



REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
PROVINCE OF PAMPANGA
MUNICIPALITY OF BACOLOR
OFFICE OF THE SANGGUNIANG BAYAN
Fax & Tel. No.: (045) 6524818

EXCERPTS FROM THE MINUTES OF THE ONLINE REGULAR SESSION OF THE SANGGUNIANG BAYAN OF BACOLOR, HELD ON SEPTEMBER 1, 2021 AT SB SESSION HALL, POBLACION, BACOLOR, PAMPANGA

PRESENT:

Hon. Wilfredo H. Balingit	Presiding Officer/Municipal Vice-Mayor
Hon. Ron Earvin E. Dungca	Sangguniang Bayan Member/Pro Tempore
Hon. Emily Batac-Valerio	Sangguniang Bayan Member
Hon. Lucky Ferdinand V. Labung	Sangguniang Bayan Member
Hon. Joel D. Samia	Sangguniang Bayan Member
Hon. Ariel C. Sta. Cruz	Sangguniang Bayan Member
Hon. Ener C. Lampa	Sangguniang Bayan Member
Hon. Nilo M. Caballa	Sangguniang Bayan Member
Hon. Voltaire J. San Pedro	Sangguniang Bayan Member
Hon. Jo Derek P. Hizon	LnB President/Ex Officio Member
Hon. Danlohp D. Danganan	PPSK President/Ex Officio Member

ABSENT:

None

Ordinance No. 13, S-2021

AN ORDINANCE INSTITUTIONALIZING THE PROGRAMS, SERVICES, PRIVILEGES AND BENEFITS FOR SOLO PARENTS AND THEIR CHILDREN AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREOF AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES PURSUANT TO REPUBLIC ACT 8972, ALSO KNOWN AS THE SOLO PARENT ACT OF 2000

Sponsor: Hon. Emily Batac-Valerio, Chairperson, Committee on Women & Family
Author: Hon. Danlohp D. Danganan, PPSK President/Ex Officio Member

WHEREAS, under R.A. No. 8972 otherwise known as the Solo Parent Act, it is a declared policy of the State to promote the family as the foundation of the nation, strengthen its solidarity and ensure its total development. Towards this end, it shall develop a comprehensive program of services for solo parents and their children;

WHEREAS, Solo Parents bear the heavy burden of raising the family and providing their children a better future; single-handedly do parental duties in the face of privation and poverty.

WHEREAS, the Local Government Unit of Bacolor (LGU), acknowledges the plight of the solo parents in providing decent living conditions for their children;

WHEREAS, the Local Government Unit of Bacolor (LGU), shall undertake measures to ensure the needs of the solo parents and their children are within reach pursuant to R.A. No. 8972 known as the Solo Parents Welfare Act of 2000;

WHEREAS, R.A. No. 7160 otherwise known as the Local Government Code of 1991, specifically Section 447 (a) provides that "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".

NOW THEREFORE, be it ORDAINED as it is hereby ORDAINED by the Sangguniang Bayan of Bacolor, Pampanga in a session assembled that:



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ARTICLE I
TITLE, POLICY AND OBJECTIVE

SECTION 1. TITLE. This Ordinance shall be known as the "**SOLO PARENT WELFARE ORDINANCE OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF BACOLOR, PAMPANGA**"

SECTION 2. DEFINITION OF TERMS. For purposes of this Ordinance and pursuant to Republic Act No. 8972, the following terms shall mean:

