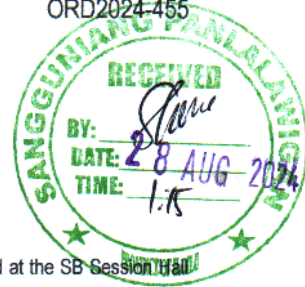




Republic of the Philippines
Province of Iloilo
MUNICIPALITY OF OTON
OFFICE OF THE SANGGUNIANG BAYAN



EXCERPT from the Minutes of Session of the Sangguniang Bayan ng Oton, Iloilo recorded during its Regular Session held at the SB Session Hall on August 8, 2024 at 9:00 the morning.

- | | | |
|------------------------------|--|---|
| PRESENT: | Vice Mayor Jose Neil Portugalete Olivares
Hon. Jimmy Robles Olivares
Hon. Ma. Lorna Tumambo Geonigo
Hon. Dennis Quillo Geroche
Hon. Ernesto Cordova Ticao
Hon. Rodolfo Zurita Alconga, Jr.
Hon. Vanessa Turita Salinas
Hon. Paul Mediavilla Buenafe
Hon. Hyacinth C. Gardose | Vice Mayor and Presiding Officer
SB Member
SB Member
SB Member
SB Member
SB Member
SB Member
SB Member (LNB Representative)
SB Member (PPSK Representative) |
| ON OFFICIAL BUSINESS: | NONE. | |
| ABSENT: | Hon. Lee Cereneo Alison – Bretaña
Hon. Grace Marie Escanlar-Cruz | SB Member (MC 6)
SB Member (Sick Leave) |

ORDINANCE NO. 2024 - 455

AN ORDINANCE DECLARING THE LAST WEEK OF THE MONTH OF JUNE OF EVERY YEAR TO BE KNOWN AS LGBTQ+ PRIDE WEEK CELEBRATION IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF OTON AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR.

AS PROPOSED by Hon. Ma. Lorna T. Geonigo, **ON MOTION** of the Committee on Social Welfare, Community Development, CSOs, Chaired by Hon. Dennis Q. Geroche together with Hon. Rodolfo Z. Alconga, Jr. and Hon. Hyacinth C. Gardose, duly seconded by Hon. Lee Alison - Bretaña,

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE SANGGUNIANG BAYAN NG OTON, ILOILO, THAT:

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE. This Ordinance shall be known as the Municipal LGBTQ+ Pride Week Celebration.

SECTION 2. LEGAL BASIS.

- a. Section 1 (a), Article XIII of the 1987 Constitution states that the enactment of measures that protect and enhance the right of the people to human dignity, reduce social, economic and political inequalities and remove cultural inequities shall be given highest priority;
- b. Section 72 (Equal Treatment) of Article XXI of the 1987 Constitution states that on Other Disadvantaged Sectors provides that any ridicule, embarrassment or insult to persons belonging to cultural communities, those with disabilities, the elderly or persons with sexual preferences shall be penalized in accordance with the penal provisions thereof.
- c. Section 8, Article III of the 1987 Constitution provides for the right of the people including those employed in the public and private sectors to form unions, associations, or societies for purposes not contrary to the law shall not be abridged.
- d. Section 16, General Welfare Clause of Republic Act 7160 or the Local Government Code of 1991 states that every local government unit shall exercise the powers expressly granted, those necessarily implied therefrom, as well as powers necessary, appropriate, or incidental for its efficient and effective governance, and those which are essential to the promotion of the general welfare. Within their respective territorial jurisdictions, local government units shall ensure and support, among other things, the preservation and enrichment of culture, promote health and safety, enhance the right of the people to a balanced ecology, encourage and support the development of appropriate and self-reliant scientific and technological capabilities, improve public morals, enhance economic prosperity and social justice, promote full employment among their residents, maintain peace and order, and preserve the comfort and convenience of their inhabitants.
- e. The United Nations through the United Nations Human Rights Council (UNHRC), in June 2016, passed a resolution to appoint an "independent expert" to find the causes of violence and discrimination against people due to their gender identity and sexual orientation, and to discuss with governments about how to protect these people. The milestone resolution has been seen as the United Nations most overt expression of gay rights as human rights;



NSK

- f. The Municipality of Oton through its GAD Code Ordinance, Section 18, Persons of Diverse SOGIE-SC states that it shall be the policy of the municipal government to uphold the rights of persons of diverse SOGIE-SC (sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, sexual characteristics) and to recognize their full potential. Relative thereto, no one shall discriminate them with respect to employment, right to employment, right to organization and participation in local government's plans, programs and activities, access to health, livelihood, education and others.

