



REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
PROVINCE OF LEYTE
Palo, Leyte
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COMMITTEE ON RULES, LAWS AND PRIVILEGES AND COMMITTEE ON ENERGY,
SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

Joint Committee Report No. 20
Series of 2026

SUBJECT:

**“REVISED AND CONSOLIDATED PROPOSED PROVINCIAL ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING
THE QUICK GAS (QGAS) DIGITAL FUEL PRICE INFORMATION AND MONITORING
SYSTEM OF THE PROVINCE OF LEYTE”**

I. ANTECEDENTS

The Committees on **Rules, Laws and Privileges** and **Energy, Science & Technology** acting within their respective mandates, jointly considered and reviewed the proposed Provincial Ordinance entitled:

**“AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING THE QUICK GAS (QGAS) DIGITAL FUEL PRICE
INFORMATION AND MONITORING SYSTEM OF THE PROVINCE OF LEYTE, PROVIDING
FOR ITS ADMINISTRATION, OPERATION, MAINTENANCE, AND IMPLEMENTATION,
AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.”**

The proposed measure was referred to the appropriate committees for review, legal evaluation, refinement, consolidation, and recommendation to the Sangguniang Panlalawigan.

The Committees undertook a review of the original draft and the subsequent comments, suggestions, and proposed amendments, particularly those intended to clarify the nature and purpose of the QGAS, delineate the authority of the Provincial Government from the regulatory powers of national government agencies, establish the responsibilities of participating fuel retailers, and provide appropriate safeguards for implementation.

II. PURPOSE AND OBJECTIVES OF THE MEASURE

The proposed ordinance seeks to establish the Quick Gas (QGAS) Digital Fuel Price Information and Monitoring System as an official provincial digital platform for the collection, consolidation, publication, and dissemination of prevailing retail prices of gasoline, diesel, kerosene, and other covered petroleum products.

The measure is principally intended to:

1. Promote transparency in the retail petroleum market within the Province of Leyte;
2. Provide consumers with accessible and timely information regarding prevailing fuel prices at retail stations;
3. Facilitate informed consumer decisions by making price information publicly available;
4. Establish a centralized digital platform for the submission, consolidation, publication, and archival of fuel-price information;
5. Maintain historical fuel-price records which may be useful for public information, research, planning, and policy formulation;
6. Promote digital governance and innovation in the delivery of provincial public services;
7. Provide a mechanism for verification and correction of inaccurate, incomplete, or outdated information; and
8. Coordinate, when appropriate, with national government agencies, particularly the Department of Energy (DOE) and Department of Trade and Industry (DTI), while respecting their respective mandates and regulatory authority.

III. LEGAL AND POLICY CONSIDERATIONS

The Committees recognize that the establishment of a provincial information system falls within the general powers and responsibilities of local government units, subject to the Constitution and applicable laws.

The proposed ordinance invokes, among others, Section 16 of Republic Act No. 7160, otherwise known as the Local Government Code of 1991, particularly the general welfare clause, as a policy basis for undertaking measures intended to promote the welfare of the inhabitants and improve the delivery of public services.

The Committees likewise considered Section 17 of the Local Government Code, insofar as the proposed digital system relates to the delivery and improvement of public services and local governance.

The measure further recognizes the policy objectives embodied in Republic Act No. 8479, otherwise known as the Downstream Oil Industry Deregulation Act of 1998, and Republic Act No. 7394, otherwise known as the Consumer Act of the Philippines, particularly with respect to transparency, consumer information, and informed purchasing decisions.

Importantly, the Committees find it necessary that the proposed ordinance clearly distinguish the information-gathering and transparency functions of the Provincial Government from the regulatory powers vested by national law in the appropriate national government agencies.

For this reason, the Revised and Consolidated Ordinance expressly provides that the QGAS shall operate solely as an information and transparency mechanism and shall not be construed as authorizing the Province to regulate, determine, approve, fix, standardize, or control petroleum prices or otherwise exercise regulatory powers reserved by law to the DOE, DTI, or other national government agencies.

IV. COMMITTEE FINDINGS

After careful review of the proposed measure, the Committees make the following findings:

A. The proposed ordinance is principally informational in character.

The Committees find that the revised measure properly characterizes QGAS as a digital fuel price information and monitoring system, rather than a price-control or price-regulation mechanism.