- a. **SOLO PARENT** – refers to unmarried, separated, annulled, widower and widowed persons falling under the enumeration provided under Section 3 (a), RA No. 8972 and its Implementing Rules and Regulations, who has taken the sole responsibility of parenthood;
- b. **INDIGENT SOLO PARENT** – refers to one whose net income falls below the poverty threshold set by the National Economic Development Authority (NEDA) and is not receiving a monthly pension or allowance from a concerned public or private entity beyond such poverty threshold, as assessed and verified by the Municipal Social Welfare and Development Office (MSWDO) and/or Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD);
- c. **CHILDREN** – refers to those living with and dependent upon the solo parent for support and sustenance, who are unmarried, unemployed, and not more than eighteen (18) years of age, or even over eighteen (18) years but are incapable of self-support because of mental and/or physical defect/disability;
- d. **PARENTAL RESPONSIBILITY** – with respect to their minor child, shall refer to the rights and duties of the parents as defined in Article 220 of Executive Order No. 209, as amended, otherwise known as the "Family Code of the Philippines";
- e. **MSWDO** – refers to the Municipal Social Welfare and Development Office of the Municipal Government of Bacolor, Pampanga;
- f. **DSWD** – refers to the Department of Social Welfare and Development;
- g. **PARENTAL LEAVE** – shall mean leave benefits granted to solo parent to enable him/her to perform parental duties and responsibilities where physical presence is required;
- h. **FLEXIBLE WORK SCHEDULE** – is the right granted to a solo parent/employee to vary his/her arrival and departure time without effecting the core work hours as defined by the employer;
- i. **BASIC NECESSITIES** – are goods vital to the needs of consumers for their sustenance and existence;
- j. **CONSULTATION AND LABORATORY DIAGNOSTIC** – any procedure conducted for diagnostic purposes. It shall include procedures such as X-rays, CT-scans, MRI scans, PET scans, blood chemistry exams, histopathology and immunopathology, hematology, urine analysis, parasitology and bacteriology tests, serology, blood banking and all other diagnostic radiology, clinical laboratory and other diagnostic examinations that are necessary for the diagnosis of the solo parents and/or their child/children.

ARTICLE II
WELFARE SERVICES AND ADDITIONAL PRIVILEGES AND BENEFITS

SECTION 3. INCORPORATION OF WELFARE SERVICES, PRIVILEGES AND BENEFITS. Notwithstanding that the mandate under Republic Act No. 8972 is unto the national government, its agencies and instrumentalities, by this local legislation, the Municipality of Bacolor formally imposes upon itself the obligation to provide the solo parents and their children the welfare services and special privileges and benefits that the law has enumerated such as livelihood assistance, counseling, parent effectiveness,



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critical incidence stress debriefing, among others. Accordingly, the pertinent provisions of Republic Act No. 8972 are hereby considered written in this Ordinance.

SECTION 4. FLEXIBLE WORK SCHEDULE. The employer shall provide a flexible work schedule for solo parents: Provided, that the same shall not affect individual and company productivity: Provided, further, that any employer may request exemption from the above requirements from the Department of Labor and Employment

SECTION 5. WORK DISCRIMINATION. No employer shall discriminate against any solo parent employee with respect to terms and conditions of employment on account of his/her status.

SECTION 6. PARENTAL LEAVE. In addition to leave privileges under existing laws, parental leave of not more than seven (7) working days per year shall be granted to any solo parent employee who has rendered service of at least one (1) year. The seven-day parental leave shall be non-cumulative.

SECTION 7. CONDITION FOR ENTITLEMENT OF PARENTAL LEAVE. A solo parent shall be entitled to parental leave provided that:

- a. He/she has rendered at least one (1) year of service whether continuous or broken at the time of the effectivity of the Act.
- b. He/she has notified his/her employer of the availment thereof within a reasonable time period; and
- c. He/she has presented a Solo Parent Identification Card to his/her employer.

SECTION 8. NON-CONVERSION OF PARENTAL LEAVE. In the event that the parental leave is not availed of, said leave shall not be convertible to cash unless specifically agreed upon previously. However, if said leave were denied an employee as a result of non-compliance with the provision of these Rules by an employer, the aforementioned leave may be used as a basis for the computation of damages.

SECTION 9. CREDITING EXISTING LEAVE. If there is an existing or similar benefit under a company policy, or a collective bargaining agreement or collective negotiation agreement, the same shall be credited as such if the same is greater than the seven (7) days provided for in this Ordinance. In case it is lesser, the greater benefit shall prevail. Emergency or contingency leave provided under a company policy or a collective bargaining agreement shall not be credited as compliance with the parental leave provided for under this Ordinance.

