



Sangguniang Panlalawigan

BATAAN CAPITOL, BALANGA CITY



EXCERPT FROM THE MINUTES OF THE 134TH REGULAR SESSION (HYBRID) OF THE SANGGUNIANG PANLALAWIGAN OF BATAAN HELD ON APRIL 14, 2025 IN THE PROVINCE OF BATAAN

PRESENT:

Hon. Ma. Cristina M. Garcia, Vice Governor and Presiding Officer

FIRST DISTRICT:

Hon. Antonino B. Roman III, J.D., LL.M., Board Member

Hon. Benjamin C. Serrano, Jr., Board Member

Hon. Jomar L. Gaza J.D., Board Member

SECOND DISTRICT:

Hon. Maria Margarita R. Roque, Board Member

Hon. Manuel N. Beltran, Board Member

Hon. Noel Joseph L. Valdecañas, Board Member

THIRD DISTRICT:

Hon. Romano L. Del Rosario, Board Member

Hon. Jorge S. Estanislao, M.D., Board Member

Hon. Angelito M. Sunga, Board Member

Hon. Roman Harold R. Espeleta, Board Member

Hon. Jovy Z. Banzon, Board Member (PCL President)

Hon. Romeo A. Austria, Board Member (FABC President)

Hon. Lovely Joy A. Poblete, Board Member (SKF President)

Hon. Feliciano G. Magay, Jr., Board Member (IPMR)

ABSENT:

None

PROVINCIAL ORDINANCE NO. 09 Series of 2025

AN ORDINANCE DESIGNATING THE THIRD WEEK OF MAY OF EVERY YEAR AS BATAAN FARMERS' AND FISHERFOLK'S WEEK IN THE PROVINCE OF BATAAN TO PROMOTE, BOOST, AND EMPOWER THE AGRICULTURAL SECTOR, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREOF AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

**AUTHORED AND SPONSORED BY:
HON. ROMANO L. DEL ROSARIO**

WHEREAS, Section 5, Article XIII of the 1987 Constitution states: *"The State shall recognize the right of farmers, farmworkers, and landowners, as well as cooperatives, and other independent farmers' organizations to participate in the planning, organization, and management of the program, and shall provide support to agriculture through appropriate technology and research, and adequate financial, production, marketing, and other support services;"*

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Provincial Governor

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WHEREAS, Republic Act No. 11321 or "Sagip Saka Act" provides that the State shall strengthen the farmers and fisherfolk enterprise development program by establishing a comprehensive and holistic approach in the formulation, coordination and implementation of enterprise development initiatives, consolidating the roles of different government agencies involved in farmers and fisherfolk enterprise development, and intensifying the building of entrepreneurship culture among farmers and fisherfolk;

WHEREAS, Section 17 (b) (3) (i) of Republic Act No. 7160, otherwise known as the "Local Government Code of 1991," as amended, mandates that a Province shall provide agricultural extension and on-site research services and facilities which include the prevention and control of plant and animal pest and diseases; dairy farms, livestock markets, animal breeding stations, and artificial insemination centers; and assistance in the organization of farmers' and fishermen's cooperatives and other collective organizations, as well as the transfer of appropriate technology;

WHEREAS, Section 35 of the same Code provides that local government units may enter into joint ventures and other cooperative arrangements with people's organizations and non-governmental organizations to engage in the delivery of certain basic services, capability-building and livelihood projects, as well as to develop local enterprises designed to improve productivity and income, diversify agriculture, spur rural industrialization, promote ecological balance, and enhance the economic and social well-being of the people;

WHEREAS, Presidential Proclamation No. 33, issued in 1989, declared the month of May as National Farmers' and Fisherfolk's Month, which has since been celebrated annually;

WHEREAS, the Provincial Government of Bataan (PGB) accords high priority to the development of agriculture and fisheries, not only to achieve an equitable distribution of benefits and opportunities but also to enable the farmers and fisherfolk to maximize their contribution to the economic growth of the province;

WHEREAS, despite rapid urbanization due to Bataan's continuous industrialization, farming and fishing remain the primary sources of livelihood for many residents, making farmers and fisherfolk key players in the province's economic development and food security;

WHEREAS, farmers and fisherfolk deserve due recognition for their invaluable contribution to the province's economy;

NOW, THEREFORE, be it ordained as it is hereby ordained by the Sangguniang Panlalawigan of the Province of Bataan, in session assembled, that:

SECTION 1. TITLE. - This Ordinance shall be known as the "Bataan Farmers' and Fisherfolk's Week Ordinance."

