



Republic of the Philippines
PROVINCE OF LEYTE
Provincial Capitol
Tacloban City

-oOo-

PROVINCIAL LEGAL OFFICE

2nd INDORSEMENT

September 10, 2026

Item No.: 27
Date: 23 2026 OCT

Sangguniang Panlalawigan
Province of Leyte

RECEIVED

Date: OCT 09 2026
By: Jean R

Respectfully returned to the Sangguniang Panlalawigan of Leyte, through SP Secretary, the attached Ordinance No. 2026-13 of the Sangguniang Bayan of Hindang, Leyte.

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

- Ordinance No. 2026-13 entitled: "Anti-Deduction and No Collection from Government Assistance Ordinance of Hindang"

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)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

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

PROVINCE OF LEYTE
LEGAL OFFICE

RELEASED

1ST INDORSEMENT
03 September 2026

By: *[Signature]*
Date: 9.7.26 Time: 9:44

The Provincial Legal Office is respectfully requested to review and submit recommendations on the herein enclosed **Ordinance No. 2026-13** of the **Municipality of Hindang, Leyte**, entitled: **An Ordinance prohibiting the collection, solicitation, or acceptance of any fees, contributions, or gifts from beneficiaries of government assistance programs in the Municipality of Hindang, Leyte, and providing penalties thereof.**

[Signature]
FLORINDA JILL S. UYVICO
Secretary to the Sanggunian



Republic of the Philippines
Province of Leyte
MUNICIPALITY OF HINDANG
-oOo-

OFFICE OF THE SANGGUNIANG BAYAN

**EXCERPT FROM THE MINUTES OF THE SANGGUNIANG BAYAN OF HINDANG,
LEYTE, IN ITS REGULAR SESSION HELD ON AUGUST 03, 2026 AT THE SB
SESSION HALL**

ORDINANCE NO. 2026-13

**AN ORDINANCE PROHIBITING THE COLLECTION, SOLICITATION, OR ACCEPTANCE OF
ANY FEES, CONTRIBUTIONS, OR GIFTS FROM BENEFICIARIES OF GOVERNMENT
ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF HINDANG, LEYTE, AND PROVIDING
PENALTIES THEREOF**

Authored by:

Hon. Mikhael Anne Gelo D. Aboyme

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This ordinance is proposed to ensure that all government assistance programs in the Municipality of Hindang are delivered fully, fairly, and free of any unauthorized charges.

While programs such as TUPAD, 4Ps, and AICS are intended to directly benefit vulnerable individuals, there have been instances where beneficiaries are asked to give money for so-called "processing fees," "facilitation," or "pahalipay." These practices reduce the assistance received and undermine public trust.

This measure strictly prohibits any form of deduction, solicitation, or collection from beneficiaries and holds accountable all individuals involved in the distribution of assistance. It also establishes a complaint mechanism and corresponding penalties for violations.

Through this ordinance, the Municipality affirms its commitment to protect its constituents from exploitation and to promote transparency, integrity, and good governance in public service.

BE IT ORDAINED by the Sangguniang Bayan of Hindang, Leyte, in its regular session assembled this date:

WHEREAS, the Municipality of Hindang recognizes the need to ensure that government financial assistance programs are delivered fully and fairly to their intended beneficiaries without unauthorized deductions, collections, or solicitations;

WHEREAS, government assistance programs such as TUPAD, Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program, and Assistance to Individuals in Crisis Situation are intended to provide direct relief to disadvantaged individuals and families and must therefore be protected from any form of abuse or exploitation;

WHEREAS, there have been instances in various areas where beneficiaries are asked to provide money for alleged "processing fees," "photocopying expenses," "facilitation fees," "pang-

(ORDINANCE NO. 2026-13 of Hindang, Leyte, entitled: Anti-Deduction and No Collection from Government Assistance Ordinance of Hindang" continued)

gasolina," or other contributions as a condition for inclusion in beneficiary lists or for the release of assistance;

WHEREAS, such practices undermine public trust in government programs and impose undue burden on poor and vulnerable citizens;

