE 16TH REGULAR SESSION OF THE SANGGUNIANG BAYAN (19TH COUNCIL), MERIDA, LEYTE HELD ON NOVEMBER 12, 2025 AT THE LEGISLATIVE BUILDING SESSION HALL.

PRESENT:

HON. RODRIGO M. WENCESLAO	, Municipal Vice Mayor, Presiding Officer
HON. ATTY. CHRISTIAN Q. SALTA, EnP	, Municipal Councilor, Majority Floor Leader
HON. BENJAMIN A. TRAVERO, JR.	, Municipal Councilor, Assistant Floor Leader
HON. JESUS ANTONIO R. MARTINEZ	, Municipal Councilor
HON. CHENIL C. CALDERON	, Municipal Councilor
HON. MELQUIADES D. GUIO-GUIO	, Municipal Councilor
HON. BRENDA T. ADOLFO	, Municipal Councilor, Presiding Pro-tempore
HON. ROGEN G. WENCESLAO	, Municipal Councilor
HON. OLIVER R. LIMOSNERO	, Municipal Councilor
HON. RONILLO O. LABANG	, Mun. LnB President (Ex-Officio)

ABSENT:

HON. ASHLEY NOREEN J. DIAZ	, Mun. SK Fed. President (Ex-Officio) (Forced Leave)
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-RESOLUTION NO. 19-25-116-

A RESOLUTION APPROVING MUNICIPAL ORDINANCE NO. 14, SERIES OF 2025 "AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING A SYSTEM OF PARTNERSHIP FOR PARTICIPATORY GOVERNANCE BETWEEN THE MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT AND THE PEOPLE OF MERIDA, LEYTE."

WHEREAS, Article II, Section 23 of the 1987 Constitution provides that "The State shall encourage non-governmental, community-based, or sectoral organizations that promote the welfare of the nation";

WHEREAS, Article XIII, Section 15 of the Constitution further provides that "The State shall respect the role of independent people's organizations to enable the people to pursue and protect, within the democratic framework, their legitimate and collective interests and aspiration through peaceful and lawful means";

WHEREAS, Section 16 of the same Article likewise provides that "The right of the people and their organizations to effective and reasonable participation at all levels of social, political, and economic decision-making shall not be abridged";

WHEREAS, Article 1, Section 1 of the United Nations Declaration of the Right to Development provides that "The right to development is an inalienable human right";

WHEREAS, Article 2, Rule XIII of the Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR) of the Local Government Code of 1991 recognizes the role of people's organizations and asks local government (LGUs) with promoting the establishment and operation of people's organizations "to make partners in the pursuit of local autonomy";

WHEREAS, Article 64 of the same Implementing Rules and Regulations provides for the procedures and guidelines for the selection of representatives of civil society organizations (CSOs) in local special bodies and the criteria for CSO accreditation for the purpose of representation to local special bodies;

WHEREAS, the DILG issued Memorandum Circular 2021-054 on the establishment and institutionalization of a People's Council in LGUs;

WHEREAS, an established system of partnership between the Provincial/City/Municipal government and CSOs, through the People's Council, will expedite broad and meaningful people's participation in local governance processes;

NOW, WHEREFORE, ON MOTION OF Hon. Brenda T. Adolfo, Chairman Committee on Accreditation of Civil Society Organizations (CSOs), Livelihood, Manpower, and Labor Employment, duly seconded by Hon. Benjamin A. Travero, BE IT ORDAINED TO ENACT BY THE SANGGUNIANG BAYAN 19TH COUNCIL IN REGULAR SESSION ASSEMBLED;

-MUNICIPAL ORDINANCE NO. 14-
Series of 2025

AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING A SYSTEM OF PARTNERSHIP FOR PARTICIPATORY GOVERNANCE BETWEEN THE MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT AND THE PEOPLE OF MERIDA, LEYTE.

