



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 11th DAY OF JULY, 2023

Present:

Hon. Valentino Miguel J. Alonso	Temporary Presiding Officer
Hon. Rommel T. Debulgado	Member - 1 st District
Hon. Araceli T. Somosa	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. Andrew Martin Y. Torres	Member - 4 th District
Hon. Rita Angela S. Gatuslao	Member - 5 th District
Hon. Anthony Dennis J. Occeño	Member - 5 th District
Hon. Jeffrey T. Tubola	Member - 6 th District
Hon. Julius Martin D. Asistio	Member – PCL
Hon. Juvy A. Pepello	Member – ABC

Official Business:

Hon. Jeffrey P. Ferrer	Vice Governor
Hon. Samson C. Mirhan	Member - 2 nd District
Hon. Manuel Frederick O. Ko	Member - 3 rd District
Hon. Pocholo C. Yuvienco	Member – SK Rep.

ORDINANCE NO. 009
Series of 2023

AN ORDINANCE DECLARING THE 24TH OF NOVEMBER AND EVERY YEAR THEREAFTER AS NEGROS OCCIDENTAL SAFE SPACE DAY, AND PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFOR

(Sponsored By: Hon. Rita Angela S. Gatuslao)
(Chairperson, SP Committee on Women, Children and Family Relations)

WHEREAS, Republic Act No. 7877, or the Anti-Sexual Harassment Act of 1995, is the governing law for work, education or training-related sexual harassment against women and men;

WHEREAS, the passage of R.A. 11313, otherwise known as the Safe Spaces Act (SSA), expands R.A. 7877 and seeks to secure all persons, regardless of sex, sexual orientation, and gender identity and expression, from all kinds of gender-based sexual harassment, in public spaces and online.;

WHEREAS, the Safe Spaces Ordinance of Negros Occidental was promulgated to localize RA 11313, designate public spaces, regardless of ownership and nature as safe spaces against GBSH, define and provide penalties for cases of gender based sexual harassment that are not penalized or are insufficiently dealt with under RA 11313, and provide measures that will prevent the occurrence of and efficiently and effectively respond to GBSH as defined and penalized by RA 11313 and by this ordinance;

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

ARTICLE 1
TITLE AND PURPOSE

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE. This ordinance shall be known as “An Ordinance Declaring Every 24th Day of November as Safe Space Day of Negros Occidental.”

SECTION 2. PURPOSE.

1. To raise consciousness of the people to uphold the principles and values of equality and equitability for all gender as well as their security and safety through the Safe Spaces Act (R.A. 11313 or SSA).
2. To create public awareness on the Safe Spaces Act (R.A. 11313 or SSA) to all Negrenses in the 31 component Cities and Municipalities of the province through the LGUs GAD Focal Point System.
3. To provide a venue of interaction and sharing and advocating policies on gender-based sexual harassment (GBSH).

ARTICLE II
DEFINITION OF TERMS AND LEGAL FRAMEWORK

SECTION 3. DEFINITION OF TERMS. As used in this ordinance, the following terms are defined according to the definitions provided in R.A. 11313 and the Safe Spaces Ordinance of Negros Occidental:

1. GAD - shall refer to Gender and Development
2. Gender - refers to a set of socially ascribed characteristics, norms, roles, attitudes, values and expectations identifying the social behavior of men and women, and the relations between them;
3. Gender-based sexual harassment - refers to any unwanted and uninvited sexual actions or remarks against any person regardless of the motives for committing such actions or remarks;
4. LGUs - shall refer to all Local Government Units in the Province of Negros Occidental;
5. Province - shall refer to the Province of Negros Occidental;
6. Safe space - is a formal or informal place where a person feels comfortable, physically and emotionally safe, and enjoys the freedom of self-expression without the fear of judgment or harm. The intent of this ordinance is to make the entire province of Negros Occidental, a safe space where everyone is protected against Gender-Based Sexual Harassment.



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SECTION 4. ROLE OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNITS IN THE PROVINCE OF NEGROS OCCIDENTAL. The primary responsibility for enforcing this Ordinance rests with the Cities and Municipalities, which duties shall include:

1. Pass an ordinance which shall localize the applicability of this Ordinance within sixty (60) days of its effectivity;
2. Post in conspicuous places, official websites, and social media pages, copies of the Safe Spaces Act and related ordinances;
3. Post in conspicuous places, official websites, and social media pages the official Safe Spaces logo and banner of Negros Occidental and other collaterals as may be provided;
4. Ensure the passage by every barangay of a barangay ordinance to observe, support, and participate in the programs and projects of Safe Spaces Day;
5. Ensure the implementation of programs, projects and activities related to Safe Spaces Act (R.A. 11313 or SSA), the Safe Spaces ordinance of Negros Occidental, and the commemoration of the Safe Space Day of Negros Occidental.

SECTION 5. LEGAL FRAMEWORK. The Philippine Constitution provides the legal basis to promulgate this Ordinance as follows:

1. Section 14 Article 2. "The State recognizes the role of women in nation building and shall ensure the fundamental equality before the law of women and men."
2. Article 15. Equality before the law - Women and men are equal before the law

ARTICLE III
DECLARATION OF POLICY

SECTION 6. The 24th day of November and every year thereafter is hereby declared as Safe Space Day of Negros Occidental.

ARTICLE IV
MISCELLANEOUS PROVISION

SECTION 7. FUNDING. An amount as may be necessary to implement the provisions and purposes of this ordinance is hereby appropriated from any available sources in the general fund of the province (or PSWDO) subject to existing laws, rules and issuances.

ARTICLE V
FINAL PROVISIONS

SECTION 8. SEPARABILITY CLAUSE. If for any reason, any portion or provisions of this ordinance is declared unconstitutional or invalid, the other sections or



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provisions hereby which are not affected thereby shall continue to be in full force and effect.

SECTION 9. APPLICABILITY OF OTHER LAWS, RULES AND REGULATIONS. On matters not provided for this ordinance, any existing applicable laws, corresponding implementing rules, regulations, and relevant issuances issued therefore shall apply in suppletory manner.

SECTION 10. EFFECTIVITY CLAUSE. This ordinance shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its posting in at least three conspicuous places within the province and publication.

ENACTED.

ADOPTED UNANIMOUSLY, July 11, 2023.

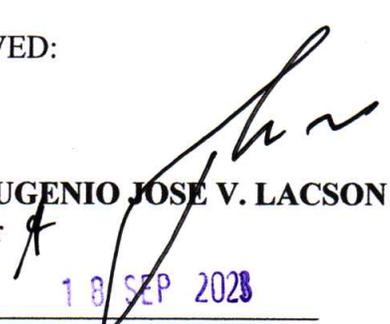
CERTIFIED CORRECT:


HON. VALENTINO MIGUEL J. ALONSO
Temporary Presiding Officer

ATTESTED:


ATTY. MAK ANGEL O. ASCALON
Provincial Secretary

APPROVED:


HON. EUGENIO JOSE V. LACSON
Governor

18 SEP 2023