



Republic of the Philippines
PROVINCE OF LEYTE
 Provincial Capitol
 Tacloban City

Item No.: **20**
 Date: **28 2026 APR**

PROVINCE OF LEYTE
 LEGAL OFFICE
RELEASED

Sangguniang Panlalawigan
 Province of Leyte

-oOo-

By:
 Date: Apr. 22, 2026 Time: 9:44

RECEIVED PROVINCIAL LEGAL OFFICE

Date: _____
 By:

2nd INDORSEMENT
 April 10, 2026

Respectfully returned to the Sangguniang Panlalawigan of Leyte, through the SP Secretary, the attached Ordinance No. 239 the Sangguniang Bayan of San Matag-ob, Leyte.

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

- Ordinance No. 239 entitled: **“Municipal Ordinance on the prevention of Rape and Sexual Abuse and Exploitation in the Municipality of Matag-ob, Leyte.”**

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 of the Local Government Code of 1991 (R.A 7160) pursuant to RA 8353², as amended. 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(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

² Ant-Rape Law of 1997

Republic of the Philippines
PROVINCE OF LEYTE
Palo, Leyte
-o0o-


PROVINCE OF LEYTE
LEGAL OFFICE
RECEIVED

By: 
Date: 3/27/26 Time: 1:41

OFFICE OF THE SANGGUNIANG PANLALAWIGAN

2nd Indorsement
27 March 2026

The Provincial Legal Office is respectfully requested to review and submit recommendations on the herein enclosed **Municipal Ordinance No. 239, s. 2026** of the **Municipality of Matag-ob, Leyte**, entitled: **An Ordinance IMPLEMENTING THE PROVISIONS OF R. A. No. 8353, R. A. No. 7610 and other related laws in the Municipality of Matag-ob, Leyte providing for the prevention of Rape and Sexual Abuse and Exploitation and protection of victims and for other purposes.**


FLORINDA JILL S. UYVICO
Secretary to the Sanggunian



SANGGUNIANG BAYAN

RECEIVED
Date: MAR 27 2026
By: *Vilma*

ENDORSEMENT


March 25, 2026

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. 239** series 2026, entitled "**AN ORDINANCE IMPLEMENTING THE PROVISIONS OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8353 (ANTI-RAPE LAW OF 1997), REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7610 (SPECIAL PROTECTION OF CHILDREN AGAINST ABUSE, EXPLOITATION AND DISCRIMINATION ACT), AND OTHER RELATED LAWS, IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF MATAG-OB, PROVINCE OF LEYTE, PROVIDING FOR THE PREVENTION OF RAPE AND SEXUAL ABUSE AND EXPLOITATION, PROTECTION OF VICTIMS, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES**" of the Sangguniang Bayan of Matag-ob, Leyte for review and approval by the Sangguniang Panlalawigan:

Very truly yours,


ANA MARIA SANORIA-ECIJA
Secretary to the Sanggunian

"The Town of United and Happy People"

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

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SANGGUNIANG BAYAN

CERTIFICATION OF POSTING

THIS IS TO CERTIFY that copies of **Municipal Ordinance No. 239** series 2026, entitled **"AN ORDINANCE IMPLEMENTING THE PROVISIONS OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8353 (ANTI-RAPE LAW OF 1997), REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7610 (SPECIAL PROTECTION OF CHILDREN AGAINST ABUSE, EXPLOITATION AND DISCRIMINATION ACT), AND OTHER RELATED LAWS, IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF MATAG-OB, PROVINCE OF LEYTE, PROVIDING FOR THE PREVENTION OF RAPE AND SEXUAL ABUSE AND EXPLOITATION, PROTECTION OF VICTIMS, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES"** 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 March 25, 2026.

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

Issued this 25th Day of March, 2026.

Very truly yours,

ANA MARIA SANORIA-ECIJA
Secretary to the Sanggunian

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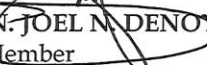
Date: MAR 27 2026
By: THE 36th FILE

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 March 02, 2026.

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. SUNIR
SB Member

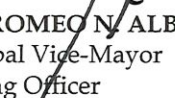

HON. LUZ M. BOLDERO
SB Member


HON. JOSE B. YAP
SB Member


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

SANGGUNIANG BAYAN
EXCERPTS FROM THE MINUTES
REGULAR SESSION OF THE 12th SANGGUNIANG
BAYAN OF MATAG-OB, LEYTE HELD AT THE
LEGISLATIVE SESSION HALL ON MARCH 02, 2026.

