



Republic of the Philippines  
PROVINCE OF NEGROS OCCIDENTAL  
Old Capitol Building, Bacolod City  
Tel. No. 707-8075 (Admin) \* 435-7698 (Board Member) \* 709-0121 (Legislative Division)  
**OFFICE OF THE SANGGUNIANG PANLALAWIGAN**

*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 22<sup>ND</sup> DAY OF JULY, 2025*

**PRESENT:**

Hon. Jose Benito A. Alonso	Vice-Governor/Presiding Officer
Hon. Laurence Marxlen J. Dela Cruz	Member - 1st District
Hon. Araceli T. Somosa	Member - 1st District
Hon. Sixto Teofilo Roxas V. Guanzon, Jr.	Member - 2nd District
Hon. Arthur Christopher D. Marañon	Member - 2nd District
Hon. Hope Marey B. Depasucat	Member - 3rd District
Hon. Andrew Gerard L. Montelibano	Member - 3rd District
Hon. Patricia Paula M. Alonso-Valderrama	Member - 4 <sup>th</sup> District
Hon. Nicholas M. Yulo	Member - 4 <sup>th</sup> District
Hon. Hadji P. Trojillo	Member - 5 <sup>th</sup> District
Hon. Genaro G. Alvarez, IV	Member - 6th District
Hon. Jeffrey T. Tubola	Member - 6th District
Hon. Mayvelyn L. Madrid	Member - SKF Rep.

**ON OFFICIAL BUSINESS:**

Hon. Rita Angela S. Gatuslao	Member - 5th District
Hon. Julius Martin D. Asistio	Member - PCL Rep.
Hon. Richard Julius L. Sablan	Member - ABC Rep.

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**ORDINANCE NO. 011**  
Series of 2025

***ORDINANCE MANDATING THE STRICT IMPLEMENTATION OF PRESIDENTIAL DECREE 449 OR THE COCKFIGHTING LAW OF 1974, ALLOWING ONLY TRADITIONAL SABONG AND TRADITIONAL FORM OF BETTING WITHIN THE PROVINCE OF NEGROS OCCIDENTAL***

***WHEREAS***, Sabong is a live cockfighting match between two gamecocks pitted against each other, and being watched live onsite by spectators inside a licensed cockpit arena;

***WHEREAS***, Sabong is a Filipino tradition usually held during Sundays, some local holidays, and local fiestas as a form of entertainment and pastime which is accompanied with the placing of bets;

***WHEREAS***, cockpit owners, operators, gamefowl breeders and other patrons of the sport came up with a system to make Sabong more accessible and more profitable by developing E-sabong and involved a system of on and off cockpit kiosk or machine betting, more so during the pandemic when people were prohibited from gathering in large numbers in closed areas;

***WHEREAS***, a nationwide suspension of E-Sabong Operations was implemented on May 3, 2022;



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**WHEREAS**, Executive Order No. 09, “DIRECTING THE CONTINUED SUSPENSION OF ELECTRIC SABONG OPERATIONS NATIONWIDE” includes a suspension of online/remote of off-cockpit wagering/betting on live cockfighting matches, events, and/or activities streamed or broadcasted live, regardless of the location of the betting platform, including but not limited to *betting platforms that may be situated inside the cockpit or cockfighting arenas, or premises where cockfights are being held* (emphasis ours);

**WHEREAS**, while despite the ban on e-sabong, there have been existing off-shoots of the effects of the latter such as an in cockpit kiosk or machine betting;

**WHEREAS**, in cockpit kiosk or machine betting, not only are you not apprised of the odds of your winnings, but the machine changes the odds even after the wager has been placed, and even during midgame, not only leaves your winning to chance, but also the amount of your winnings as well;

**WHEREAS**, while traditional sabong is legal, there is a need to protect the hapless gamblers for rigged or unreliable forms of betting that could lead to financial and emotional ruin;

**WHEREAS**, the power of the Sangguniang Panlalawigan to enact Ordinances intended to prevent, suppress, and impose appropriate penalties for... games of chance, fraudulent devices and ways to obtain money or property... and such other activities inimical to the welfare and morals of the inhabitants of the province under Section 468 (v) of Republic Act No. 7160;

**WHEREAS**, in the exercise of police power, the Sangguniang Panlalawigan can enact an ordinance requiring the strict implementation of PD 449 or The Cockfighting Law which covers traditional Sabong and allows only the traditional form of sabong betting;

**NOW THEREFORE**, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE SANGGUNIANG PANLALAWIGAN OF NEGROS OCCIDENTAL IN A REGULAR SESSION ASSEMBLED:

Section 1. **TITLE.** This Ordinance shall be known and titled as “An Ordinance Mandating the Strict Implementation of PD 449 or The Cockfighting Law of 1974, allowing only traditional Sabong and traditional form of betting within the Province of Negros Occidental”.

