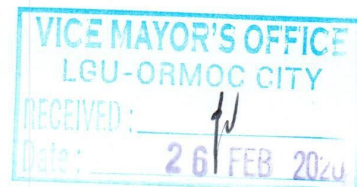


REPUBLIKA NG PILIPINAS  
SANGGUNIANG PANLUNGSOD  
LUNGSOD NG ORMOC



EXCERPT FROM THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR SESSION OF THE  
FIFTEENTH SANGGUNIANG PANLUNGSOD NG ORMOC HELD  
AT THE SANGGUNIANG PANLUNGSOD SESSION HALL  
ON FEBRUARY 24, 2020 IN LIEU OF  
FEBRUARY 25, 2020



PRESENT:

Leo Carmelo L. Locsin, Jr.  
Benjamin S. Pongos, Jr.,  
Roiland H. Villasencio,  
Tomas R. Serafica,  
Nolito M. Quilang,  
Eusebio Gerardo S. Penserga,  
Jasper M. Lucero,  
Peter M. Rodriguez,  
Vincent L. Rama,  
Gregorio G. Yrastorza III,  
Lalaine A. Marcos,  
Esteban V. Laurente,

City Vice Mayor & Presiding Officer  
SP Member, Majority Floor Leader  
SP Member, 1<sup>st</sup> Asst. Majority Floor Leader  
SP Member, Presiding Officer "Pro-Tempore"  
2<sup>nd</sup> Asst. Majority Floor Leader, SP Member  
SP Member  
SP Member  
SP Member  
SP Member  
SP Member  
SP Member  
Ex-Officio SP Member, Chapter President,  
Liga ng mga Barangay ng Ormoc  
Ex-Officio SP Member, Chapter President,  
Panlungsod na Pederasyon ng mga Sangguniang Kabataan ng Ormoc

**EXPLANATORY STATEMENT**

WHEREAS, under Republic Act No. 8972 otherwise known as the Solo Parent Act, it is a declared policy of the State to promote the family as the foundation of the nation, strengthen its solidarity and ensure its total development. Towards this end, it shall develop a comprehensive program of services for solo parents and their children:

WHEREAS, Article II, Section 12 of the Constitution states that "The State recognizes the sanctity of family life and shall protect and strengthen the family as a basic autonomous social institution. It shall equally protect the life of the mother and the life of the unborn from conception. The natural and primary right and duty of parents in the rearing of the youth for civic efficiency and the development of moral character shall receive the support of the Government";

WHEREAS, Article II, Section 9 of the Constitution states that "The State shall promote a just and dynamic social order that will ensure the prosperity and independence of the nation and free the people from poverty through policies that provide adequate social services, promote full employment, a rising standard of living, and an improved quality of life for all";

WHEREAS, Section 2 of Republic Act No. 8972, otherwise known as the Solo Parents' Welfare Act of 2000 declares that "It is the policy of the State to promote the family as the foundation of the nation, strengthen its solidarity and ensure its total development. Towards this end, it shall develop a comprehensive program of services for solo parents and their children to be carried out by the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD), the Department of Health (DOH), the Department of Education, Culture and Sports (DECS), the Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG), the Commission on Higher Education (CHED), the Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA), the National Housing Authority (NHA), the Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE) and other related government and non-government agencies;

WHEREAS, Republic Act No. 7160 otherwise known as the Local Government Code of 1991, specifically Section 458 (a) provides that "The Sangguniang Panlungsod, as the legislative body of the City, shall enact ordinances, approve resolutions and appropriate funds for the general welfare of the city and its inhabitants xxx";

WHEREAS, the City of Ormoc earnestly propose to pass "AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING PRIVILEGES AND BENEFITS FOR SOLO PARENTS IN ORMOC CITY AND THEIR CHILDREN AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREOF IN PURSUANT TO REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8972";

NOW, THEREFORE, on joint motion of SP Member Jasper M. Lucero, Chairman, Committee on Good Government & Oversight and SP Member Vincent L. Rama, Chairman, Committee on Social Welfare, Senior Citizens & Person With Disability, severally seconded by SP Members Nolito M. Quilang, Peter M. Rodriguez, Gregorio G. Yrastorza III, Esteban V. Laurente and Joan Marbie C. Simbajan; be it

RESOLVED, to enact:

**ORDINANCE NO. 017  
(Series of 2020)**

**AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING ADDITIONAL PRIVILEGES AND BENEFITS FOR SOLO PARENTS IN ORMOC CITY AND THEIR CHILDREN, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES PURSUANT TO REPUBLIC ACT 8972, ALSO KNOWN AS THE SOLO PARENT ACT OF 2000.**

BE IT ORDAINED by the 15<sup>th</sup> Sangguniang Panlungsod of Ormoc City, that:

**SECTION 1. TITLE**— This Ordinance shall be known as the "SOLO PARENT WELFARE ORDINANCE OF ORMOC CITY".

**SECTION 2. DEFINITION OF TERMS**— For the purpose of this Ordinance and pursuant to Republic Act No. 8972, the following terms shall mean:

