



Republic of the Philippines
PROVINCE OF NEGROS OCCIDENTAL
OFFICE OF THE SANGGUNIANG PANLALAWIGAN
South Wing, Provincial Capitol Building
South Capitol Road, Bacolod City, Negros Occidental 6100
Tel. Nos. 435-7698 * 433-4894 * 707-8075

**EXCERPT FROM THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR SESSION OF THE
SANGGUNIANG PANLALAWIGAN OF THE PROVINCE OF NEGROS
OCCIDENTAL HELD IN THE CITY OF BACOLOD ON THE 12TH DAY OF
NOVEMBER 2024**

PRESENT:

Hon. Manuel Frederick O. Ko	Acting Vice Governor/Presiding Officer Pro-Tempore
Hon. Samson C. Mirhan	Temporary Presiding Officer
Hon. Araceli T. Somosa	Member – 1 st District
Hon. Rommel T. Debulgado	Member - 1 st District
Hon. Sixto Teofilo Roxas V. Guanzon, Jr.	Member - 2 nd District
Hon. Andrew Gerard L. Montelibano	Member - 3 rd District
Hon. Jose Benito A. Alonso	Member – 4 th District
Hon. Rita Angela S. Gatuslao	Member - 5 th District
Hon. Valentino Miguel J. Alonso	Member - 6 th District
Hon. Jeffrey T. Tubola	Member - 6 th District
Hon. Richard Julius L. Sablan	Member – ABC
Hon. Mayvelyn L. Madrid	Member – SK Rep.

OFFICIAL BUSINESS:

Hon. Andrew Martin Y. Torres	Member - 4 th District
Hon. Anthony Dennis J. Occeño	Member - 5 th District
Hon. Julius Martin D. Asistio	Member – PCL Rep.

ON ACTING CAPACITY AS GOVERNOR:

Hon. Jeffrey P. Ferrer	Vice Governor
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ORDINANCE NO. 025
Series of 2024

**AN ORDINANCE INSTITUTIONALIZING THE EMPOWERMENT AND
REAFFIRMATION OF PATERNAL ABILITIES TRAINING (ERPAT) PROGRAM
IN THE PROVINCE OF NEGROS OCCIDENTAL, PROVIDING FUNDS
THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

Authored and Introduced by:

HON. RITA S. GATUSLAO

Sangguniang Panlalawigan Member, 5th District

WHEREAS, the Empowerment and Reaffirmation of Paternal Abilities (ERPAT) is a nationwide advocacy program of the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) that aims to promote responsible fatherhood, gender equality, and shared parenting responsibilities among fathers;

WHEREAS, the Province of Negros Occidental recognizes the crucial role of fathers in family development and the need to enhance their participation in parenting, child development, and household responsibilities, in line with the government's efforts to promote gender equality and responsible parenthood;

WHEREAS, ERPAT provides fathers with training and education on various aspects of fatherhood, including nurturing and protective roles, effective communication, positive discipline, and equitable division of responsibilities between mothers and fathers in the household;



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WHEREAS, the promotion of responsible fatherhood is essential in fostering stronger families, reducing domestic violence, improving child development outcomes, and advancing gender equality in both the family and community settings;

WHEREAS, the Provincial Government of Negros Occidental is committed to supporting programs that strengthen family dynamics, promote responsible parenting, and enhance the welfare of children and families;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Sangguniang Panlalawigan of Negros Occidental in session duly assembled, that:

Section 1. Title - This Ordinance shall be known as the "ERPAT Program Ordinance of Negros Occidental".

Section 2. Declaration of Policy - It is hereby declared the policy of the Provincial Government of Negros Occidental to promote responsible fatherhood through the institutionalization of the ERPAT program, ensuring that fathers are empowered to take on active and equitable roles in parenting, family decision-making, and the promotion of gender equality within the household and community.