SECTION 2. DECLARATION OF POLICY. - The PGB declares that the farming and fishing sectors are priorities in its government programs. The PGB recognizes the indispensable role of farmers and fisherfolk in community and economic development.

Accordingly, the right of farmers, farmworkers, fisherfolk, and their cooperatives and associations to participate in the planning, organization, and management of programs shall be recognized. The PGB shall provide support for agriculture

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through appropriate technology, research, financial assistance, and marketing programs, among other support services.

SECTION 3. BATAAN FARMERS' AND FISHERFOLK'S WEEK. - The third week of May of every year is hereby declared as Bataan Farmers' and Fisherfolk's Week to highlight the vital contributions of the agricultural sector to the local economy and to promote the welfare of farmers and fisherfolk.

A series of programs and activities shall be organized during this week to promote the agricultural sector.

SECTION 4. BATAAN AGRICULTURAL SUMMIT. - A Bataan Agricultural Summit shall be held once every three (3) years, on any day during Bataan Farmers' and Fisherfolk's Week, to:

- Discuss the prevailing issues and challenges in the agricultural sector;
- Introduce effective and efficient solutions; and
- Promote consensus-building among stakeholders.

The Office of the Provincial Agriculturist (OPA) shall serve as the technical secretariat of the Summit. It shall:

- Begin preparations, including data collection and collation of technical reports, at least six (6) months prior to the event;
- Submit a technical report within thirty (30) days after the Summit to the Office of the Provincial Governor (OPG), the Office of the Sangguniang Panlalawigan (SP), the Office of the Provincial Planning and Development Coordinator (OPPDC), and other relevant stakeholders.

SECTION 5. BATAAN AGRICULTURAL FAIR. - An agricultural fair shall be held throughout Bataan Farmers' and Fisherfolk's Week to:

- Showcase local produce and products from the farmers and fisherfolk;
- Promotes greater awareness of these products; and
- Empowers the agricultural sector.

The PGB shall provide incentives to participating farmers and fisherfolk. The OPA shall serve as the program secretariat of the agricultural fair.

SECTION 6. CONSULTATION MEETING WITH FARMERS AND FISHERFOLK OF BATAAN. - An annual consultation meeting shall be conducted, led by the Provincial Governor and the Sangguniang Panlalawigan, with farmers and fisherfolk groups in Bataan.

- The goal is to identify and address key concerns, foster cooperation, and formulate priority action areas;
- The OPPDC and OPA shall integrate these priority areas into their respective programs, projects, and activities.

SECTION 7. AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN. - Following the Agricultural Summit, the OPA shall begin preparing and formulating the Bataan

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Agricultural Development Plan (BADP). The OPPDC shall ensure that this plan aligns with the Provincial Development and Physical Framework Plan (PDPFP).

SECTION 8. INTRODUCTION OF APPLICABLE TECHNOLOGY TO THE FARMING AND FISHING INDUSTRIES. - The PGB shall strive to introduce modern and up-to-date agricultural technologies to enhance productivity in farming and fishing.

During the Bataan Farmers' and Fisherfolk's Week, the OPA shall conduct information, education, and communication (IEC) campaigns to ensure these technologies are accessible to farmers and fisherfolk.