Section 2. **DECLARATION OF POLICY.** It is the policy of the Province of Negros Occidental to protect and preserve the moral fiber, mental health, and economic resources of its constituency for the betterment of society. A Provincial Ordinance must be enacted to quell any activity that is perceived to be inimical to public interest and our constituent’s welfare.

Section 3. **DEFINITION OF TERMS.**

- a. Traditional Sabong - refers to a cockfighting match being physically watched live by spectators inside a licensed cockpit or arena, whether the same is for entertainment for charitable purposes, or in the nature of a game of chance.
- b. NOCCPO – Negros Occidental Police Office





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- c. Person – refers to natural or juridical persons
- d. Kiosk/Machine Betting – refers to bets made using kiosk or betting machines where a bettor can deposit, place wagers and withdraw winnings in person.
- e. Traditional Betting – is defined as cockpit arena betting between bettors watching the live game, through a bet taker called the *llamador* or the promoter, and the bet is won or lost depending upon the result of the cockfight as announced by the Referee or *Sentenciador*.

Section 4. **PROHIBITION.** It is hereby prohibited and declared illegal to conduct non-traditional Sabong and non-traditional means of taking bets within Negros Occidental. Local Governments must ensure that only traditional methods will be used for sabong and betting when issuing permits for the sabong event, subject to existing national laws, rules and regulations. All permits for sabong issued within this jurisdiction, found to violate this Ordinance, are hereby cancelled or revoked.

Section 5. **MONITORING AND APPREHENSION.** The local government units within Negros Occidental in cooperation with the NOCCPO and local police, are hereby tasked to monitor the establishment, operations, and maintenance of Sabong events of which they have granted permits. They are empowered to cease the event for violating the provisions above, and to padlock the premises, and confiscate betting machines and equipment that are used in violation of this ordinance.

Section 6. **PENALTIES.** For the purpose of this Ordinance, the following penalties shall be imposed:

- a. Imprisonment of One (1) year and a fine not exceeding Five Thousand Pesos (Php 5,000.00) for any person who will be found as the owner/operator of non-traditional sabong and/or non-traditional method of betting. In case the perpetrator is a juridical person, the President, Manager, or Any responsible officer of the corporation shall be held liable.
- b. For a cockpit owner who leases his/her arena to a person or operator who violates this Ordinance, revocation of his business permit and a fine not exceeding Five Thousand Pesos (Php 5,000.00) shall be imposed.

Section 7. **LEGAL ACTION.** The Provincial Legal Office, in cooperation with the NOCCPO and local counterparts, shall be responsible for the institution of appropriate legal action for violation of this Ordinance.

Section 8. **SEPARABILITY CLAUSE.** If for any reason, any portion or provision of this Ordinance is declared void or unconstitutional by any competent court, the other provisions not affected thereby shall continue to be in force and effect.

Section 9. **REPEALING CLAUSE.** All Ordinances, local executive orders, resolutions, and administrative issuances found to be inconsistent with or contrary to the provisions of this Ordinance are hereby repealed, amended or modified accordingly.



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Section 10. **EFFECTIVITY.** This Ordinance shall take effect fifteen (15) days from publication in a newspaper of general circulation.

**ADOPTED UNANIMOUSLY**, July 22, 2025.

CERTIFIED CORRECT:

**HON. JOSE BENITO A. ALONSO**  
Vice-Governor/Presiding Officer

ATTESTED:

**ATTY. MAKI ANGEL O. ASCALON**  
Provincial Secretary

APPROVED:

**HON. EUGENIO JOSE V. LACSON**  
Governor

Date: JUL 24 2025