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ARTICLE I
GENERAL PROVISIONS

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE. *This ordinance shall likewise be known as THE SYSTEM OF PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN THE MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT AND THE LOCAL PEOPLE'S COUNCIL ORDINANCE OF MERIDA, LEYTE*

1.1 Purpose. *To institutionalize people's participation in governance by strengthening the partnership between the municipal government of MERIDA, LEYTE and civil society organizations (CSOs) through the local People's Council by integrating participatory processes in all levels of governance.*

1.2 Declaration of Policies and Principles. *The Municipal Government of MERIDA, LEYTE, as a creation of the Sovereign People, shall at all times adhere to the following policies and principles of governance: (a) The Government recognizes nongovernmental, community-based, or sectoral organizations that promote the welfare of the people. (b) It shall respect the role of independent people's organizations to enable the people to pursue and protect within the democratic framework legitimate and collective interests and aspirations through peaceful and lawful means. (c) The right of the people and their organizations to effective and reasonable participation of all levels of socio-cultural, political, and economic decision-making shall not be abridged. The Government shall by law facilitate the establishment of adequate consultative mechanisms. (d) The Government shall encourage the establishment and operation of people's and nongovernmental organizations to become active partners in the pursuit of local autonomy. (e) The Government acknowledges that the participation of CSOs in government processes is a vehicle of empowering citizens by giving them opportunities to articulate their needs and to take part in decision-making processes. (f) The Government shall endeavor to mainstream the Safe Space approach in all government and governance process to ensure meaningful participation and engagement of CSOs.*

Towards this end, the Municipal Government of MERIDA aspires to strengthen the role of civil society and people's organizations in local governance, and ensure the participation at all levels of social, political, and economic decision-making.

SECTION 2. SCOPE. *This ordinance establishes the MERIDA People's Council and outlines a system of partnership between the Municipal Government of MERIDA and the People's Council, or its equivalent under any future designation, which represents CSOs. It facilitates CSO participation in local governance processes, ensuring their active involvement and collaboration with the /municipal government.*

SECTION 3. DECLARATION OF INTENT TO ENTER INTO PARTNERSHIP WITH THE MERIDA PEOPLE'S COUNCIL. *The Municipal Government of MERIDA hereby declares itself open to a partnership with duly recognized MERIDA People's Council in the conception, implementation and evaluation of government activities and functions.*

SECTION 4. DEFINITION OF TERMS. AS USED IN THIS ORDINANCE, THE FOLLOWING TERMS SHALL MEAN:

4.1 Civil Society Organization (CSO) - *refers to a non-state and non-profit association that works to improve society and the human condition. Basic types of CSOs include nongovernmental organizations (NGO); people's organizations (POs), civic organizations, community-based organizations, faith-based organizations, cooperatives, social movement, professional groups, and business groups, among others.*

4.2 People's Organization (PO) - *refers to an association of residents in a barangay, or barangays, established to promote public interest and with an identifiable leadership structure and membership. People's organizations are often formed among the disadvantaged sectors of society such as the farmer-peasant, artisanal fisher folk, workers in the formal sector and migrant workers, workers in the informal sector, indigenous people and cultural communities, women, differently abled persons, senior citizens, victims of calamities and disasters, youth and students, children, and urban poor.*

4.3 Nongovernmental Organization (NGO) - *refers to a non-stock, non-profit organization that works with different sectors and communities promoting their general welfare and development, provides a wide range of services for people's organizations, and operates typically with full time staff. Social development organizations, foundations, and independent research institutions fall in this category.*

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4.4 Accredited Organization - refers to an organization that obtains accreditation from a local government unit within sixty (90) days from the organization of the newly-elected Sangguniang Bayan for the purpose of representation to a local special body, and after the prescribed 60-day period for other purposes, such as participation in local government programs.

4.5 Recognized Organization - refers to an organization allowed by the Sangguniang Bayan to participate in a local special body to meet the minimum requirements for membership. An organization may only be recognized if it meets all the criteria except registration for registration or accreditation from any national government agency.

4.6 People's Council - refers to a body comprising CSO representatives that may identify their principal and alternate representatives to various local government councils, committees, task forces, or special bodies where they sit as members, depending on the Sangguniang Bayan resolution or ordinance recognizing the People's Council and stating its rights and privileges.

4.7 Local Special Bodies (LSB) - include the Local Development Council, Local Health Board, Local School Board, and Local Peace and Order Council, as well as other structures created under special laws or rules such as councils, committees, task forces, working groups, among others.

4.8 Sectors - may refer to the disadvantaged or marginalized sectors of the Philippine society, including farmer-peasants, artisanal fisherfolk, workers in the formal sector and migrant workers, workers in the informal sector, indigenous peoples and cultural communities, women, LGBTQI+, differently-abled persons, senior citizens, victims of calamities and disasters, youth and students, children, urban poor, cooperatives, and NGOs.