The system is intended to collect and publish retailer-submitted information concerning prevailing retail fuel prices for the benefit of the consuming public.

B. The revised draft contains safeguards against regulatory overreach.

The Committees note the importance of the express language in Section 2 and Section 4 stating that QGAS shall not regulate petroleum prices or exercise powers vested in national government agencies.

This clarification is material to the proper implementation of the ordinance and should be retained in the final measure.

C. The responsibilities of covered fuel retailers are expressly identified.

The revised ordinance requires covered retail fuel stations to submit their prevailing retail prices through the QGAS platform within the prescribed periods.

The reporting requirements are intended to ensure that information appearing on the provincial platform remains sufficiently current and useful to consumers.

The Committees further recognize that the ordinance places responsibility for the accuracy of retailer-submitted information upon the submitting retailer.

D. The measure provides a mechanism for verification and correction.

The Committees consider the provisions on verification, correction, and status-labeling of information to be important administrative safeguards.

The classifications “**Retailer-Reported**,” “**Province-Verified**,” and “**Under Verification**” provide users with information concerning the status of data appearing on the platform and help distinguish retailer-submitted information from information independently validated by the Province.

E. The proposed ordinance recognizes data security and privacy considerations.

The Committees note that Section 9 requires reasonable safeguards involving system security, data integrity, audit trails, access controls, cybersecurity measures, and compliance with the **Data Privacy Act** whenever personal information is processed.

These provisions are appropriate given the digital nature of the proposed system.

F. The measure provides for institutional responsibility.

The designation of the **Provincial Management Information Systems Office (MIS Office)** as the implementing office establishes a clear administrative responsibility for the operation, maintenance, security, improvement, and management of the QGAS platform.

The authority of the MIS Office to coordinate with relevant provincial offices, component local government units, and national government agencies further supports inter-agency implementation.

G. The annual reporting requirement promotes accountability.

The Committees find the annual reporting requirement under Section 13 to be a useful accountability mechanism.

The submission of an Annual QGAS Report to the Sangguniang Panlalawigan will allow the legislative body to monitor participation, system utilization, compliance trends, system enhancements, and possible improvements in implementation.

H. The ordinance provides an appropriate funding mechanism.

Section 14 provides that the amount necessary for implementation and maintenance shall be charged against available appropriations of the Provincial Government and thereafter included in the annual appropriations ordinance, subject to applicable budgeting, accounting, and auditing laws, rules, and regulations.

I. The measure contains appropriate implementation and legal-safeguard provisions.

The inclusion of provisions on implementing guidelines, transitory implementation, separability, repeal of inconsistent issuances, and effectivity provides an administrative framework for the orderly implementation of the QGAS.

V. MATERIAL REVISIONS AND CONSOLIDATIONS

In reviewing the original draft of the ordinance, the Committees incorporated and consolidated comments and recommendations intended to improve the measure's legal clarity, administrative feasibility, and implementation.

Among the significant refinements reflected in the Revised and Consolidated Ordinance are:

1. Clarification of the QGAS as an information and transparency mechanism;
2. Express recognition of the regulatory authority of the DOE, DTI, and other national government agencies;
3. Clear definition of covered retail fuel stations and prevailing retail prices;
4. Specification of the reporting periods and information required from covered fuel stations;
5. Establishment of verification and correction mechanisms;
6. Use of appropriate status classifications for reported information;
7. Identification of the Provincial MIS Office as the implementing office;
8. Provision for cybersecurity, data integrity, access controls, and data privacy compliance;

9. Establishment of an annual reporting mechanism to the Sangguniang Panlalawigan;
10. Provision for implementing guidelines and transitional procedures; and
11. Clarification that publication through QGAS does not constitute a provincial certification or guarantee concerning the continuous availability or accuracy of retailer-reported prices unless independently verified.

The Committees consider these revisions necessary to make the proposed measure more precise, administratively workable, and consistent with the intended limited purpose of the QGAS.

VI. COMMITTEE POSITION

After consideration of the proposed measure and its revised and consolidated provisions, the Committees find that the establishment of the QGAS may provide the Province with a structured mechanism for public access to fuel-price information, digital transparency, consumer awareness, and data-supported local planning, without assuming the price-regulatory functions of national government agencies.

The Committees further find that the revised provisions sufficiently articulate the intended character of the system as an **information and transparency platform**, subject to compliance with applicable national laws, rules, regulations, and standards.