WHEREAS, Section 16 of the Local Government Code of 1991 empowers local government units to enact measures to promote the general welfare of their constituents;

WHEREAS, public officials and employees are required to observe the highest standards of integrity and accountability under the Code of Conduct and Ethical Standards for Public Officials and Employees;

WHEREAS, the act of requesting or receiving any share, percentage, or benefit in connection with government transactions may constitute a violation of the Anti-Graft and Corrupt Practices Act;

WHEREFORE, the Sangguniang Bayan of Hindang deems it necessary to enact measures to protect beneficiaries of government assistance programs from unauthorized collections and abusive practices.

SECTION 1. Title. This Ordinance shall be known as the "Anti-Deduction and No Collection from Government Assistance Ordinance of Hindang."

SECTION 2. Declaration of Policy. It is the policy of the Municipality of Hindang to ensure that all government assistance intended for the public is received in full by the rightful beneficiaries without any deduction, collection, solicitation, or contribution requirement. Government services related to the processing and distribution of assistance shall be rendered free of charge.

SECTION 3. Coverage. This Ordinance shall apply to all forms of government financial assistance and social service programs implemented by the national government, local government units, or government instrumentalities, including but not limited to:

- TUPAD
- Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program (4Ps)
- Assistance to Individuals in Crisis Situation (AICS)
- Senior citizen financial assistance programs
- Scholarship or educational assistance programs
- Disaster relief and emergency assistance
- Livelihood grants
- Medical or burial assistance
- Any other form of "ayuda" or government subsidy

SECTION 4. Prohibited Acts. The following acts are strictly prohibited:

- a) Deduction from Assistance Taking, withholding, or deducting any portion of financial assistance intended for beneficiaries.
- b) Solicitation of Money Demanding, requesting, or soliciting money or contributions from beneficiaries in relation to government assistance programs.

Official

Abelino L. Cantarero

[Signature]

[Signature]

[Signature]

[Signature]

[Signature]

(ORDINANCE NO. 2026-13 of Hindang, Leyte, entitled: Anti-Deduction and No Collection from Government Assistance Ordinance of Hindang" ...continued)

- c) Processing or Documentation Fees Collecting any processing fee, photocopying fee, documentation fee, facilitation fee, printing fee, transportation fee, or any similar charge from beneficiaries.
- d) Conditional Inclusion Requiring beneficiaries to give money, gifts, or contributions as a condition for:
 - a. inclusion in the list of beneficiaries
 - b. processing of documents
 - c. endorsement or approval of application
 - d. release of government assistance.
- e) Unauthorized Intermediaries Allowing intermediaries, agents, or affiliates to collect money from beneficiaries in relation to government assistance programs.

SECTION 5. Prohibition on Acceptance of Gifts or "Pahalipay". Government officials, employees, barangay officials, volunteers, or intermediaries involved in the identification, processing, facilitation, or distribution of government assistance programs shall not solicit or accept any gift, cash, token, donation, or "pahalipay" from beneficiaries. Any such gift or token, whether given voluntarily or otherwise, shall be presumed to be connected with official duties and is therefore prohibited.

SECTION 6. Presumption of Unauthorized Collection. Any amount collected from applicants or beneficiaries in connection with government assistance programs shall be presumed unauthorized and illegal unless supported by a duly enacted ordinance authorizing such fee.

SECTION 7. Persons Covered. This Ordinance shall apply to:

- Municipal officials
- Barangay officials
- Government employees
- Job order or contractual workers
- Volunteers or program facilitators
- Intermediaries or agents
- Any private individual acting in connection with the distribution of government assistance.

SECTION 8. Mandatory Posting of Notice. All barangay halls, municipal offices, and payout venues shall display visible notices stating: "BAWAL ANG BAWAS SA AYUDA. WALANG PROCESSING FEE, PHOTOCOPY FEE, O PAHALIPAY SA PAGKUHA NG TULONG NG GOBYERNO."