4.9 Safe Space in Governance - a physical or virtual venue or gathering of people where government and non-government stakeholders can communicate freely guided by the principles of diversity, equity, inclusivity, and accessibility.

4.10 CSO Academy - a structured capacity development program established and managed by the Municipal Government, often in collaboration with the People's Council, to enhance the knowledge, skills, and institutional capacity of Civil Society Organizations and their representatives to effectively participate in local governance processes. (NEW)

ARTICLE II

ESTABLISHMENT OF THE PROCESS TO FACILITATE THE CREATION OR RECOGNITION OF THE MERIDA PEOPLE'S COUNCIL

SECTION 5. COMPOSITION. The People's Council shall comprise CSO representatives from various sectors that are accredited and/or recognized by the local government of MERIDA.

5.1 The People's Council can choose to include non-accredited and non-recognized CSOs in its membership through its internal rules. However, only accredited CSOs are eligible to both elect and be elected as members to the local special bodies, as provided in Article 64 (d) of the IRR of the Local Government Code of 1991 (Republic Act [RA] 7160). Additionally, DILG MC 2021-054 allows non-accredited but recognized CSOs to vote and be elected as representatives in local special bodies.

SECTION 6. PROCEDURES. The following procedures shall be carried out by the CSOs and LGU to facilitate its formation:

6.1 If a local People's Council or CSO coalition is already in place, the Sangguniang Bayan, via the CSO Desk Officer, should request that the existing coalition or network submit a formal petition for recognition to officially assume the role of the MUNICIPAL People's Council as defined in the ordinance. This petition should be accompanied by all required documents specified in Section 6.6 for the recognition of the coalition, the People's Council, and each of their member organizations.

6.2 If no local People's Council or CSO coalition is in place, the Sangguniang Bayan will issue a Notice of Call for the Creation of a People's Council to all CSOs. This notice will be posted in prominent locations and on the LGU website, as well as disseminated through social and print media where applicable. To encourage participation, the CSO Desk Officer, in collaboration with other CSOs and in coordination with the DILG, will invite all organized and active CSOs in the area to a conference. Discussed during the conference are the MUNICIPAL People's Council, its importance, its roles and responsibilities, and the process and challenges in formation.

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6.3 Non-accredited and non-recognized organizations that seek to join the MUNICIPAL People's Council will submit required documents to the Sangguniang Bayan through the CSO Desk Officer, including the following: (a) People's Council Membership Form; (b) Letter of Intent to be included as a member of the People's Council; (c) Proof of existence and operation in the municipality where it is applying, for at least one (1) year prior to the date of application for registration; (d) Proof of activities held in pursuit of developmental objectives or organizational activities conducted; (e) Program of activities planned for the year following the date of application for membership; (f) Copies of its Constitution, Bylaws and/or Articles of Incorporation; (g) List of its officers and members of good standing and their respective addresses; (h) Financial Statement and Declaration of Assets and Liabilities, if applicable; and (i) Certificate of Registration, if applicable.

6.4 The CSO Desk Officer, in collaboration with the Sangguniang Bayan, will evaluate applications based on the following criteria: (a) Organization purpose and objectives which include community organization and development, institution-building, local enterprise development, livelihood development, capacity-building, and similar development objectives and considerations; (b) Community-based and sectoral-based with project development and implementation track record in the municipality for at least one (1) year; and (c) Reliability as evidenced by the preparation of annual reports and conduct of annual meetings duly certified by the board secretary of the organization.

6.5 The Sangguniang Bayan will issue a Certificate of Authorization to qualified CSOs that are not yet accredited and recognized, enabling them to nominate representatives to the People's Council.

6.6 Accredited and recognized CSOs shall no longer be required to submit requirements except an application form and letter of intent to join the Merida People's Council.

6.7 All NGOs, POs, private sector or sectoral groups with the same nature of representation or classification are encouraged to organize themselves into sectoral groups to nominate their sectoral representatives to the Merida People's Council.

6.8 The Merida People's Council will file a petition for recognition with the Sangguniang Bayan, which will issue a Certificate of Recognition and ordinance within 15 days after receipt of the petition. The ordinance will outline the Council's rights, roles, and responsibilities.