1. **Solo Parent** – refers to unmarried, separated, annulled, widower and widowed individual and person falling under the enumeration provided under Section 3 (a), R.A. No. 8972 and its implementing Rules and Regulations, who has taken the sole responsibility of parenthood, including women who became pregnant due to sexual abuse and those whose spouses are detained or are physically or mentally incapacitated;
2. **Indigent Solo Parent** – refers to one whose net income falls below the poverty threshold set by the National Economic Development Authority (NEDA) and is not receiving a monthly pension or allowance from a concerned public or private entity beyond such poverty threshold, as assessed and verified by CSWDO and or DSWD;

3. **Children** – refer to those living with and dependent upon the solo parent for support and sustenance, who are unmarried, unemployed and not more than eighteen (18) years of age, or even over eighteen (18) years but are incapable of self-support because of mental and/or physical defect/disability;
4. **Parental Responsibility** – with respect to their minor child shall refer to the rights and duties of the parents as defined in Article 220 of Executive Order No. 209, as amended, otherwise known as the "Family Code of the Philippines".
5. **Parental Leave** – shall mean leave benefits granted to a solo parent to enable him/her to perform parental duties and responsibilities where physical presence is required;
6. **Flexible Work Schedule** – is the right granted to a solo parent employee to vary his/her arrival and departure time without affecting the core work hours as defined by the employer.

**SECTION 3. INCORPORATION CLAUSE**– Notwithstanding that the mandate under Republic Act No. 8972 is unto the national government, its agencies and instrumentalities, by this Ordinance, the City of Ormoc formally imposes upon itself the obligation to augment the support provided to solo parents and their children, including among others, the welfare services, special privileges and benefits that the law has enumerated. Accordingly, the pertinent provisions of Republic Act No. 8972 are hereby considered written in this ordinance.

**SECTION 4. IDENTIFICATION OF SOLO PARENT**– A solo parent seeking benefits under this ordinance shall be qualified and identified on the basis of the following:

1. Must fall within the definition of solo parent as provided for in Section 2 of this Ordinance;
2. Must be a resident of Ormoc City for at least one year, as certified by the Punong Barangay where he/she resides.

**SECTION 5. REGISTRATION AND AVAILMENT OF BENEFITS.**

1. **Registration** – The City Government of Ormoc, through the CSWD shall undertake a city-wide registration of all the solo parents and their children in the one hundred ten (110) barangays of the city for purposes of obtaining, among others, information on their names, ages, addresses, income including the source thereof, number of children per solo parent and the circumstances of being solo.
2. **Issuance Of ID** – The CSWD shall cause the issuance of a Solo Parent Identification Card which shall be considered as competent evidence of identity and membership in the sector as well as of the entitlement to the benefits under this ordinance and of R.A. No. 8972.
3. **Availment** – Proof of membership and entitlement under Section 4 of R.A. 8972 shall be presented by the solo parent and/or his/her child to avail of the benefits granted under the said law and this ordinance. However, any solo parent whose income is above the poverty threshold shall enjoy the benefits mentioned in Section 6, 7 and 8 of R.A. 8972.

4. **Disqualification** – Change of civil status or reunion with the separated spouse shall automatically result to disqualification from any of privileges under this ordinance, except under Housing benefits under Section 5 (3) hereof, when the beneficiary remains qualified under other existing or applicable ordinance, rules, policies and programs of the city.

**SECTION 6. ADDITIONAL WELFARE SERVICES, PRIVILEGES, AND BENEFITS**– In addition to the welfare services, privileges and benefits provided by law, indigent solo parents and/or their children shall be entitled to the following privileges and benefits, to wit:

1. **Tertiary Scholarship Assistance** – Subject to compliance with the requirements set under Ordinance No. 028 Series of 2019 otherwise known as "An Ordinance Institutionalizing the Ormoc City Scholarship Program and its Implementing Structures, Providing Funds Therefor and for Other Purposes", at least ten (10%) percent of every batch of incoming scholars shall come from the ranks of the children of indigent solo parents subject to the existing guidelines of the said Ordinance;
2. **Housing Services** – No less than five (5%) percent of the beneficiaries in any new housing site under the city's Socialized Housing Program should come from the ranks of the solo parents subject to the program's requisites. Provided, that the beneficiaries' equity requirement shall be reduced to fifty (50%) percent of the prescribed amount but the remaining half shall nonetheless be paid in the manner set by applicable city ordinance, regulation or policy;
3. **Death or Burial Assistance** – An indigent solo parent and his/her child shall be entitled to a death benefit or burial assistance of Two Thousand Philippine Pesos (Php2,000.00), without prejudice to increasing the same at the Mayor's discretion when the city's budget so permits;
4. **Medical Assistance** – An indigent solo parent or his/her child shall be prioritized in all the medical assistance programs of the City Government and given a cash assistance of Two Thousand Philippine Pesos (Php2,000.00) provided it does not exceed Eight Thousand Philippine Pesos (Php8,000.00) within a year and that the City Health Office cannot provide the needed medicine. A certification from the CHO to the effect shall be issued to avail of the said cash assistance;
5. **Livelihood Assistance** – Solo parents shall have priority in the grant of livelihood assistance under any of the city's applicable programs or projects, subject to the qualification requirements under existing ordinance, rule and regulation;
6. **Employment Assistance** – Solo parents shall have priority in the employment programs of the City Government subject to job matching based on qualifications and experience;
7. Other services, privileges and benefits that the city is currently giving or may subsequently offer.

