



**COMMITTEE ON HUMAN RIGHTS**  
**COMMITTEE ON RULES, PRIVILEGES, LAWS AND ORDINANCES**

**JOINT COMMITTEE HEARING REPORT**  
NO. CHR-002-S-2026

Office of the Sangguniang Panlungsod  
Received by: *[Signature]*  
Date: *[Signature]*

**Subject: AN ORDINANCE DELETING SECTION 7 OF CITY ORDINANCE NO. 477-2025 (ALSO KNOWN AS THE "HUMAN RIGHTS ACTION CENTER ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF BACOOR") AND RE-NUMBERING ITS REMAINING PROVISIONS. (PCO 2026-085 dated March 09, 2026)**

Acting on the referral, a joint committee hearing was held on March 19, 2026 regarding the above-mentioned subject matter with the following attendees. (See attached attendance sheet). The hearing was presided over by Hon. Miguel N. Bautista, Chairperson of the Committee on Human Rights and was held at the Sangguniang Panlungsod Session Hall situated on the 6<sup>th</sup> Floor of the BLDR Building, Bacoor Government Center, Barangay Bayanan, Bacoor City, Cavite.

**FINDINGS:**

The Committee respectfully reports that:

- The Sangguniang Panlungsod approved City Ordinance No. 447-2025 which created the Bacoor Human Rights Action Center. It was then transmitted for review to the Sangguniang Panlalawigan.
- After reviewing the said ordinance, the Sangguniang Panlalawigan issued Resolution No. 4537-2026 entitled: "A RESOLUTION ADOPTING JOINT COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 364-12SP-2026 OF THE COMMITTEE ON HUMAN RIGHTS AND THE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE, BUDGET AND APPROPRIATIONS" which was duly passed on 16 February 2026.
- After having been reviewed by the said Committees and of the Provincial Vice Legal Officer, it was recommended that the legal opinion and recommendations rendered be adopted by the Sangguniang Panlungsod of Bacoor.
- The purpose of the City Ordinance No. 477-2025 is to establish the Bacoor Human Rights Action Center that would act as a referral and coordination mechanism. It has the power to conduct investigations of all instances of human rights violations in the City.
- It must be emphasized that Section 7 of the said ordinance appears to be void. Section 7 pertains to the honorarium of lawyers assigned at the Office of the City Legal Service who will attend the hearings of the Center. To wit:



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*"Section 7. Honoraria. The Head of the BHRAC, the City Legal Officer, and lawyers assigned at the OCLS shall receive as honorarium of ₱1,000.00 whenever they actually attend a hearing of the BHRAC. The grant of the said honoraria shall depend on the availability of funds as certified by the City Treasurer and shall be released pursuant to pertinent government audit and accounting regulations. Provided that: the BHRAC shall not hold a hearing more than twice per month. Provided further that: not more than two lawyers from the OCLS shall attend the said hearing.*

- The said provision is invalid because it authorized additional compensation to city lawyers for attending hearings that are within or closely related to their regular or organic functions, without specific national law authority. A local ordinance cannot expand compensation/benefits beyond what a national law and compensation rules allow. City charters may authorize a sanggunian to grant honorarium at the rate authorized by law.
- The Local Government Code recognizes the power of the Sangguniang Panlungsod to determine compensation of the employees. This is also reflective in Section/11 (1) (viii) of RA No. 10160 of the Charter of the City of Bacoor.
- In view of the deletion of Section 7 of City Ordinance No. 447-2025, Section 8, 9, and 10 of the said Ordinance are hereby re-numbered as follows:

Present Section Numbers	Revised Section Numbers
Section 8	Section 7
Section 9	Section 8
Section 10	Section 9

**RECOMMENDATION:**

In order to expedite the proceedings and immediately pass the said City Ordinance, it is necessary for the body to abide by the directive of the Sangguniang Panlalawigan by deleting Section 7 and re-numbering the provisions reflected in the proposal. In view thereof, the Committee recommends for the **APPROVAL** of an "An Ordinance Deleting Section 7 of City Ordinance No. 477-2025 and Re-numbering its Remaining Provisions."

**WE HEREBY CERTIFY** that the contents of the foregoing report are true and correct.

Signed this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of March 2026 at the City of Bacoor, Cavite





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