6.9 Recognition once granted, shall not be withdrawn except upon an action of a petitioner and upon showing that the People's Council no longer possesses most of the foregoing qualifications or has allowed itself or any of its members to engage primarily in, or to be used primarily for religious purposes or partisan political activities.

6.10 There shall only be one (1) People's Council which shall be recognized by the Sangguniang Bayan. (a) If multiple existing CSO networks and coalitions are interested in fulfilling the roles and responsibilities outlined in this ordinance, the CSO Officer shall facilitate the process for the CSO networks to agree on which group will serve as the Merida People's Council or discuss options as to the process that will guide the CSOs to arrive at consensus, e.g., forming a larger coalition composed of various existing CSO coalitions. (b) If existing networks or coalitions cannot unite and submit more than one petition for recognition, the Sangguniang Bayan will decide based on the following criteria: (i) The petitioner with the largest number of member organizations recognized by the local government; (ii) The petitioner with the highest number of individual members; (iii) The petitioner that represents the widest range of sectors, interests, or concerns; (iv) The petitioner with the most credible track record of collaborative activities and cooperative efforts among its members; and (v) The petitioner most capable of fulfilling the roles and responsibilities of the People's Council.

6.11 Sangguniang Barangays of the municipality are directed to coordinate with the Municipal People's Council to facilitate the establishment of a Barangay People's Council and enact an ordinance that will ensure the participation of CSOs and allocate funds for people empowerment activities.

SECTION 7. RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE MERIDA PEOPLE'S COUNCIL.

7.1 Rights of the People's Council.

- (a) The Council shall have the autonomy to elect from among its members, their own set of officers and determine their internal rules.
- (b) In cases where the local boards, councils, committees, task forces, or special bodies call for CSO or sectoral representation, the People's Council shall have the sole prerogative to



- (c) Through its representatives in the LSBs and functional committees, it shall have the right to participate in the planning, implementation and monitoring of the projects, programs, and activities of the Municipality.
- (d) The People's Council, through its authorized representative, shall sit either as a member with voting power in every committee of the Sangguniang Bayan except in the Committee of the Whole in exercise of its quasi-judicial function.
- (e) It shall have the right to propose, draft and submit directly with the Office of the Secretary to the Sanggunian a draft ordinance which shall be included in the agenda of the Sanggunian's regular/special session and thereafter be referred to the appropriate committee. The committee, after due deliberation, may opt to adopt the draft ordinance, make amendments thereto and sponsor the filing of the same.

7.2 Roles and Responsibilities of the People's Council.

(a) Guarantee its autonomy and adhere to the rights and privileges outlined in the Sangguniang Bayan Resolution that recognizes the Council and establishes a Standard Operating Procedures between the Council and the local government.

(b) Participate in the planning, implementation, and monitoring of the projects, programs, and activities of the Municipality.

(c) Shall not engage in or allow itself or its member organizations to be used for purposes of, partisan politics and shall adopt such measures to ensure that it is adequately shielded from any political partisanship or influence. For purposes of this Ordinance, partisan politics shall refer to any activity statement or manifestation which solely or primarily serves to campaign for or against any particular political party or any candidate for any elective public office.

(d) Develop a strategic plan or CSO agenda that includes both internal organizational development programs and activities and an advocacy agenda, including programs, projects, and policies to be lobbied with the LGU.

(e) Provide adequate consultation and feedback mechanisms for purposes of obtaining the views and suggestions of all political parties or movements, government employees' organizations, other non-accredited but legitimate NGOs and POs, and accredited NGOs and POs that are not members of the Council to ensure that council advocacy programs, projects, and activities truly reflect the community's interests and needs.

(f) Ensure that no political party, government employees' organization or non-accredited or recognized NGOs and POs may be nominated by the Council for membership in the municipality's special bodies nor may they be granted the rights and privileges of accredited and recognized NGOs and POs under this Ordinance.

(g) Ensure adequate representation of member organizations and actively participate in local development efforts. The People's Council shall ensure diverse sectoral representation and adherence to gender balance in membership and leadership positions.

7.3 CSO Reporting System. All CSOs, particularly those who receive funding from the Local Government Unit (LGU) or implement LGU-related projects, shall establish and adhere to a reporting system for their activities. This system shall follow the guidelines prescribed by the Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG), and shall include the timely submission of physical and financial reports using the prescribed DILG forms and templates to ensure accountability and transparency.