The Committees therefore support the advancement of the **Revised and Consolidated QGAS Ordinance** for consideration by the Sangguniang Panlalawigan.

VII. RECOMMENDATION

WHEREFORE, premises considered, the Joint Committees on Rules, Laws and Privileges and Energy hereby RECOMMEND the APPROVAL of the Proposed Provincial Ordinance No. _____, Series of 2026, entitled:

“AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING THE QUICK GAS (QGAS) DIGITAL FUEL PRICE INFORMATION AND MONITORING SYSTEM OF THE PROVINCE OF LEYTE, PROVIDING FOR ITS ADMINISTRATION, OPERATION, MAINTENANCE, AND IMPLEMENTATION, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.”

The Committees further recommend that the **Revised and Consolidated version**, incorporating the amendments, clarifications, legal safeguards, and implementation provisions considered by the Committees, be adopted as the version to be presented to the **Sangguniang Panlalawigan for second and subsequent consideration, as may be required under its Rules of Procedure.**

The Committees likewise recommend that, during the remaining stages of legislative consideration, the proposed ordinance continue to be implemented and interpreted consistently with the powers and jurisdiction of the **Department of Energy, Department of Trade and Industry, and other concerned national government agencies**, and with all applicable laws, rules, regulations, and administrative issuances.

Respectfully submitted.

**COMMITTEE ON RULES, LAWS AND PRIVILEGES and COMMITTEE ON ENERGY,
SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY**



HON. ATTY. RONNAN CHRISTIAN M. REPOSAR
Chairperson, Committee on Rules and Privileges
Vice-Chairperson, Committee on Energy, Science & Technology

HON. ELMER FREDERICO N. CODILLA
Chairperson Committee on Energy, Science & Technology

HON. ATTY. CARLO P. LORETO
Vice-Chairperson, Committee on Rules and Privileges
Member, Committee on Energy, Science & Technology

HON. RAISSA J. VILLASIN
Member, Committee on Energy, Science & Technology

HON. WILSON S. UY
Member, Committee on Rules and Privileges

HON. MARIE KATHRYN VELOSO-KABIGTING
Member, Committee on Energy, Science & Technology

HON. MICHAEL L. CARI
Member, Committee on Rules and Privileges

HON. MA. MARTINA L. GIMENEZ
Member, Committee on Rules and Privileges

Date: September 11, 2026
Place: Palo, Leyte



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

EXCERPTS FROM THE MINUTES OF THE _____ REGULAR SESSION OF THE 12TH SANGGUNIANG PANLALAWIGAN OF LEYTE CONDUCTED AT THE SESSION HALL, LEYTE PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT COMPLEX, PALO, LEYTE, ON _____.

PRESENT:

ABSENT:

RESOLUTION NO. _____

A RESOLUTION APPROVING ON 3RD AND FINAL READING PROVINCIAL ORDINANCE NO. 2026- 07 SERIES OF 2026 ENTITLED: "AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING THE QUICK GAS (QGAS) DIGITAL FUEL PRICE INFORMATION AND MONITORING SYSTEM OF THE PROVINCE OF LEYTE, PROVIDING FOR ITS ADMINISTRATION, OPERATION, MAINTENANCE, AND IMPLEMENTATION, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES."

WHEREAS, Section 16 of Republic Act No. 7160, otherwise known as the Local Government Code of 1991, provides that every local government unit shall exercise powers expressly granted, those necessarily implied therefrom, and such powers as are necessary, appropriate, or incidental for its efficient and effective governance, including those essential to the promotion of the general welfare;

WHEREAS, Section 17 of Republic Act No. 7160 recognizes the responsibility of local government units in the delivery of basic services and facilities within their respective jurisdictions and encourages the adoption of appropriate systems, mechanisms, and innovations to improve public service delivery, transparency, and local governance;

WHEREAS, Republic Act No. 8479, otherwise known as the Downstream Oil Industry Deregulation Act of 1998, promotes a competitive downstream oil industry and recognizes the importance of transparency and access to reliable market information;

WHEREAS, Republic Act No. 7394, otherwise known as the Consumer Act of the Philippines, declares the policy of the State to protect consumers and provide them with adequate information to enable informed purchasing decisions;

WHEREAS, the Provincial Government of Leyte recognizes that fluctuations in the retail prices of gasoline, diesel, and other petroleum products affect transportation costs, prices of essential commodities, household expenses, and economic activities within the Province;