SECTION 9. Complaint Mechanism. Beneficiaries who experience or witness unauthorized collections may file complaints with:

- Office of the Mayor
- Office of the Sangguniang Bayan
- Municipal Social Welfare and Development Office
- Other appropriate authorities

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The identity of complainants shall be kept confidential.

SECTION 10. Penalties. Any person found violating this Ordinance shall be subject to the following penalties:

- First Offense - a fine of ₱1,500.00
- Second Offense - a fine of ₱2,000.00
- Third Offense - a fine of ₱2,500.00 and recommendation for filing of administrative or criminal charges under applicable laws including the Anti-Graft and Corrupt Practices Act.

If the offender is a public official or employee, the violation shall also be referred for administrative disciplinary action pursuant to the Local Government Code of 1991.

SECTION 11. Separability Clause. If any provision of this Ordinance is declared invalid, the remaining provisions shall remain in full force and effect.

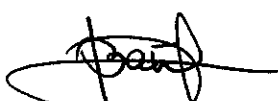
SECTION 12. Repealing Clause. All ordinances, rules, or regulations inconsistent with this Ordinance are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SECTION 13. Effectivity. This Ordinance shall take effect upon compliance with the posting requirements under the Local Government Code of 1991.

ENACTED this 3rd day of August, 2026 by this Sanggunian in its regular session held for the purpose at the SB Session Hall, this Municipality, with the following votes:

Yes (9) No (0) Abstain (0)


CLOTILDE A. GUINOCOR
SB Member


SALVADORE E. BANEZ, JR.
SB Member


LEONIDA A. CAVITE
SB Member

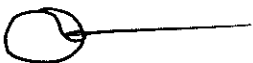

JOSE NAPOLEON D. MONTERO
SB Member


SORIANO B. DELALAMON
SB Member


MIKHAEL ANNE GELO D. ABOYME
SB Member











(ORDINANCE NO. 2026-13 of Hindang, Leyte, entitled: Anti-Deduction and No Collection from Government Assistance Ordinance of Hindang" ...continued)


SEAN RYAN MARK C. CABAL
SB Member


RODOLFO C. DARGANTES
Ex-Officio Member- LNB Pres.


ADRIAN PAUL G. ASTORGA
Ex-Officio Member-SK Fed. Pres.

CERTIFIED CORRECT:


ANNABEL A. MABALE
Secretary to the Sanggunian

ATTESTED TO BE DULY ADOPTED:


TEODULO A. CLAVEJO
SB Member-Temporary
Presiding Officer

APPROVED:


ELPIDIO B. CABAL, JR.
Municipal Mayor

AUG 20 2025



Republic of the Philippines
Province of Leyte
MUNICIPALITY OF HINDANG
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OFFICE OF THE SANGGUNIANG BAYAN

CERTIFICATION

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

THIS IS TO CERTIFY *that* ORDINANCE NO. 2026-13 of the Sangguniang Bayan, Hindang, Leyte, RE: *"An Ordinance prohibiting the collection, solicitation, or acceptance of any fees, contributions, or gifts from beneficiaries of Government Assistance Programs in the Municipality of Hindang, Leyte, and providing penalties thereof"*, had been correspondingly posted in the Municipal Hall and two (2) conspicuous places of the municipality as prescribed under the Local Government Code of 1991 otherwise known as Republic Act 7160.

GIVEN this 28th day of August, 2026 at Hindang, Leyte, Philippines.


ANNABEL A. MABALE
Secretary to the Sanggunian



Republic of the Philippines
Province of Leyte
MUNICIPALITY OF HINDANG
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OFFICE OF THE SANGGUNIANG BAYAN

CERTIFICATION

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

THIS IS TO CERTIFY *that a PUBLIC HEARING was actually conducted last July 21, 2026 relative to ORDINANCE NO. 2026 -13 of the Sangguniang Bayan, this municipality, RE: "An Ordinance prohibiting the collection, solicitation, or acceptance of any fees, contributions, or gifts from beneficiaries of Government Assistance Programs in the Municipality of Hindang, Leyte, and providing penalties thereof", as prescribed under the Local Government Code of 1991.*

THIS CERTIFICATION *is issued in compliance with the requirements as provided for under Republic Act 7160.*

GIVEN this 28th day of August, 2026 at Hindang, Leyte, Philippines.