ARTICLE III
ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT

SECTION 8. ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT OF MERIDA.

8.1 Facilitate the creation of a CSO Desk to be headed by a designated or appointed CSO Desk Officer.

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8.2 Enact an ordinance, through the Sangguniang Bayan, if not yet existing, establishing a system of partnership between the LGU and Merida People's Council that shall define the rights, roles, and involvement of the People's Council in various programs, projects, and activities of the local government including their participation in the LSBs, committees, task forces, and similar groups, as required by law and the national government and the technical and funding support that it shall provide.

8.3 The Local Chief Executive and the Sangguniang Bayan shall conduct at least twice a year meetings or joint sessions with the People's Council representatives to gather feedback and input on local programs, projects, and policies and address their issues and concerns.

8.4 Allocate funding support for the operations of the CSO Desk and the Merida People's Council.

8.5 Provide the necessary office space and facilities, including equipment for the use of the CSO Desk and the People's Council.

8.6 To ensure the meaningful participation and engagement of CSOs, it shall endeavor to mainstream the Safe Space approach in all government and governance processes.

8.7 Perform other responsibilities and other relevant functions as may be required in the implementation of this Ordinance.

SECTION 9. ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF A CSO DESK OFFICER.

9.1 Organize a meeting with all organized and active CSOs in the locality, in collaboration with other CSOs and coordination with the DILG, for a conference to discuss about the Merida People's Council, and encourage its participation.

9.2 Assist the Sangguniang Bayan in reviewing the application requirements submitted by CSOs, endorsing qualified and providing feedback to unqualified CSOs.

9.3 Help facilitate the issuance of recognition of the People's Council by the Sangguniang Panlalawigan/Panlungsod/Bayan and an Ordinance establishing a System of Partnership between People's Council and the LGU.

9.4 Assist the People's Council in selecting representatives to various LSBs and sectoral and functional committees, ensuring a diverse and competent representation.

9.5 Facilitate or assist in the implementation of the CSO Academy and other capacity development programs for the People's Council and its member organizations.

9.6 Support the People's Council in formulating its strategic plan or CSO agenda, aligning its activities and initiatives with broader community and governance goals.

9.7 Assist the People's Council in its lobbying efforts with the LGU to ensure that people's voices, particularly those from marginalized groups and sectors, are heard and considered in local governance processes.

9.8 Perform other responsibilities and relevant functions as may be required in the implementation of this Ordinance.

**ARTICLE IV
FUNDING FOR THE CSO ACADEMY, CAPACITY BUILDING, AND CIVIC ENGAGEMENT**

SECTION 10. FUNDING FOR THE CSO ACADEMY, CAPACITY BUILDING, AND CIVIC ENGAGEMENT. An annual appropriation of at least P200,0000.00 will be allocated for the operations of the CSO Desk, the Municipal People's Council, the CSO Academy, capacity building, community organizing, and other activities aimed at promoting and strengthening citizen participation in local governance.

The allocated fund shall specifically include traveling expenses for the accredited/recognized CSO representatives when attending the meetings of Local Special Bodies and other structures created under special laws or rules such as councils, committees, task forces, and working groups.

This budget will be supported by a Work Plan and the CSO Agenda developed in collaboration with the CSO Desk Officer. The CSO Agenda must be officially submitted to the Office of the LGU Planning and Development Office (LGU-PDO) on or before July 1st of every year to be considered for funding in the next fiscal year.

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10.1 No part of the public funds, however, shall be used to support any activity which is intended for religious purposes or as a form of partisan politics. In no case shall funds be used other than for purposes as defined by the People's Council and approved by the Sangguniang Bayan.

10.2 Other sources of funds. The Merida People's Council shall endeavor to source-out funds to ensure its sustainability. With the guidance of the Office of the Municipal Mayor and other offices concerned, other fund source such as donation, grants, etc. may be availed by the People's Council subject to legal conditions and guidelines under RA 7160, otherwise known as the Local Government Code of 1991.

ARTICLE V
RECOGNITION AND COMMEMORATIVE EVENTS

SECTION 11. CSO MONTH AND ANNUAL RECOGNITION PROGRAM.