WHEREAS, the Provincial Government of Leyte recognizes that digital governance and access to timely market information promote transparency, informed consumer choice, accountability, and efficient public service;

WHEREAS, the establishment of a provincial digital fuel price information system will enhance consumer awareness while respecting the regulatory authority vested by law in the Department of Energy and other national government agencies;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Sangguniang Panlalawigan of Leyte in session assembled:

PROVINCIAL ORDINANCE NO. _____
Series of 2026

AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING THE QUICK GAS (QGAS) DIGITAL FUEL PRICE INFORMATION AND MONITORING SYSTEM OF THE PROVINCE OF LEYTE, PROVIDING FOR ITS ADMINISTRATION, OPERATION, MAINTENANCE, AND IMPLEMENTATION, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

AUTHORS: ATTY. CARLO P. LORETO
ATTY. RONNAN CHRISTIAN M. REPOSAR
ATTY. MILDRED JOY P. QUE

SECTION 1. TITLE.

This Ordinance shall be known as the “**Quick Gas (QGAS) Digital Fuel Price Information and Monitoring System Ordinance of the Province of Leyte.**”

SECTION 2. DECLARATION OF POLICY.

It is hereby declared the policy of the Provincial Government of Leyte to promote transparency, consumer awareness, digital governance, and public access to reliable information by establishing a digital platform for the collection, consolidation, publication, and dissemination of prevailing retail petroleum product prices within the Province.

The QGAS shall operate solely as an **information and transparency mechanism**. Nothing in this Ordinance shall be construed as granting the Provincial Government authority to regulate, determine, approve, fix, standardize, or control petroleum product prices, regulate market competition, or exercise powers vested by law in the Department of Energy, the Department of Trade and Industry, or any other national government agency.

SECTION 3. DEFINITION OF TERMS. For purposes of this Ordinance:

- a. **QGAS** - refers to the Quick Gas Digital Fuel Price Information and Monitoring System.
- b. **Covered Retail Fuel Station** - refers to any establishment engaged in the retail sale of petroleum products directly to consumers within the Province of Leyte.
- c. **Petroleum Products** - include gasoline, diesel, kerosene, and such other petroleum products as may subsequently be designated by the Department of Energy.
- d. **Prevailing Retail Price** - refers to the actual pump price charged by a covered retail fuel station at the time the information is submitted.
- e. **Price Adjustment** - refers to any increase or decrease in the prevailing retail price of a covered petroleum product.
- f. **Submission** - refers to the electronic transmission of price information through the official QGAS platform.
- g. **MIS Office** - refers to the Provincial Management Information Systems Office.

- h. **Verification** – refers to the process of validating the accuracy, completeness, and timeliness of submitted fuel price information.
- i. **Correction** – refers to the process of amending inaccurate, outdated, or incomplete information submitted to the QGAS.

SECTION 4. ESTABLISHMENT AND NATURE OF THE QGAS.

There is hereby established the Quick Gas (QGAS) Digital Fuel Price Information and Monitoring System as the official digital fuel price information platform of the Province of Leyte.

The QGAS shall:

- a. collect retailer-submitted fuel price information;
- b. consolidate submitted information;
- c. display prevailing retail prices;
- d. maintain historical price records;
- e. publish and disseminate fuel price information for public reference;
- f. generate reports for policy formulation;
- g. maintain archival records for transparency and research

The QGAS shall serve exclusively as an **information and transparency mechanism** and shall not regulate petroleum prices.

SECTION 5. IMPLEMENTING OFFICE. The Provincial MIS Office shall administer, maintain, secure, improve, and operate the QGAS.

The MIS Office may coordinate with:

- a. Provincial Administrator;
- b. Provincial Legal Office;
- c. Provincial Planning and Development Office;
- d. Provincial Information Office;
- e. Department of Energy;
- f. Department of Trade and Industry;
- g. component municipalities and cities;
- h. other appropriate agencies.

The MIS Office shall issue implementing guidelines consistent with this Ordinance.

SECTION 6. REPORTING OF FUEL PRICE INFORMATION.

Covered retail fuel stations **shall submit** through the QGAS their prevailing retail prices for covered petroleum products:

- a. within twenty-four (24) hours after any price increase or decrease becomes effective; and,
- b. every Tuesday of each week regardless of whether a price adjustment has occurred.

