Republic of the Philippines
Province of Laguna
Municipality of Los Baños
Special Science and Nature City
OFFICE OF THE SANGGUNIANG BAYAN
2/F, Municipal Building, National Highway, Brgy. Timugan, Los Baños, Laguna, 4030
Tel. Nos. : (049) 530 2981; 530 2952; 530 2953; 530 2818 Local: 2001

BAGONG PILIPINAS

EXCERPTS FROM THE MINUTES OF THE FIFTY-FOURTH (54th) REGULAR SESSION OF THE 12TH SANGGUNIANG BAYAN HELD ON AUGUST 24, 2026 AT THE SANGGUNIANG BAYAN SESSION HALL, NATIONAL HIGHWAY, BRGY. TIMUGAN, LOS BAÑOS, LAGUNA.

PRESENT:

Hon. Marlo PJ A. Alipon	Municipal Vice Mayor/Presiding Officer
Hon. Miko C. Pelegrina	S.B. Member
Hon. Aldous Amiel B. Perez	S.B. Member
Hon. Muriel Laisa B. Dizon	S.B. Member
Hon. Leren Mae M. Bautista	S.B. Member
Hon. Benedicto S. Alborida	S.B. Member
Hon. Rand Edouard R. De Jesus	S.B. Member
Hon. Myla E. Alinsunurin	S.B. Member
Hon. Jay G. Rolusta	S.B. Member
Hon. Samantha Nicole A. Banasihan-Ortega	Ex-Officio Member/SK Federation President

ABSENT:

None

ORDINANCE NO. 2026-2522

AN ORDINANCE GRANTING ONE-TIME FULL EXAMINATION SUBSIDY TO BAR EXAMINEES FROM THE MUNICIPALITY OF LOS BAÑOS, PRESCRIBING TERMS FOR RETURN SERVICE UPON ADMISSION TO THE BAR, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR.

Author: Councilor Aldous Amiel B. Perez

WHEREAS, Section 1, Article XIV of the 1987 Philippine Constitution mandates the state to protect and promote the right of all citizens to quality education at all levels, thus taking all appropriate steps to make such education accessible to all;

WHEREAS, Section 16 of Republic Act No. 7160, otherwise known as the Local Government Code of 1991, provides that every local government unit shall exercise powers necessary, appropriate, or incidental to its efficient and effective governance, and those which are essential to the promotion of the general welfare;

WHEREAS, the Supreme Court of the Philippines has consistently emphasized that the practice of law is a profession imbued with public interest, and that lawyers are officers of the court who play a vital role in the administration of justice.

WHEREAS, the Municipal Government of Los Baños recognizes the vital role of legal professionals in safeguarding civil liberties, ensuring access to justice and legal services, supporting public policy implementation and analysis, and driving rich socio-economic development; and

WHEREAS, providing a one-time full examination subsidy to qualified bar examinees from the Municipality of Los Baños eases financial constraints, incentivizes academic excellence, and encourages local minds to pursue the legal practice by making it more accessible to them;

WHEREAS, establishing a mandatory return service requirement for beneficiaries upon admission to the legal profession ensures that the municipality directly benefits from its investment by enhancing the legal capacity and legal aid services offered to the local government unit and its citizens;

NOW THEREFORE, on motion of Councilor Aldous Amiel B. Perez duly seconded by Councilor Miko C. Pelegrina and approved by all the Councilors present;

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE SANGGUNIANG BAYAN OF LOS BAÑOS, LAGUNA, in session assembled, **THAT:**

SECTION 1. **TITLE**. This ordinance shall be known as the "Abogado Para sa Bayan Ordinance of Los Baños".

SECTION 2. **DECLARATION OF POLICY**. The Municipal Government of Los Baños acknowledges the paramount importance of the legal practice in the community, thus it is hereby declared its policy to invest in the professional growth of its people, including those coming from the aforementioned field, and further expand the people's access to it.