SECTION 10. ADDITIONAL SERVICE, PRIVILEGES AND BENEFITS. In addition to the welfare services, privileges and benefits provided by law, solo parents who are residents of the Municipality and/or their children shall be entitled to the following privileges and benefits, to wit:

A. Additional Benefits

1. Training Programs for Solo Parents and their Children at the Barangay level

- Training programs for solo parents shall be provided in coordination with the barangay after the determination of the number of solo parents per barangay by the MSWDO. The type of training to be conducted shall be based on the training needs of the solo parents and their children.

2. Barangay Solo Parent Assistance Desk and Other Services

- The Barangay Kagawad in charge of the Committee on Women and Family Welfare shall spearhead the Solo Parents Assistance Desk and the database of solo parents in their respective barangay.

3. Priority Lane – all retail and business establishments including banks and hospitals must include a priority lane for solo parents. Priority lane already intended for senior citizens and persons with disability can be used to accommodate solo parents.



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4. **Death Benefit** - The child/children of a registered solo parent at the time of the latter's death, if the cause of death is natural or by an accident is entitled to receive financial assistance of at least Two Thousand Pesos (Php 2,000.00), without prejudice to increasing the same at the Mayor's discretion when the municipal budget so permits.
5. **Scholarship Assistance** - Children of indigent solo parents are given priority in the granting of scholarship programs in the Municipality of Bacolor.
6. **Basic Educational Services** - Children of indigent solo parents are priority for inclusion in the municipal's basic educational programs in the pre-school, elementary and secondary level, including the SPED (Special Education) Program;
7. **Medical Assistance** - An indigent solo parent or his/her child shall be prioritized in all the medical assistance programs of the Municipal Government of Bacolor;
8. **Livelihood Assistance** - Solo parents shall have priority in the grant of livelihood assistance under any of the Municipal's applicable programs or projects, subject to the qualification requirements under existing ordinances, rules and regulations;
9. **Employment Assistance** - Solo parents shall have priority in the employment programs of the Local Government subject to job matching based on qualifications and experience;
10. Other services, privileges and benefits that the municipality is currently giving or may subsequently offer.

ARTICLE III
REGISTRATION AND AVAILMENT OF BENEFITS

SECTION 11. REGISTRATION. The Solo Parent Office herein created shall undertake a municipality-wide registration of all solo parents and their children in Twenty One (21) barangays of the Municipality for purposes of obtaining, among others, information on their names, ages, addresses, income including the source thereof, number of children per solo parent and the circumstances of being solo.

SECTION 12. SOLO PARENT ID REQUIREMENTS. The MSWDO shall cause the issuance of a Solo Parent Identification Card which shall be considered as competent evidence of identity and membership in the sector as well as of the entitlement to the benefits under this ordinance and of R.A. No. 8972. The following are the requirements:

1. Voter's ID or Certification or any government issued ID that the applicant is a registered voter of the Municipality.
2. Barangay Certification – proof that the applicant is a resident of the barangay for at least one (1) year.
3. PSA Birth Certificate of the child/children
4. Certification from the Barangay Captain indicating the status of the applicant as a solo parent or supporting documents such as Declaration of Nullity of Marriage, Certification of No Marriage (CENOMAR), Death Certificate of spouse, Medical Certificate as proof of mental incapacity, if incapacitated.
5. Application Form provided by the MSWDO.
6. Certification from the Provincial Jail – proof that a solo parent's husband or wife is detained (for at least 1 year)

SECTION 13. ASSESSMENT. An applicant who manifests the need for assistance under this Ordinance is subject to assessment by a Social Worker at the Municipal Social Welfare and Development Office. The assessment shall cover, but not limited, to the following:

- a. Determination of the applicant's category as enumerated in Article II, Section 3, Paragraph (a) of this Ordinance and the provisions of RA 8972, including the provisions of its Implementing Rules and Regulations.