**SECTION 7. CREATION OF THE SOLO PARENT DESK AND SOLO PARENT ORGANIZATION.**

1. **Solo Parents' Desk** – A Solo Parent Desk is hereby created which shall be under the direct supervision of the City Social Welfare and Development Officer who shall assign a social worker to perform the following functions:
  - a. Develop a comprehensive social development and welfare program for solo parents and their children which shall include those herein listed;
  - b. Coordinate and work with appropriate offices and agencies of the government in providing such welfare services, privileges and benefits to the intended beneficiaries;
  - c. Assist in the organizational matters of the solo parents organization/federation in coordination with the Committee on Women and Family of the Sangguniang Panlungsod;
  - d. Exercise such other powers and perform such other duties and functions as may be assigned by the mayor or as may be prescribed by law or ordinance;
2. **Right to Organize** – The City hereby encourages and gives its full support to the solo parents' right to organize themselves for purposes beneficial to its members. The Solo Parents Organization/Federation shall assist the city in the effective formulation and implementation of its program of services.
3. **Barangay Solo Parent Program** – All one hundred ten (110) barangays of Ormoc City shall establish their respective Solo Parent Program and to provide necessary funds thereto by including it in their respective barangay annual budget.

**SECTION 8. IMPLEMENTING RULES AND REGULATIONS**– An implementing body, composed of the City Legal Officer as chairman and the City Social Welfare and Development Officer, a representative of the City Mayor's Office, the President of the Solo Parents Federation and the Chairman of the Committee on Women, Family and Children as members, is hereby constituted to promulgate rules and regulations to effectively carry out the purposes of this ordinance, subject to the approval of the City Mayor. But notwithstanding the absence of implementing rules and regulations, this Ordinance shall be considered self-executory.

**SECTION 9. PENALTY CLAUSE**– Any misrepresentation made to obtain a Solo Parent Identification Card or any improper use or abuse by any person to avail of the rights and privileges granted to solo parents and their children shall be subjected to criminal prosecution under the pertinent provision of the Revised Penal Code and shall be a ground for the automatic cancellation of the said ID and all services, benefits and privileges thereof.

**SECTION 10. FUNDING**– The City shall appropriate funds for the implementation of this Ordinance which shall be incorporated in the annual budget of the City Social Welfare Development Office (CSWDO).

**SECTION 11. SEPARABILITY CLAUSE**– If, for any reason, any part or provision of this Ordinance be declared unconstitutional or invalid, the other parts or provisions hereof not affected shall continue to be in full force and effect.

Ord. No. 017, S. 2020

**SECTION 12. REPEALING CLAUSE**- All ordinances, resolutions, executive orders, laws and regulations inconsistent with the provisions of this ordinance are hereby amended, repealed or modified accordingly.


**SECTION 13. EFFECTIVITY**- This Ordinance shall take effect immediately upon its approval.

ENACTED, February 24, 2020.

RESOLVED, FURTHER, to furnish copies of this ordinance one each to the City Mayor Richard I. Gomez, the City Administrator; the City Legal Officer; the CSWDO; the City Budget Officer; the City Accountant; the City Treasurer; the Office of the Liga ng mga Barangay ng Ormoc; the One Hundred Ten (110) Barangays of Ormoc City; the City Local Government Operations Officer-DILG; and other offices concerned;

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

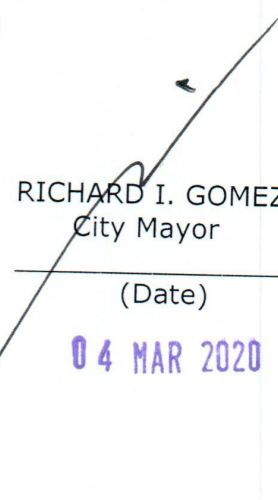
I HEREBY CERTIFY to the correctness of the above ordinance.

  
MARIA ANTONIETA G. CO HAT  
Secretary to the  
Sangguniang Panlungsod

ATTESTED:

  
LEO CARMELO L. LOCSIN, JR.  
City Vice Mayor & Presiding Officer

APPROVED:

  
RICHARD I. GOMEZ  
City Mayor

(Date)

04 MAR 2020