Each submission shall indicate:

- station name;
- station location;
- petroleum product;
- prevailing retail price;
- effective date and time;
- operational status.

Submission is solely for consumer information. QGAS republishes retailer-submitted prices and does not regulate or approve prices

SECTION 7. COORDINATION WITH COMPONENT LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNITS. The Provincial Government shall coordinate with the component municipalities and cities of Leyte to promote the objectives of this Ordinance and facilitate the participation of covered retail fuel stations.

Nothing in this Ordinance shall be construed as requiring component LGUs to enact ordinances or perform acts beyond their powers under the Local Government Code.

SECTION 8. VERIFICATION AND CORRECTION OF INFORMATION. Fuel price information submitted to the QGAS shall remain the responsibility of the submitting retailer.

The MIS Office may:

- a. conduct periodic validation;
- b. suspend erroneous entries;
- c. require correction of inaccurate, incomplete, or outdated information;
- d. flag entries as “Retailer-Reported,” “Province-Verified,” or “Under Verification.”

Publication through QGAS shall not constitute certification by the Province that the reported prices are continuously available or independently verified.

SECTION 9. PUBLIC ACCESS AND INFORMATION MANAGEMENT. The official digital platform designated by the Provincial Government shall serve as the public portal for QGAS.

The MIS Office shall implement reasonable safeguards to ensure:

- a. system security;
- b. data integrity;
- c. audit trails;
- d. access controls;
- e. cybersecurity measures;
- f. compliance with the Data Privacy Act whenever personal information is processed.

The Governor may designate or change the official website or digital platform through an administrative issuance **without amending this Ordinance**

SECTION 10. NON-LIABILITY. The Provincial Government shall not be liable for losses or damages arising from reliance upon retailer-submitted information that has not been independently verified.

Responsibility for the accuracy of submitted information shall remain with the submitting retail fuel station.

SECTION 11. DUTIES OF FUEL RETAILERS. Covered retail fuel stations shall:

- a. ensure accuracy of submitted information;
- b. promptly correct erroneous entries;
- c. maintain transparency in reporting;
- d. comply with verification requests from the MIS Office.

SECTION 12. POWERS OF THE MIS OFFICE. The MIS Office shall have the authority to:

- a. manage and secure the QGAS platform;
- b. validate submitted information;
- c. suspend or remove false or outdated entries;
- d. require corrections;
- e. generate reports;
- f. coordinate with national agencies.

SECTION 13. ANNUAL REPORT. Within the first quarter of every calendar year, the MIS Office shall submit to the Sangguniang Panlalawigan an Annual QGAS Report containing:

- a. participating fuel stations;
- b. system usage statistics;
- c. compliance trends;
- d. system enhancements;
- e. recommendations for policy improvement.

SECTION 14. FUNDING. The amount necessary for the implementation and maintenance of the QGAS shall be charged against available appropriations of the Provincial Government. Thereafter, funding shall be included in the annual appropriations ordinance.

Page 7 of 7 - Res. No. 2026-____ dated _____, 2026
Approving on 3rd and Final Reading Provincial Ordinance entitled:
“An Ordinance Establishing The Quick Gas (QGAS) Digital Fuel Price
Information and Monitoring System of the Province of Leyte,
Providing for its Administration, Operation, Maintenance and
Implementation, and For Other Purposes”.

SECTION 15. IMPLEMENTING RULES AND REGULATIONS (IRR). Within ninety (90) days from the effectivity of this Ordinance, the MIS Office shall promulgate the implementing guidelines necessary for its effective implementation.

SECTION 16. TRANSITORY PROVISION. During the initial implementation phase, the MIS Office may adopt interim procedures to ensure the timely launch of the QGAS platform.

SECTION 17. SEPARABILITY CLAUSE. If any provision of this Ordinance is declared unconstitutional or invalid, the remaining provisions shall remain in full force and effect.

SECTION 18. REPEALING CLAUSE. All ordinances, resolutions, executive issuances, rules, regulations, or portions thereof inconsistent with this Ordinance are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SECTION 19. EFFECTIVITY.

This Ordinance shall take effect after compliance with the publication and posting requirements prescribed under the Local Government Code of 1991 and other applicable laws.

PASSED and ENACTED on _____ by the Sangguniang Panlalawigan in session assembled.