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- b. Evaluation of the needs of the applicant and his/her children as basis for the provision of the appropriate service and intervention.
- c. Identification of the level of readiness of the applicant to receive a particular service/assistance, which shall serve as basis for the conduct of social preparation activities prior to the provision of such service/assistance; and
- d. Identification of existing and potentially available resources that may support the applicant and his/her children.

SECTION 14. AVAILMENT. Proof of membership and entitlement shall be presented by the solo parent and/or his/her children to avail the above benefits granted under this Ordinance.

SECTION 15. DISQUALIFICATION. A change in the status or circumstances of the parent claiming benefits under this Ordinance, such that he/she is no longer left alone with the responsibility of parenthood, shall terminate his/her eligibility for benefits such as change in the status with marriage as MSWDO may deem proper.

**ARTICLE IV
OFFICE CREATION, SOLO PARENT ORGANIZATION**

SECTION 16. SOLO PARENT'S DESK. A Solo Parent's Desk is hereby created which shall be under the direct supervision of the Municipal Social Welfare and Development Office.

SECTION 17. FUNCTIONS.

- a. Develop a comprehensive social development and welfare program for solo parents and their children which shall include those herein listed;
- b. Coordinate and work with appropriate offices and agencies of the government in providing such welfare services, privileges and benefits to the intended beneficiaries;
- c. Assist in the organizational matters of the solo parents organization/federation in coordination with Committee on Social Services, Women, Children, Family Relation, Elderly, Person with Disability & Indigenous People of the Sangguniang Bayan;
- d. Exercise such other powers and perform such other duties and functions as may be assigned by the mayor or as may be prescribed by law or ordinance;

SECTION 18. PERSONNEL REQUIREMENT. The Municipal Mayor shall appoint or assign personnel in the Solo Parent's Desk who shall be primarily responsible for the over-all management of the program and accomplishment of the law's objectives.

SECTION 19. RIGHT TO ORGANIZE. The Municipality encourages and gives its full support to the solo parent's right to organize themselves for purposes beneficial to its members. The Solo Parents Organization/Federation shall assist the Municipality in the effective formulation and implementation of its program of services.

**ARTICLE V
PENALTY PROVISIONS**

SECTION 20. PENALTY. Penalties for falsification of documents by a solo parent. Any person found guilty of falsification of documents to avail of the above solo parent benefits shall be fined with:

First Offense	–	P1,000.00
Second Offense	-	P1,500.00
Third Offense	-	P2,500.00 or one (1) month imprisonment, or both, at the discretion of the Court.



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**ARTICLE VI
APPROPRIATION**

SECTION 21. This funding will be appropriated from the Gender and Development (GAD) funds of the Municipality of Bacolor, Pampanga.

**ARTICLE VII
FINAL PROVISIONS**

SECTION 22. PENALTY CLAUSE. Any misrepresentation made to obtain a Solo Parent Identification Card or any improper use or abuse by any person to avail of the rights and privileges granted to solo parents and their children shall be subjected to criminal prosecution under the pertinent provision of the Revised Penal Code and shall be a ground for the automatic cancellation of the said ID and all services, benefits and privileges thereof.

SECTION 23. REPEALING CLAUSE. Any Municipal Ordinance, rules and regulations and/or parts thereof inconsistent with the provisions of this ordinance are hereby repealed and/or modified accordingly.

SECTION 24. SEPARABILITY CLAUSE. In the event that any part or provision of this Ordinance shall be held unconstitutional or invalid, the other parts or provisions not affected thereby shall continue to be in full force and effect.

SECTION 25. EFFECTIVITY. This Ordinance shall take effect upon its approval and fifteen (15) days after publication in a newspaper of local circulation.

APPROVED.

I HEREBY CERTIFY, to the correctness of the foregoing ordinance.


VICENTA PAGCU-PINEDA
Secretary to the Sanggunian

ATTESTED:


HON. WILFREDO H. BALINGIT
Presiding Officer/Municipal Vice Mayor

APPROVED:


HON. EDUARDO G. DATU, GEO., MPM
Municipal Mayor