



Republic of the Philippines
Province of Cavite
CITY OF BACOOR

Office of the Sangguniang Panlungsod



DISTRICT I

HON. CATHERINE SARINO-EVARISTO
City Councilor

HON. MIGUEL N. BAUTISTA
City Councilor

HON. ADRIELITO G. GAWARAN
City Councilor

HON. MANOLO S. GABEZ JR.
City Councilor

HON. RICARDO F. UGALDE
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City Councilor

HON. RANDY C. FRANCISCO
City Councilor-ABC President

HON. PALM ANGEL S. BUNCIO
City Councilor- SK Federation President

Attested by:
ATTY. KHALID A. ATEGA, JR.
Sangguniang Panlungsod Secretary

Certified by:
HON. ROWENA BAUTISTA-MENDIOLA
City Vice Mayor/Presiding Officer

Approved:
HON. STRIKE B. REVILLA
City Mayor



CITY ORDINANCE NO. 502-2026
Series of 2026

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.

Sponsored by:
Hon. Miguel N, Bautista

Co-sponsored by:
Hon. Roberto L. Advincula, Hon. Reynaldo M. Fabian, Hon. Adrielito G. Gawaran, Hon. Reynaldo D. Palabrica, Hon. Levy M. Teal, and Hon. Ricardo F. Ugalde.

WHEREAS, Section 1 of Article XIII of the 1987 Constitution provides that Congress shall give highest priority to the enactment of measures that protect and enhance the right of all the people to human dignity, reduce social, economic, and political inequalities, and remove cultural inequities by equitably diffusing wealth and political power for the common good.

WHEREAS, Section 11, paragraph (1), sub-paragraph (vii) of Republic Act No. 10160 (the "Charter of the City of Bacoor, Cavite") gave the Sangguniang Panlungsod the power to determine the powers and duties of officials and employees of the City Government.

WHEREAS, Section 12, paragraph (b), sub-paragraph (1) of RA10160 require the Sangguniang Panlungsod to create various standing committees among which is a Committee on Human Rights.

WHEREAS, Section 36, paragraph (a), sub-paragraph (11) of RA 10160 mandated the City Legal Officer to be in the frontline of protecting human rights and prosecuting any violation thereof, particularly those which occur during and in the aftermath of man-made and natural disasters or calamities.

1 City Ordinance No. 502-2026 (Ordinance Deleting Section 7 of the Human Rights Action Center Ordinance of the City of Bacoor)



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HON. ROWENA BAUTISTA-MENDIOLA

City Vice Mayor/Presiding Officer

Approved:

HON. STRIKE B. REVILLA

City Mayor



WHEREAS, on 30 June 2025, the 6th Sangguniang Panlungsod passed City Resolution No. 2025-734 which approved the composition and reorganization of its various standing committees. Among the standing committees of the 6th Sangguniang Panlungsod is the Committee on Human Rights.

WHEREAS, the Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG) and the Commission on Human Rights (CHR) issued Joint Memorandum Circular No. 1, series of 2014 entitled "Mainstreaming Human Rights through the Rule of Law and Access to Justice at the Levels of Provinces, Cities, Municipalities, and Barangays" which required all local governments to create a Human Rights Action Center.

WHEREAS, by virtue of the various legal provisions aforesaid, the Sangguniang Panlungsod approved City Ordinance No. 477-2025 which created the Bacoor Human Rights Action Center.

WHEREAS, City Ordinance No. 477-2025 was transmitted for review by the Sangguniang Panlungsod to the Sangguniang Panlalawigan.

WHEREAS, after reviewing City Ordinance No. 477-2025, 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 duly passed on 16 February 2026, the dispositive portion of which states:

WHEREAS, after having been reviewed by the said Committees, the Office of the Provincial Legal Officer, it was recommended that the legal opinion and recommendations rendered be adopted by the Sangguniang Panlungsod of Bacoor:

The purpose of 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 of Bacoor.

2 City Ordinance No. 502-2026 (Ordinance Deleting Section 7 of the Human Rights Action Center Ordinance of the City of Bacoor)



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Attested by:
ATTY. KHALID A. ATEGA, JR.
Sangguniang Panlungsod Secretary

Certified by:
HON. ROWENA BAUTISTA-MENDIOLA
City Vice Mayor/Presiding Officer

Approved:
HON. STRIKE B. REVILLA
City Mayor



It must be emphasized that Section 7 of the subject 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 hearings of the Center. To wit:

"Section 7. Honoraria. The Head of the BHRAC, the City Legal Officer, and lawyers assigned at the OCLS shall receive as honorarium of PhP1,000.00 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."

It is humbly submitted that the 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.

NOW THEREFORE, be it enacted by the 6th Sangguniang Panlungsod of the City of Bacoor, Cavite that:

Section 1. Deletion of Section 7 of City Ordinance No. 477-2025. In compliance with the recommendations of the Sangguniang Panlalawigan embodied in Resolution No. 4537-2026 dated 16 February 2026, Section 7 of City Ordinance No. 477-2025 is hereby deleted.

