



Republic of the Philippines
PROVINCE OF LEYTE
Provincial Capitol
Tacloban City

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PROVINCIAL LEGAL OFFICE

Item No.: 01
Date: 04 2026 AUG

PROVINCE OF LEYTE
LEGAL OFFICE
RELEASED

By: [Signature]
Date: 7.21.26 Time: 9:24



2nd INDORSEMENT
June 11, 2026

Respectfully returned to the Sangguniang Panlalawigan of Leyte, through SP Secretary, the attached Ordinance No. 2026-07 of the Sangguniang Bayan of San Miguel, Leyte.

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

- Ordinance No. 2026-07 entitled: "Anti—Indecent exposure Ordinance of San Miguel, Leyte"

REVIEW/RECOMMENDATION/LEGAL OPINION:

This office is of the opinion that the subject Ordinance is generally in accordance with its power under Section 447(a)(1)(ii)¹. Hence, we recommend 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

((ii) Maintain peace and order by enacting measures to prevent and suppress lawlessness, disorder, riot, violence, rebellion or sedition and impose penalties for the violation of said ordinances;

Republic of the Philippines
PROVINCE OF LEYTE
Palo, Leyte
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PROVINCE OF LEYTE
LEGAL OFFICE
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By: 
Date: 6/8/26 Time: 1:35 pm

OFFICE OF THE SANGGUNIANG PANLALAWIGAN

1ST INDORSEMENT
08 June 2026

The Provincial Legal Office is respectfully requested to review and submit recommendations on the herein enclosed **Municipal Ordinance No. 2026-07**, of the **Municipality of San Miguel, Leyte**, entitled: **An Ordinance prohibiting the act of being topless or half-naked in public places within the Municipality of San Miguel, Leyte, providing penalties for violations thereof, and for other purposes.**


FLORINDA JIL S. JYVICO
Secretary to the Sangguniang



Republic of the Philippines
PROVINCE OF LEYTE
MUNICIPALITY OF SAN MIGUEL
-oOo-

OFFICE OF THE SANGGUNIAN BAYAN

June 3, 2026

The Honorable Members of the Sangguniang Panlalawigan of Leyte
Thru: The Sangguniang Panlalawigan Secretary
Provincial Legislative Building
Tacloban City



Gentlemen/Ladies:

I have the honor to forward herewith pertinent documents of the Sangguniang Bayan of San Miguel, Leyte, for review and approval, to wit:

1. Fourteen (14) copies of Municipal Ordinance No. 2026-07, Series of 2026 entitled: **"AN ORDINANCE PROHIBITING THE ACT OF BEING TOPLESS OR HALF-NAKED IN PUBLIC PLACES WITHIN THE MUNICIPALITY OF SAN MIGUEL, LEYTE, PROVIDING PENALTIES FOR VIOLATIONS THEREOF, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES"** as embodied under Resolution No. 152 Series of 2026.
2. Fourteen (14) copies of Certificate of Posting.

Kindly acknowledged receipt hereof.


BRYAN NEIL B. BRAZIL
Secretary to the Sangguniang Bayan



Republic of the Philippines
PROVINCE OF LEYTE
MUNICIPALITY OF SAN MIGUEL

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Province of Leyte
RECEIVED
JUN 04 2026
Done

OFFICE OF THE SANGGUNIANG BAYAN

EXCERPT FROM THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR SESSION OF THE SANGGUNIANG BAYAN, SAN MIGUEL, LEYTE, HELD AT THE SESSION HALL, LEGISLATIVE BUILDING, SAN MIGUEL, LEYTE ON MAY 11, 2026

PRESENT:

Hon. Estanislao D. Sabdao, Jr.	-	Municipal Vice-Mayor/Presiding Officer
Hon. Jerome P. Peñaranda	-	SB Member
Hon. Danilo L. Aureo	-	SB Member
Hon. Norman Niel G. Martija	-	SB Member
Hon. Letecia G. Espos	-	SB Member
Hon. Francis Jay D. Sabdao	-	SB Member
Hon. Raul A. Salas	-	SB Member
Hon. Richard Len B. Lapidario	-	SB Member
Hon. Samuel P. Salomon	-	Ex-Officio Member, President, Liga ng mga Barangay
Hon. Joss Novem B. Labaclado	-	Ex-Officio Member, President, Sangguniang Pambayang Pederasyon