ANNABEL A. MABALE
Secretary to the Sanggunian

ATTENDANCE SHEET

PUBLIC HEARING on proposed ordinances :

- An Ordinance prohibiting the collection, solicitation or acceptance of any fees, contributions of gifts of beneficiaries of Government Assistance Programs in the Municipality of Hindang, Leyte, and Providing Penalties Thereof, by Hon. Mikhael Anne Gelo D. Aboyme;
- An Ordinance regulating the installation, provision, maintenance, protection and use of hydrants and fire lanes in the Municipality of Hindang, Leyte; prohibiting obstructions, illegal parking, and unauthorized use thereof; providing penalties thereof, and for other purposes, by Hon. Clotilde A. Guinocor;
- An Ordinance establishing the Policies, Guidelines, Rental Rates and conditions for the Lease of Commercial and Office Spaces in the Hindang Port Terminal Building, Brgy. Tabok, Hindang, Leyte and for other purposes, by Hon. Clotilde A. Guinocor;

JULY 21, 2026 @ 8:00AM , SB Conference Hall, LGU Hindang

Name	Barangay	Gender		Signature
		M	F	
1. KENNEDY M. REARFI	Tabok 412		✓	
2. LUCAS B. REARFI	Tabok 412		✓	
3. ERIEN M. RALLOS	Montol	✓		
4. FLORENTINO P. STAN	Hilagay			
5. JERONIMO D. ABOYME	San Roque		✓	
6.				
7. JUANITA A. CUYO	Barangay Naga		✓	
8.				
9. VICTORIANO A. DAPATAN JR.	BALDOZA	✓		
10. EUGENIO B. BELLIC	BALDOZA	✓		
11. EDGARDO C. CRISTINO	PORITOC	✓		
12. JOSE A. ALYON	San Roque	✓		
13. LITY S. GONZALEZ	BDS	✓		
14.				
15. JUANITA A. CUYO	Barangay Naga		✓	
16. JUANITA A. CUYO	Barangay Naga		✓	
17. FEDERICO A. REARFI	MAHAYAN	✓		
18. EUGENIO B. BELLIC	BALDOZA		✓	
19.	C. PAREZ	✓		
20. ANGELINA B. BELLIC	BALDOZA		✓	
21. JOSE A. BELLIC	BALDOZA		✓	
22. ESTHER M. ALMENDRA JR.	DOITOC	✓		
23. FLORENTINO P. STAN				
24. (M) K. P. Gelo	BFP Hilagay	✓		
25. FLORENTINO P. STAN			✓	
26. LEWIS K. STANISLAS	P/B BDS	✓		
27. EUGENIO B. BELLIC	Tabok 1	✓		
28. JOSE MARION D. MONTANO	LGU - STB	✓		
29.				
30. CLOTILDE A. GUINOCOR	Tabok		✓	

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32.	TE			
33.	VICTORIA N	MI / PCH 1	F	
34.		PCH 2		
35.	Mica Zolette Manatad	DRS del sur	F	
36.	Maria Lashera V. Semblant	PCH 1		
37.	Maria C. Alarcon	11-11 - 70		
38.	ing. T. Villacorte	PCH 1	F	
39.	Arcene Ledes	TATK	F	
40.	Luis L. Lora	PCH 2		
41.	Mary Jane D. Araop	PCH 1	F	
42.	ANTONIO ZAPATA	PCH 2		
43.		PCH 1		
44.	Yolanda G. Sullian	PCH 1	F	
45.	Cherita Seligal	PCH 1		
46.		PCH 1		
47.	Leah Corpin	TATK	F	
48.		PCH 1		
49.		TATK		
50.	Jesse Raulo	PCH 2	F	
51.	Jeannine Kesiya S. Abundo	21 - 1200	F	
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