Section 2. Re-Numbering of Remaining Provisions. In view of the deletion of Section 7 of City Ordinance No. 477-2025, Section 8, 9, and 10 of the said Ordinance are hereby re-numbered as follows:

3 City Ordinance No. 502-2026 (Ordinance Deleting Section 7 of the Human Rights Action Center Ordinance of the City of Bacoor)



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City Councilor- SK Federation President

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

Section 3. Repeal. All ordinances, city resolutions, executive orders, and other local issuances that are inconsistent with the provisions of this Ordinance are hereby repealed and/or modified.

Section 4. Effectivity. This Ordinance shall take effect after ten (10) days from the date a copy hereof is posted in a bulletin board at the entrance of the City Hall of Bacoor and in at least two (2) other conspicuous places in the City of Bacoor not later than five (5) days after approval hereof. A copy of this Ordinance shall be published once in a local newspaper of general circulation within the City.

APPROVED on 30th day of March 2026 at the City of Bacoor, Cavite.

I hereby certify that the foregoing Ordinance was duly approved in accordance with law.

Certified:

HON. ROWENA BAUTISTA-MENDIOLA
City Vice Mayor/Presiding Officer

Attested:

ATTY. KHALID A. ATEGA JR.
Sangguniang Panlungsod Secretary



Attested by:
ATTY. KHALID A. ATEGA, JR.
Sangguniang Panlungsod Secretary


Certified by:
HON. ROWENA BAUTISTA-MENDIOLA
City Vice Mayor/Presiding Officer

Approved:

HON. STRIKE B. REVILLA
City Mayor

Date of Approval : 06 APR 2026

Approved:
HON. STRIKE B. REVILLA
City Mayor



4 City Ordinance No. 502-2026 (Ordinance Deleting Section 7 of the Human Rights Action Center Ordinance of the City of Bacoor)



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City Councilor-ABC President

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City Councilor-SK Federation President

Attested by:

ATTY. KHALD A. ATEGA, JR.
Sangguniang Panlungsod Secretary

Certified by:

HON. CATHERINE SARINO-EVARISTO
Acting City Vice Mayor/Presiding Officer

Approved:

HON. ROWENA BAUTISTA-MENDIOLA
Acting City Mayor



CITY ORDINANCE NO. 477-2025
Series of 2025

AN ORDINANCE CREATING THE BACOR HUMAN RIGHTS ACTION CENTER, IDENTIFYING ITS VARIOUS DUTIES AND POWERS, AND PROVIDING ADMINISTRATIVE PENALTIES FOR VIOLATIONS HEREOF.

Sponsored by:

Hon. Miguel N. Bautista

Co-sponsored by:

Hon. Roberto L. Advincula, Hon. Reynaldo M. Fabian, Hon. Adrielito G. Gawaran, Hon. Reynaldo D. Palabrica, Hon. Levy M. Tela, and Hon. Ricardo F. Ugald.

WHEREAS, Section 1 of Article XIII of the 1987 Constitution provides that Congress shall give highest priority to the enactment of measures that protect and enhance the right of all the people to human dignity, reduce social, economic, and political inequalities, and remove cultural inequities by equitably diffusing wealth and political power for the common good.

WHEREAS, Section 11, paragraph (1), sub-paragraph (vii) of Republic Act No. 10160 (the "Charter of the City of Bacoor, Cavite") gave the Sangguniang Panlungsod the power to determine the powers and duties of officials and employees of the City Government.

WHEREAS, Section 12, paragraph (b), sub-paragraph (1) of RA10160 require the Sangguniang Panlungsod to create various standing committees among which is a Committee on Human Rights.

WHEREAS, Section 36, paragraph (a), sub-paragraph (11) of RA 10160 mandated the City Legal Officer to be in the frontline of protecting human rights and prosecuting any violation thereof, particularly those which occur during and in the aftermath of man-made and natural disasters or calamities.

WHEREAS, on 30 June 2025, the 6th Sangguniang Panlungsod passed City Resolution No. 2025-734 which approved the composition and reorganization of its various standing committees. Among the standing committees of the 6th Sangguniang Panlungsod is the Committee on Human Rights.

WHEREAS, the Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG) and the Commission on Human Rights (CHR) issued Joint

1 City Ordinance No. 477-2025, (Human Rights Action Center Ordinance of the City of Bacoor) 24 November 2025



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HON. CATHERINE SARINO-EVARISTO
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City Councilor

HON. RANDY L. FRANCISCO
City Councilor/ABE President

HON. PAUL ANGELO BUNGO
City Councilor/SK Federation President

Attested by:

ATTY. JOAQUIN A. ATEGA, JR.
Sangguniang Panlungsod Secretary

Certified by:

HON. CATHERINE SARINO-EVARISTO
Acting City Vice Mayor/Presiding Officer

Approved:

HON. ROVENA BALISTIA-MENDIOLA
Acting City Mayor



Memorandum Circular No. 1, series of 2014 entitled "Mainstreaming Human Rights through the Rule of Law and Access to Justice at the Levels of Provinces, Cities, Municipalities, and Barangays" which required all local governments to create a Human Rights Action Center.