MUNICIPAL ORDINANCE NO. 239

AN ORDINANCE IMPLEMENTING THE PROVISIONS OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8353 (ANTI-RAPE LAW OF 1997), REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7610 (SPECIAL PROTECTION OF CHILDREN AGAINST ABUSE, EXPLOITATION AND DISCRIMINATION ACT), AND OTHER RELATED LAWS, IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF MATAG-OB, PROVINCE OF LEYTE, PROVIDING FOR THE PREVENTION OF RAPE AND SEXUAL ABUSE AND EXPLOITATION, PROTECTION OF VICTIMS, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Author : Hon. Evangeline C. Carno
Co-authors : Hon. Joel G. Tacoy
Hon. Artemio T. Almoroto
Hon. Ana Love D. Borden
Hon. Luz M. Boldero

WHEREAS, Republic Act No. 8353, otherwise known as the "Anti-Rape Law of 1997," reclassified rape as a crime against persons and strengthened penalties for its commission;

WHEREAS, Republic Act No. 7610 provides special protection to children against all forms of abuse, neglect, cruelty, exploitation, and discrimination, including sexual abuse and exploitation;

WHEREAS, rape and sexual abuse and exploitation are grave violations of human rights that cause long-term physical, psychological, and emotional harm to victims, especially women and children;

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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 March 02, 2026.

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
SB Member

HON. LUZ M. BOLDERO
SB Member

HON. JOSE B. YAP
SB Member

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

WHEREAS, local government units are mandated to adopt measures that prevent violence, protect victims, and ensure access to justice and support services at the community level;

NOW, THEREFORE, the Sangguniang Bayan of the Municipality of Matag-ob hereby enacts this Ordinance.

BE IT ORDAINED by the Sangguniang Bayan of the Municipality of Matag-ob, Leyte, in session duly assembled, that:

SECTION 1. Title. This Ordinance shall be known as the "Municipal Ordinance on the Prevention of Rape and Sexual Abuse and Exploitation in the Municipality of Matag-ob, Leyte."

SECTION 2. Declaration of Policy. It is hereby declared the policy of the Municipality of Matag-ob to uphold the dignity of every person, protect women and children from rape and sexual abuse and exploitation, promote a culture of respect and safety, and ensure immediate protection, assistance, and justice for victims.

SECTION 3. Definition of Terms. For purposes of this Ordinance, the following terms shall be understood as defined under existing laws:

- (a) Rape - Any act of sexual assault as defined under Republic Act No. 8353.
Sexual Abuse and Exploitation - Acts covered under Republic Act No. 7610, including sexual intercourse, lascivious conduct, prostitution, trafficking, or use of persons for sexual purposes.
- (b) Child - A person below eighteen (18) years of age.
- (c) Victim-Survivor - Any person who has suffered rape or sexual abuse or exploitation.
- (d) MSWDO - Municipal Social Welfare and Development Office of Matag-ob.

"The Town of United and Happy People"



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 March 02, 2026.

ANA MARIA SANORIA-ECIJA
 Secretary to the Sanggunian

ATTESTED:

HON. ARTEMIO F. ALMOROTO
 Senior SB Member

HON. JOEL N. DENOX
 SB Member

HON. EVANGELINE C. CARNO
 SB Member

HON. RICARDO L. GIVA
 SB Member

HON. RODOLFO N. SUÑIR
 SB Member

HON. LUZ M. BOLDERO
 SB Member

HON. JOSE B. YAP
 SB Member

HON. EDUARDO I. TOLEDO
 SB Member

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

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

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

SECTION 4. Prohibited Acts. All acts of rape, attempted rape, sexual abuse, sexual exploitation, and acts that promote or facilitate such offenses are hereby prohibited within the territorial jurisdiction of the Municipality of Matag-ob, Leyte.

SECTION 5. Creation of the Municipal Committee on Sexual Abuse Prevention and Response. There is hereby created a Municipal Committee on Sexual Abuse Prevention and Response (MCSAPR), which shall serve as the coordinating body for policies, programs, and interventions related to rape and sexual abuse and exploitation.

Chairperson	Municipal Mayor
Vice-Chairperson	SB Cmte. on Women
Members	MSWDO
	PNP
	Municipal Health Office
	Local Civil Registrar
	Liga ng mga Barangay
	Department of Education
	other relevant offices or organizations.

SECTION 6. Functions of the Municipal Committee. The Municipal Committee shall:

- (a) Formulate and implement local programs for the prevention of rape and sexual abuse and exploitation;
- (b) Ensure coordination with law enforcement, prosecutors, and service providers;
- (c) Establish referral pathways for medical, legal, and psychosocial services;
- (d) Conduct information and education campaigns on consent, child protection, and reporting mechanisms;
- (e) Monitor and document cases while ensuring confidentiality.

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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 March 02, 2026.