The Municipality of Oton shall encourage Persons of Diverse SOGIE-SC to organize in the barangay and to federate in the municipal level. They are encouraged to apply for accreditation to be acknowledged as one of the CSO's in the Municipality and participate in the planning and implementation of the government's programs.

- g. Article VI, Section 24 (P) of GAD Code Ordinance of the Municipality of Oton. Observance of Special Events. The Municipal government shall lead the observance of Pride Month Celebration every June. Persons of Diverse SOGIE-SC shall celebrate the Pride Month in the Municipality.

SECTION 3. PURPOSE OF THIS ORDINANCE. The following are the objectives of this Ordinance:

- a. To provide a platform for LGBTQ+ individuals to celebrate their identities, culture and achievements. This is the time for visibility and recognition, allowing people to feel proud of who they are and to express themselves freely;
- b. To provide a platform for advocating for equal rights and inclusion for LGBTQ+ people. This raises awareness about the challenges faced by LGBTQ+ individuals the importance of creating a more equitable and just society for all;
- c. To provide an opportunity to educate the public about LGBTQ+ issues, challenges misconceptions, foster understanding and acceptance. It encourages dialogue and learning about LGBTQ+ history, experiences, and the on-going fight for equality;
- d. To provide a venue to features events and activities that support LGBTQ+ organizations, businesses, and initiatives to help raise funds and awareness for important causes and contribute to the overall well-being of the LGBTQ+ community.
- e. To foster a sense of community and belonging among LGBTQ+ individuals and their allies thus providing opportunities for people to connect, celebrate, and find support within a welcoming and affirming environment.

SECTION 4. DEFINITION OF TERMS as used in this Ordinance.

- a. **LGBTQ+** - stands for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer and the + (plus) sign signifies the inclusion of other gender identities and sexual orientations not explicitly listed. The + (plus) symbol acknowledges the diversity and evolving nature of the LGBTQ+ Community. It emphasizes that there are many different ways to identify and express oneself within the spectrum of gender and sexuality;
- b. **Lesbian** – a woman who's emotional, romantic and sexual energies are geared towards other women.
- c. **Gay** – a person who is emotionally and / or physically attracted to members of the same sex. Although all – encompassing, this term refers mainly to men;
- d. **Bisexual** – a person who is emotionally and / or physically attracted to members of both the same and opposite sex;
- e. **Transgender** – is the state of one's gender identity (self-identification as woman, man or neither) not matching one's "assigned sex" (identification by others as male or female based on physical / genetic sex). Transgender does not imply any specific form of sexual orientation, transgender people may identify as heterosexual, homosexual, bisexual, pansexual, polysexual or asexual . The precise definition for transgender remains in flux, but include:
 - of relating to or designating a person whose identity does not conform ambiguously to conventional notions of male or female gender roles, but combines or move between these.

- People who were assigned a sex, usually at birth and based on their genital, but who feels that this is a false or incomplete description of themselves.
 - Non-identification with or non-presentation as the sex (and assumed gender) one was assigned at birth.
- f. **Queer** – is often used as an umbrella term to describe individuals who do not identify as heterosexuals or cisgender. It can encompass diverse sexual orientations and gender identities that may not fit into traditional categories like gay, lesbian, or bisexual. Queer is seen as an inclusive and fluid term that allows individuals to express their identities without the need for specific labels.
 - g. **Cisgender** – is a term used to describe individuals whose gender identity matches the sex they were assigned at birth, highlighting the alignment between one's internal sense of gender and their biological sex.
 - h. **Sex** – refers to biological characteristics such as chromosomes, hormones, and genitalia assigned at birth;
 - i. **Gender** – is a personal sense of identity that may or may not align with one's biological sex;
 - j. **MSWDO** – Municipal Social Welfare and Development Office;
 - k. **MHO** – Municipal Health Office;
 - l. **SOGIE-SC** – Social Orientation Gender Identity and Expression – Sexual Characteristics;