WHEREAS, there is a need to create a Human Rights Action Center in the City of Bacoor, Cavite and endow the said body with various powers to ensure that the right of all people to human dignity is safeguarded.

NOW THEREFORE, be it enacted by the 6th Sangguniang Panlungsod of the City of Bacoor, Cavite that:

Section 1. Title. This Ordinance shall be known and referenced as the "Human Rights Action Center Ordinance of the City of Bacoor".

Section 2. Creation of the Human Rights Action Center. The Bacoor Human Rights Action Center (BHRAC) is hereby created. It should act primarily as a referral and coordination mechanism and not as a quasi-legislative body.

Section 3. Composition of the Bacoor Human Rights Action Center. The BHRAC shall be headed by the Chairperson of the Committee on Human Rights of the Sangguniang Panlungsod of the City of Bacoor. The head of BHRAC shall be assisted by the City Legal Officer of the City of Bacoor. The various personnel of the Office of the City Legal Services (OCLS) shall report to the Head of the BHRAC whenever there are reports of violations of human rights in the City of Bacoor.

Section 4. Location of the BHRAC. The BHRAC shall be located at the office of the Head of the BHRAC situated on the 4th Floor of the Bacoor Legislative and Disaster Resilience Building within the Bacoor Government Center. The Secretariat of the BHRAC shall be located at the office of the OCLS.

Section 5. Powers and Duties of the BHRAC. The BHRAC shall have the following powers and duties:

5.1. Formulate its own internal rules of procedure subject to the joint approval of the Sangguniang Panlungsod and the City Mayor by way of a City Resolution. Provided that: the internal rules of procedure of the BHRAC shall also be considered as the Implementing Rules and Regulations of this Ordinance.

5.2. Conduct an impartial investigation of all instances of human rights violations occurring in the City of Bacoor.



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City Councilor-SK Federation President

Attested by:

ATTY. MAURO A. ATEGA, JR.
Sangguniang Panlungsod Secretary

Certified by:

HON. CATHERINE SARINO-EVARISTO
Acting City Vice Mayor/Presiding Officer

Approved:

HON. ROVERNA BAUTISTA-MENDIOLA
Acting City Mayor



5.3. Require all elected and appointed officials of the City of Bacoor including employees of various national agencies assigned in the City to attend hearings called by the BHRAC in the exercise of its power to investigate alleged violations of human rights.

5.4. Summon any person and require the production and/or submission of all types of evidence in relation of alleged violations of human rights.

5.5. Prosecution cost should not be borne by the Local Government or the Bacoor Human Rights Action Center (BHRAC) ; and

5.6. Perform other powers and duties as may be mandated by law or city ordinance or as may be ordered by the City Mayor.

Section 6. Administrative Penalty. Any appointed official or employee of the City Government or of the various national agencies assigned at the City of Bacoor who unjustifiably failed to obey any lawful order of the BHRAC shall be administratively penalized pursuant to pertinent civil service regulations.

Section 7. Honoraria. The Head of the BHRAC, the City Legal Officer, and lawyers assigned at the OCLS shall receive an honorarium of P1,000.00 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 hearings.

Section 8. Repeal. All ordinances, city resolutions, executive orders, and other local issuances that are inconsistent with the provisions of this Ordinance are hereby repealed and/or modified.

Section 9. Separability. If any provision of this Ordinance or the application thereof to any person or circumstance, is held invalid by a competent court of law, the remainder of the Ordinance and the application of such provision to other persons or circumstances shall not be affected thereby.

Section 10. Effectivity. This Ordinance shall take effect after ten (10) days from the date a copy hereof is posted in a bulletin board at the entrance of the City Hall of Bacoor and in at least two (2) other conspicuous places in the City of Bacoor not later than five (5) days after approval hereof. A copy of this Ordinance shall be published once in a local newspaper of general circulation within the City.



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Attested by:

ATTY. KHALID A. ATEGA, JR.
Sangguniang Panlungsod Secretary

Certified by:

HON. CATHERINE SARINO-EVARISTO
Acting City Vice Mayor/Presiding Officer

Approved:

HON. ROWENA BAUTISTA-MENDIOLA
Acting City Mayor



APPROVED on 24 November 2025 at the City of Bacoor, Cavite.

I hereby certify that the foregoing Ordinance was duly approved in accordance with law.

Certified:

HON. CATHERINE SARINO-EVARISTO
Acting City Vice Mayor

Attested:

ATTY. KHALID A. ATEGA JR.
Sangguniang Panlungsod Secretary

Approved:

HON. ROWENA BAUTISTA-MENDIOLA
Acting City Mayor

Date of Approval: 24 NOV 2025