ABSENT:

Hon. Thelma M. Brazil	-	SB Member (on official leave)
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Resolution No. 152
Series of 2026

AN ORDINANCE PROHIBITING THE ACT OF BEING TOPLESS OR HALF-NAKED IN PUBLIC PLACES WITHIN THE MUNICIPALITY OF SAN MIGUEL, LEYTE, PROVIDING PENALTIES FOR VIOLATIONS THEREOF, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

WHEREFORE, on motion of Hon. Richard Len B. Lapidario duly seconded by all members present;

BE IT ORDAINED by the Sangguniang Bayan of the Municipality of San Miguel, Leyte, in session duly assembled:

MUNICIPAL ORDINANCE NO.2026-07
Series of 2026

Sponsor: Hon. Richard Len B. Lapidario
SB Member/Chairman on Committee on Peace and Order, Public Safety and Legal Matters

AN ORDINANCE PROHIBITING THE ACT OF BEING TOPLESS OR HALF-NAKED IN PUBLIC PLACES WITHIN THE MUNICIPALITY OF SAN MIGUEL, LEYTE, PROVIDING PENALTIES FOR VIOLATIONS THEREOF, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

BE IT ORDAINED by the Sangguniang Bayan of the Municipality of San Miguel, Leyte, in session duly assembled:

SECTION 1. TITLE This Ordinance shall be known as the **"Anti-Indecent Exposure Ordinance of San Miguel, Leyte."**

SECTION 2. DECLARATION OF POLICY. It is hereby declared the policy of the Municipality of San Miguel, Leyte, to uphold public decency, morality, and community standards consistent with Filipino culture, ensure respect for shared public spaces, and promote peace and order within its territorial jurisdiction.

Certified Correct:

Attested by:

Concurred:

Approved:

SECTION 3. LEGAL BASIS. This Ordinance is enacted pursuant to:

- Republic Act No. 7160, particularly: Section 16 (General Welfare Clause), empowering local government units to promote morals, peace, good order, and public safety;
- Section 447(a)(1)(vi), authorizing the Sangguniang Bayan to enact ordinances to protect the general welfare;
- Revised Penal Code of the Philippines, particularly provisions on acts offending public decency;
- The inherent police power of the State delegated to local government units to regulate behavior affecting public morals and order.

SECTION 4. DEFINITION OF TERMS. For purposes of this Ordinance:

- Public Place – Any place accessible to the general public, including but not limited to streets, parks, plazas, markets, public transport terminals, barangay halls, government buildings, and similar areas.
- Topless – The state of a person not wearing any clothing covering the upper portion of the body, particularly the chest.
- Half-Naked – A condition where a person is inadequately clothed such that private parts or sensitive areas are exposed or visible in a manner offensive to public decency.
- Indecent Exposure – The act of exposing one's body in a manner contrary to accepted standards of decency and morality in public.

SECTION 5. COVERAGE. This Ordinance shall include all persons whether residents or not that is found in violation of this Ordinance within the territorial jurisdiction of the Municipality of San Miguel Leyte.

SECTION 6. PROHIBITED ACTS. It shall be unlawful for any person to:

- Appear topless in any public place within the Municipality of San Miguel, Leyte;
- Appear half-naked in public places in a manner that exposes private parts or is offensive to public decency;
- Deliberately display or expose body parts in public areas in a manner that disturbs public order or morals.

SECTION 7. EXCEPTIONS. The following shall not be considered violations of this Ordinance:

- Indigenous cultural practices recognized by law;
- Authorized performances, artistic presentations, or cultural shows with prior approval from the Municipal Government;
- Medical emergencies or health-related situations;
- Activities conducted in private places not open to public view;
- Infants and young children below seven (7) years of age.
- Persons who are in beaches, swimming pools, resorts, those involved in sports activities, and laborers involved in construction and farm work.

SECTION 8. PENALTIES. Any person found guilty of violating this Ordinance shall be penalized as follows:

- a. **First Offense:** Verbal and official warning and document and record violation in the official logbook of concerned barangay.
- b. **Second Offense:** Fine of One Thousand Pesos (₱1,000.00) or imprisonment of not more than five (5) days, or both;
- c. **Third and Subsequent Offenses:** Fine of Three Thousand Pesos (₱2,500.00) or imprisonment of not more than ten (10) days, or both. If the offender is a minor, the provisions of Republic Act No. 9344 shall apply.