SECTION 5. RIGHTS TO ORGANIZATION

The LGBTQ+ of the Municipality of Oton is recognized and is encouraged to organize in the barangay and to federate in the municipal level as their constitutional right. The LGU of Oton shall acknowledge them as a recognized organization and shall have the right to become a member of the Local Special Bodies of the LGU and in participating in local government's plans, programs and activities.

The LGU of Oton shall encourage them further to apply for accreditation as one of the CSOs in the Municipality and shall have the right to participate in the planning and implementation of the programs of the LGU of Oton.

SECTION 6. PROVISION ON PROGRAMS / ACTIVITIES FOR THE MUNICIPAL LGBTQ+ PRIDE WEEK CELEBRATION.

- a. The Municipal Social Welfare and Development Office (MSWDO) shall be the lead office for the Municipal LGBTQ+ Pride Week Celebration with the Municipal Health Office as the support office;
- b. The MSWDO as the lead office shall formulate and conduct activities / programs for the Municipal LGBTQ+ Pride Week Celebration;
- c. The lead office shall designate personnel to take charge the program and activities formulated for the Municipal LGBTQ+ Pride Week Celebration;
- d. The lead office shall include in the programs and activities for the Municipal LGBTQ+ Pride Week Celebration venue for access to health, livelihood, education, tourism and other aspects useful to LGBTQ+ Community and to make the celebration meaningful and functional to the members of LGBTQ+.
- e. The officers of the LGBTQ+ organizations will coordinate with the lead and support offices in the implementation and the conduct of the activities formulated by the MSWDO.

SECTION 7. FUNDING

The amount of One Hundred Fifty Thousand Pesos (Php150,000.00) necessary to carry out the provisions of this Ordinance shall be appropriated and shall be charged against the General Fund / GAD Budget of the MSWDO Programs and activities thereto including the budgetary requirements shall be included in the Annual Investment Program of the said office.

SECTION 8. EFFECTIVITY CLAUSE. This Ordinance shall take effect immediately upon the approval of the Local Chief Executive.

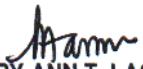
SECTION 9. REPEALING CLAUSE. All municipal ordinances or parts of any municipal ordinance inconsistent with the provisions of this Ordinance are hereby amended, repealed or modified accordingly

SECTION 10. SEPARABILITY CLAUSE If any provision of this Ordinance is held invalid, the other provisions not affected thereby shall continue in operation.

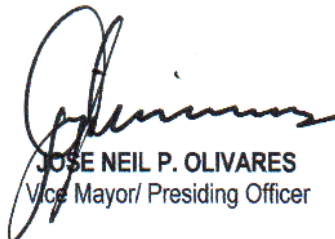
SECTION 11. COPIES. This ordinance shall be furnished to the Office of the Mayor, MBO, MTO, Acctg. MSWDO, MHO, MPDC, HRMO, 37 barangays, Liga ng mga Barangay, Oton -GFPS, LGBTQIA Federation, and Sangguniang Panlalawigan ng Iloilo for information and review respectively.

UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.

I HEREBY CERTIFY to the correctness of the foregoing Ordinance.


KERRY ANN T. LACIFICAR
Secretary to the Sanggunian

Concurred: 
VANESSA T. SALINAS
Chair - Committee on Rules and Privileges

Attested: 
JOSE NEIL P. OLIVARES
Vice Mayor/ Presiding Officer

Approved: 
SOFRONIO L. FUSIN, JR.
Municipal Mayor

Date Approved: AUG 28 2024

Date Posted: AUG 28 2024