SECTION 9. ALTERNATIVE LIVELIHOOD. - Considering the effects of climate change, the Office of the Provincial Public Employment Services Manager (OPPESM) and the Office of the Provincial Social Welfare and Development Officer (OPSWDO) shall:

- Develop and fund special programs to assist farmers and fisherfolk in overcoming climate-related challenges; and
- Conduct IEC campaigns to raise awareness of these programs, particularly during Bataan Farmers' and Fisherfolk's Week.

SECTION 10. INTRODUCTION, AVAILABILITY AND ASSISTANCE TO NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL PROGRAMS AND DEVELOPMENT OF LOCAL AGRICULTURAL PROGRAMS. - The OPA shall continuously coordinate with the Department of Agriculture (DA) to facilitate the introduction of national agricultural programs to various industries within the agricultural sector of the Province of Bataan. It shall provide technical and clerical assistance to qualified farmers and fisherfolk to ensure they benefit from such national programs.

In addition to national agricultural programs, the OPA shall develop and fund locally designed initiatives tailored to address the specific needs of farmers and fisherfolk in the Province of Bataan.

SECTION 11. INFORMATION, EDUCATION AND COMMUNICATIONS (IEC) CAMPAIGN. - To maximize the participation of farmers and fisherfolk in the programs established under this Ordinance, especially among the younger generation, the OPA, in coordination with the Office of the Provincial Information Officer (OPIO), shall conduct continuous IEC campaigns. These campaigns shall be delivered in person and through various social media platforms.

SECTION 12. APPROPRIATIONS. - The initial funding required for the implementation of this Ordinance shall be sourced from the current year's appropriations of the OPA. The PGB shall allocate the necessary budget, as proposed by the OPA, for the implementation of this Ordinance. The offices mandated to appropriate funds under their respective budgets shall strictly adhere to the provisions of this Ordinance.

SECTION 13. IMPLEMENTING RULES AND REGULATIONS. - All provisions of this Ordinance shall be immediately enforced. Should there be a need, the OPG may issue additional clarificatory rules and regulations to ensure the proper implementation of this Ordinance.

However, the absence of Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR) shall not hinder the full and immediate enforcement of this Ordinance.

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SECTION 14. OVERSIGHT. - The SP Committee on Agriculture, Food and Fisheries shall monitor the implementation of this Ordinance and may recommend necessary interventions to the SP to ensure the effective achievement of its objectives.

SECTION 15. SUNSET REVIEW. - Upon determination by the SP, a sunset review shall be conducted. For the purposes of this Ordinance, a "sunset review" refers to a systematic evaluation by the appropriate SP Committee to assess the effects and impact of the Ordinance, with the goal of identifying any necessary amendments or remedial legislation.

SECTION 16. SEPARABILITY CLAUSE. - If, for any reason, any part or provision of this Ordinance is declared invalid or unconstitutional, the remaining parts or provisions not affected shall remain in full force and effect.


SECTION 17. REPEALING CLAUSE. - All ordinances, resolutions, local executive orders or administrative regulations which are inconsistent with the provisions of this Ordinance are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SECTION 18. EFFECTIVITY. - This Ordinance shall take effect after compliance with the relevant provisions of the Local Government Code of 1991.

UNANIMOUSLY ENACTED this 14th day of April 2025.


I HEREBY CERTIFY to the enactment of the foregoing ordinance.


ATTY. MARK LORENZ C. QUEZON
Secretary to the Sangguniang Panlalawigan


ANTONINO B. ROMAN III, J.D., LL.M.
Board Member


MARIA MARGARITA R. ROQUE
Board Member


JOMAR L. GAZA J.D.
Board Member


MANUEL N. BELTRAN
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ROMEO A. AUSTRIA
Board Member
(FABC President)



LOVELY JOY A. POBLETE
Board Member
(SKF President)


FELICIANO G. MAGAY, JR.
Board Member
(IPMR)


ATTESTED:


MA. CRISTINA M. GARCIA
Vice Governor & Presiding Officer

NOTED:


JOSE ENRIQUE S. GARCIA III
Provincial Governor
Date: 4-25-2025 