ANA MARIA SANORIA-ECIJA
 Secretary to the Sanggunian

ATTESTED:

[Signature]
HON. ARTEMIO T. ALMOROTO
 Senior SB Member

[Signature]
HON. JOEL N. DENOY
 SB Member

[Signature]
HON. EVANGELINE C. CARNO
 SB Member

[Signature]
HON. RICARDO L. GIVA
 SB Member

[Signature]
HON. ROJOLFO N. SUÑIR
 SB Member

[Signature]
HON. LUZ M. BOLDERO
 SB Member

[Signature]
HON. JOSE B. YAP
 SB Member

[Signature]
HON. EDUARDO I. TOLEDO
 SB Member

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

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

[Signature]
HON. ROMEO N. ALBARIDA
 Municipal Vice-Mayor
 Presiding Officer

SECTION 7. Duties of the MSWDO. The MSWDO shall:

- (a) Provide immediate crisis intervention, counseling, and psychosocial support to victim-survivors;
- (b) Facilitate access to temporary shelter, medical care, and legal assistance;
- (c) Manage cases and ensure proper referral and follow-up services.

SECTION 8. Role of Barangays. All barangays in the Municipality of Matag-ob, Leyte, shall:

- (a) Immediately report cases or suspected cases of rape and sexual abuse to appropriate authorities;
- (b) Establish child- and gender-sensitive reporting mechanisms;
- (c) Assist in community-based prevention and awareness activities.

SECTION 9. Confidentiality and Protection of Victims. The identity and personal circumstances of victim-survivors shall be kept strictly confidential. Victims shall be protected from intimidation, retaliation, and secondary victimization.

SECTION 10. Penalties. Any person who commits acts prohibited under this Ordinance shall be penalized in accordance with Republic Act No. 8353, Republic Act No. 7610, and other applicable laws, without prejudice to administrative, civil, or criminal liabilities.

SECTION 11. Funding. Funds necessary for the implementation of this Ordinance shall be included in the annual budget of the Municipality of Matag-ob, subject to existing accounting and auditing rules and regulations.

SECTION 12. Amendments Clause. The Sangguniang Bayan may amend, modify, or revise any

"The Town of United and Happy People"



SANGGUNIANG BAYAN

provision of this Ordinance through the enactment of a subsequent ordinance, as the need arises, in accordance with existing laws, rules, and regulations.

ATTESTED:

[Signature]
 HON. ARTEMIO T. ALMOROTO
 Senior SB Member

[Signature]
 HON. JOEL N. DENOY
 SB Member

[Signature]
 HON. EVANGELINE C. CARNO
 SB Member

[Signature]
 HON. RICARDO L. GIVA
 SB Member

[Signature]
 HON. RODOLFO N. SUÑIR
 SB Member

[Signature]
 HON. LUZ M. BOLDERO
 SB Member

[Signature]
 HON. JOSE B. YAP
 SB Member

[Signature]
 HON. EDUARDO I. TOLEDO
 SB Member

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

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

[Signature]
 HON. ROMEO N. ALBARIDA
 Municipal Vice-Mayor
 Presiding Officer

SECTION 13. Separability Clause. If any provision of this Ordinance is declared invalid or unconstitutional, the remaining provisions not affected thereby shall continue to be in full force and effect.

SECTION 14. Repealing Clause. All ordinances, resolutions, rules, or regulations inconsistent with this Ordinance are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SECTION 15. Effectivity. This Ordinance shall take effect upon approval and after compliance with the posting and publication requirements under existing laws.

APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.

ENACTED this 2nd day of March, 2026, at the Municipality of Matag-ob, Leyte.

I HEREBY CERTIFY that this is a true and accurate copy of the Ordinance duly adopted by the Sangguniang Bayan of Matag-ob, Leyte on March 02, 2026.

[Signature]
 ANA MARIA SANORIA-ECIJA
 Secretary to the Sanggunian

VOTING ON THIS ORDINANCE:

- Hon. Artemio T. Almoroto
- Hon. Joel N. Denoy
- Hon. Evangeline C. Carno
- Hon. Ricardo L. Giva
- Hon. Rodolfo N. Suñir
- Hon. Luz M. Boldero
- Hon. Jose B. Yap
- Hon. Eduardo I. Toledo
- Hon. Ana Love D. Borden
- Hon. Joel G. Tacoy

"The Town of United and Happy People"



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 March 02, 2026.

AYES - 10
NAYES - 0
ABSTAIN - 0

ANA MARIA SANORIA-ECIJA
 Secretary to the Sanggunian

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

ATTESTED:

HON. ARTEMIO P. ALMOROTO
 Senior SB Member

HONORABLE ROMEO N. ALBARIDA
 Municipal Vice-Mayor
 Presiding Officer

HON. JOEL N. DENOY
 SB Member

APPROVED:

HON. EVANGELINE C. CARNO
 SB Member

HONORABLE BERNANDINO G. TACOY
 Municipal Mayor

HON. RICARDO L. GIVA
 SB Member

HON. RODOLFO N. SUNIR
 SB Member

25 MAR 2026

HON. LUZ M. BOLDERO
 SB Member

Date Signed

HON. JOSE B. YAP
 SB Member

HON. EDUARDO I. TOLEDO
 SB Member

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

HON. JOEL G. TACOY
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