11.1 The Month of September is hereby designated as CSO Month, to be annually commemorated by the Provincial/City/Municipal Government.

11.2 The celebration shall be a period for honoring the efforts of CSOs for their support to government initiatives and strengthening their relationship with the local government.

11.3 An Annual Awarding and Recognition Program for outstanding CSOs in the locality shall be held during the CSO Month, based on criteria and processes to be developed by the CSO Desk and the People's Council.

ARTICLE VI
FINAL PROVISION

SECTION 12. REPEALING CLAUSE. All resolutions, ordinances and executive issuances, or provisions thereof, which are inconsistent with any of the provisions hereof are hereby accordingly repealed, amended and/or modified.

SECTION 13. SEPARABILITY CLAUSE. Should any provision of this ordinance be subsequently declared unconstitutional or ultra vires, the rest of the provisions not so declared shall remain to be in full force and effect.

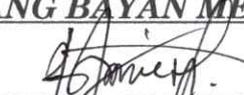
SECTION 14. EFFECTIVITY CLAUSE. This ordinance shall take effect immediately upon approval and publication in at least one (1) newspaper of general circulation in the Municipality of Merida.

ENACTED, by the Sangguniang Bayan (19th Council) of Merida, Leyte this 12TH DAY OF NOVEMBER 2025 on its REGULAR SESSION.

APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.

SANGGUNIANG BAYAN MEMBERS


ATTY. CHRISTIAN Q. SALTA, EnP
Municipal Councilor
Majority Floor Leader


BENJAMIN A. TRAVERO, JR.
Municipal Councilor


CHENIL C. CALDERON
Municipal Councilor


JESUS ANTONIO R. MARTINEZ
Municipal Councilor

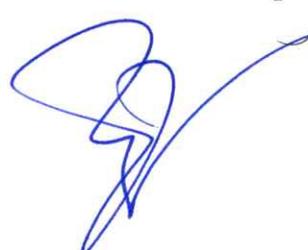

BRENDA T. ADOLFO
Municipal Councilor
Presiding Pro-tempore


MELQUIADES D. GUIO-GUIO
Municipal Councilor


OLIVER R. LIMOSNERO
Municipal Councilor


ROGEN G. WENCESLAO
Municipal Councilor


RONILLO O. LABANG
Ex-Officio (LnB President)


ASHLEY NOREEN J. DIAZ
Ex-Officio (Mun. SK Fed. President)
(Forced Leave)



(CONTINUATION OF MUNICIPAL ORDINANCE NO. 14, SERIES OF 2025 DATED NOVEMBER 12, 2025//PAGE 08)

APPROVED BY HIS HONOR, THE MUNICIPAL MAYOR ON November 21, 2025.

APPROVED BY:

ENGR. ROLANDO M. VILLASENCIO
Municipal Mayor

CERTIFIED BY:

RODRIGO M. WENCESLAO
Municipal Vice Mayor / Presiding Officer

ATTESTED BY:

JOSELITO T. DE LOS ANGELES
Secretary to the Sangguniang Bayan



Republic of the Philippines
Province of Leyte
MUNICIPALITY OF MERIDA

OFFICE OF THE SANGGUNIANG BAYAN

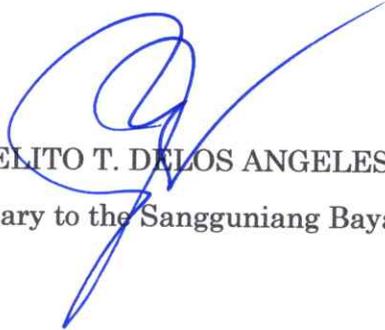
CERTIFICATION

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

THIS IS TO CERTIFY that **MUNICIPAL ORDINANCE NO. 14, SERIES OF 2025 – “AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING A SYSTEM OF PARTNERSHIP FOR PARTICIPATORY GOVERNANCE BETWEEN THE MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT AND THE PEOPLE OF MERIDA, LEYTE”** had been posted in three (3) conspicuous places in the locality within three (3) consecutive weeks from **NOVEMBER 24, 2025** to **DECEMBER 15, 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 02ND day of FEBRUARY 2026 at Merida, Leyte, Philippines.


JOSEcito T. DELOS ANGELES
Secretary to the Sangguniang Bayan