Section 3. Objectives - The ERPAT Program shall pursue the following objectives:

1. To educate and train fathers on responsible parenting, shared responsibilities, and gender equality;
2. To strengthen the role of fathers in family development, particularly in nurturing, caregiving, and protection of children;
3. To reduce domestic violence and promote peaceful and respectful family relationships through positive discipline and effective communication;
4. To enhance father-child relationships and improve the overall well-being of children by promoting active fatherhood;
5. To contribute to the achievement of gender equality by encouraging fathers to share equally in household and caregiving responsibilities;

Section 4. Institutionalization of ERPAT Program - The ERPAT Program is hereby institutionalized in the Province of Negros Occidental. The program shall be implemented in all cities and municipalities of the province through their respective Local Social Welfare and Development Offices (LSWDOs) in coordination with the Provincial Social Welfare and Development Office (PSWDO).

Section 5. Roles and Responsibilities. The following offices and agencies are tasked with the following roles:

1. Provincial Government of Negros Occidental
 - Provide necessary support, including budgetary allocations, to ensure the successful implementation of the ERPAT program;
 - Integrate ERPAT principles into existing family and child welfare programs;
 - Monitor and assess the progress and impact of the ERPAT program in the province.
2. Provincial Social Welfare and Development Office (PSWDO)
 - Lead the implementation and coordination of the ERPAT program across the province;



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- Develop and conduct ERPAT training sessions for fathers in collaboration with LSWDOs;
- Partner with relevant stakeholders, including NGOs, civil society organizations, and academic institutions, to support and expand the program.

3. Local Government Units (LGUs)

- Through their respective LSWDOs, conduct ERPAT activities, including training, workshops, and seminars for fathers within their jurisdiction;
- Mobilize fathers and encourage their active participation in the ERPAT program;
- Ensure that fathers from marginalized and vulnerable communities have access to ERPAT training.

Section 6. ERPAT Program Activities. The ERPAT program shall include, but not be limited to, the following activities:

1. Training seminars on responsible fatherhood, positive discipline, and gender equality;
2. Workshops on father-child relationships and communication;
3. Peer counseling and support groups for fathers;
4. Parenting education sessions in partnership with schools and communities;
5. Community outreach programs promoting active fatherhood and shared parenting responsibilities.

Section 7. Funding. The Provincial Government of Negros Occidental shall allocate funds for the implementation of the ERPAT program, to be included in the annual budget of the PSWDO. The funds shall cover training materials, facilitation of seminars, capacity-building activities, and other operational expenses necessary for the program's implementation.

Section 8. Monitoring and Evaluation. The PSWDO, in coordination with LSWDOs, shall establish a monitoring and evaluation system to assess the effectiveness and outcomes of the ERPAT program. Annual reports on the progress and impact of the program shall be submitted to the Office of the Governor and the Sangguniang Panlalawigan.

Section 9. Penalties. Non-compliance by any LGU in the implementation of this ordinance may result in administrative sanctions, as may be determined by the Provincial Government, consistent with existing laws and regulations.

Section 10. Effectivity. This Ordinance shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in a newspaper of general circulation in the Province of Negros Occidental and compliance with the posting requirements as provided by law.

NOW THEREFORE, be it enacted by the Sangguniang Panlalawigan of Negros Occidental in session assembled:

ADOPTED UNANIMOUSLY. November 12, 2024.

This resolution shall take effect immediately upon approval.



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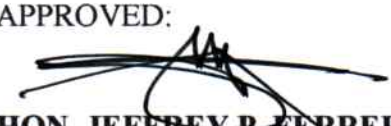

CERTIFIED CORRECT:


HON. SAMSON C. MIRHAN
Temporary Presiding Officer

ATTESTED:


ATTY. MAKI ANGEL O. ASCALON
Provincial Secretary

APPROVED:


HON. JEFFREY P. FERRER
Acting Governor
Date: DEC 04 2024 

Note: The Presiding Officer Pro-Tempore, Hon. Manuel Frederick O. Ko, relinquished the chair to the Temporary Presiding Officer, Hon. Samson C. Mirhan.