SECTION 3. **OBJECTIVES**. This ordinance shall have the following objectives:

a. Provide a full one-time subsidy to bar examinees from Los Baños;
b. Prescribe terms for return service upon the examinees' admission to the bar;
c. Appropriate funds for the program; and
d. Promote the expansion of opportunities and services in the legal field.

SECTION 4. **IMPLEMENTING OFFICE**. The Office of the Mayor shall be the primary implementing office of this program, unless a different office is identified by the same, with duties as follows:

a. Formulate and issue the Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR) of the program in coordination with the Local Finance Committee within thirty (30) calendar days after approval of this ordinance.
b. Set additional requirements as deemed necessary for the efficient processing of the applications;

c. Call for and receive applications for the subsidy;
d. Assess applicants and monitor beneficiaries;
e. Draft and facilitate the signing of the Return Service Agreement;
f. Recommend approval of beneficiaries to the Municipal Mayor; and
g. Maintain a freedom of information and full disclosure mechanism for the program while ensuring that beneficiaries will receive no pressure from the public and that their right to privacy is observed.

SECTION 5. **BASIC REQUIREMENTS**. The basic requirements for the application to the program are as follows:

a. Barangay Certificate of Permanent Residency, proving that the examinee's domicile is situated in a barangay within the municipality for no less than four (4) years;
b. One (1) address-bearing valid government issued ID;
c. Application Form for the subsidy;
d. Bar Exam Application Form or its equivalent; and
e. Proof of Graduation or Candidate for Graduation, or any of its equivalent, from a duly recognized law school within the Philippines.

SECTION 6. **IMPLEMENTING TERMS.** A one-time full examination subsidy, covering the entire examination fees, as prescribed by the Office of the Bar Confidant, shall be granted to qualified bar exam takers from the Municipality of Los Baños.

SECTION 7. **RELEASING OF SUBSIDY**. The subsidy shall be released to approved beneficiaries in form of cash within one (1) month after the conclusion of the application period, as provided by the official Bar Bulletin from the Supreme Court, and upon signing of the Return Service Agreement (RSA) as identified under Section 8 of this ordinance.

SECTION 8. **MANDATORY RETURN SERVICE FOR PASSERS**. Upon passing the bar on or after the year subsidized for, the beneficiary, as a full-pledged lawyer shall, within three years, render the prescribed services under the Rules on Unified Legal Aid Service (ULAS) only for and in the municipality.

SECTION 9. **FUNDING**. The source of fund for the implementation of this program shall directly be part or attributed to that of the Office of the Municipal Mayor or that of the identified implementing office which must be appropriated accordingly by the Municipal Government of Los Baños annually.

SECTION 10. **CONDITIONS AND PENALTIES**. A beneficiary who, upon receipt of the subsidy, decided not to push through with or failed to complete the examination for whatever reason it is, shall return the granted amount to the identified implementing office within one (1) month after the last day of the bar examination. This makes the beneficiary in good faith qualified to apply again in the succeeding batches. However, in the event that a return is proven not to happen without any justifiable reason, the beneficiary shall be blacklisted from all other grants of the municipal government.

SECTION 11. **REPEALING CLAUSE**. All ordinances, rules, and regulations or parts that are inconsistent with any provision of this ordinance are hereby repealed, amended, or modified accordingly.

SECTION 12. **SEPARABILITY CLAUSE**. If, for any reason, any part or provision of this ordinance be declared unconstitutional or invalid by the court, or suspended or revoked by competent authorities under proper justification, other parts or the provisions thereof which are not affected thereby shall continue to be in full force and effect.

SECTION 13. **EFFECTIVITY**. This ordinance shall take effect immediately on the succeeding fiscal year upon its approval.

ENACTED : August 24, 2026

I HEREBY CERTIFY to the correctness of the above-quoted Ordinance.

DONA T. ALBORIDA - DIZON
Secretary to the Sangguniang Bayan

CERTIFIED ENACTED:

HON. MARLO PJ A. ALIPON, MPA, REE, RMP
Municipal Vice Mayor/Presiding Officer

APPROVED:

HON. NEIL ANDREW N. NOCON
Municipal Mayor