SECTION 9. ENFORCEMENT. This Ordinance shall be enforced by:

- a. Philippine National Police (PNP);
- b. Barangay Officials;
- c. Municipal Public Safety Officers;
- d. Other authorized enforcement units of the Municipality.

SECTION 10. INFORMATION AND EDUCATION CAMPAIGN. The Municipal Government shall conduct an information campaign to ensure public awareness and compliance with this Ordinance.

SECTION 11. SEPARABILITY CLAUSE. If any provision of this Ordinance is declared unconstitutional or invalid, the remaining provisions not affected thereby shall continue to be in full force and effect.

SECTION 12. REPEALING CLAUSE. All ordinances, rules, and regulations inconsistent with this ordinance are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

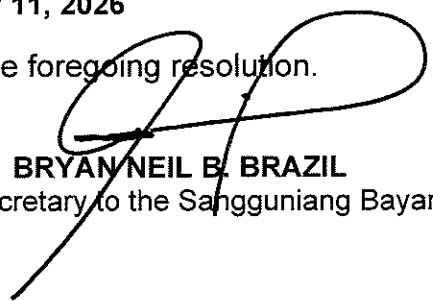
SECTION 13. EFFECTIVITY. This Ordinance shall take effect after compliance with publication requirements under Republic Act No. 7160.

UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED - **May 11, 2026**

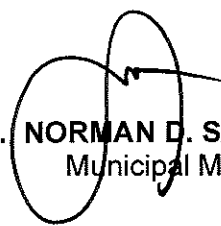
I HEREBY CERTIFY to the correctness of the foregoing resolution.

Attested by:


HON. ESTANISLAO D. SABDAO, JR.
Municipal Vice-Mayor/Presiding Officer


BRYAN NEIL B. BRAZIL
Secretary to the Sangguniang Bayan

Approved:


ATTY. NORMAN D. SABDAO
Municipal Mayor



Republic of the Philippines
PROVINCE OF LEYTE
MUNICIPALITY OF SAN MIGUEL
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OFFICE OF THE SANGGUNIAN BAYAN

CERTIFICATE OF POSTING

THIS IS TO CERTIFY that Municipal Ordinance No. 2026-07, Series of 2026 as embodied under Resolution No. 152 Series of 2026 entitled **“AN ORDINANCE PROHIBITING THE ACT OF BEING TOPLESS OR HALF-NAKED IN PUBLIC PLACES WITHIN THE MUNICIPALITY OF SAN MIGUEL, LEYTE, PROVIDING PENALTIES FOR VIOLATIONS THEREOF, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”** has been posted in (3) three conspicuous places within the municipality and shall remain posted for (3) three consecutive weeks.

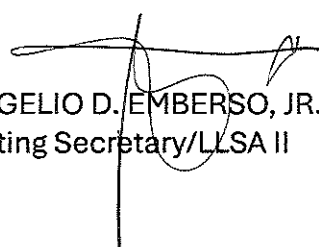
Done this 3rd day of June, 2026 in San Miguel, Leyte.


BRYAN NEIL B. BRAZIL
Secretary to the Sangguniang Bayan

Republic of the Philippines
PROVINCE OF LEYTE
MUNICIPALITY OF SAN MIGUEL

PUBLIC HEARING AND CONSULTATION OF THE PROPOSED MUNICIPAL ORDINANCE ENTITLED "AN ORDINANCE PROHIBITING THE ACT OF BEING TOPLESS OR HALF-NAKED IN THE PUBLIC PLACES WITHING THE MUNICIPALITY OF SAN MIGUEL, LEYTE PROVIDING PENALTIES FOR VIOLATIONS THEREOF, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

The public hearing was called to order by Hon. Richard Len B. Lapidario, SB Member/ Chairman Committee on Peace and Order, Public Safety and Legal Matters as Presiding Officer at exactly 9:00 o'clock in the morning on May 6, 2026 at ABC Hall.



ROGELIO D. EMBERSO, JR.
Acting Secretary/LLSA II

Attested by:



HON. RICHARD LEN B. LAPIDARIO
SB Member/Presiding Officer

RICHARD LEN B. LAPIDARIO
SR Member