



REPUBLIKA NG PILIPINAS  
LUNGSOD NG ORMOC  
SANGGUNIANG PANLUNGSOD

Excerpt from the Minutes of the 65<sup>th</sup> Regular Session of the Sixteenth Sangguniang Panlungsod held on October 10, 2023 at the Sangguniang Panlungsod Session Hall, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, Ormoc City Hall Building, Aunubing Street, Brgy. Cogon Ormoc City, Leyte

**ORDINANCE NO. 131**  
**Series of 2023**

**AN ORDINANCE PROMOTING RESPONSIBLE PET OWNERSHIP AND PROTECTING THE WELFARE OF COMPANION ANIMALS IN ORMOC CITY, PURSUANT TO THE PROVISIONS OF REPUBLIC ACT 8485 OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE ANIMAL WELFARE ACT OF 1998**

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**EXPLANATORY NOTE**

The City Government of Ormoc is mandated under the 1987 Constitution and the Local Government Code to protect and advance, among other things, the right to health and safety of the people, and to endeavor to preserve the comfort and convenience of their inhabitants.

Section 16 of RA 7160, otherwise known as the General Welfare Clause of the Local Government Code of 1991, provides 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.

Over recent years, our Country has witnessed campaigns to promote responsible pet ownership. This notwithstanding, cruelty and neglect are still part of the reality for many pet animals seemingly on account of a lack of understanding as to what makes a responsible pet owner. Under the law, a responsible pet owner, or what some people refer to as a "pet parent," has two main responsibilities. First, pet owners are mandated to provide their pets adequate care and sustenance. Second, pet owners are vicariously liable for the damage and harm caused by their pets. Key to being a responsible pet owner is to be mindful of these concepts, especially because the cruel treatment of animals is punished as an offense.

The Animal Welfare Act of 1998 makes it unlawful for any person "to torture any animal, to neglect to provide adequate care, sustenance or shelter, or maltreat any animal or to subject any dog or horse to dogfights or horse fights, kill or cause or procure to be tortured or deprived of adequate care, sustenance or shelter, or maltreat or use the same in research or experiments not expressly authorized by the Committee on Animal Welfare." The protection of the law is extended to all animals, either as objects of trade or as household pets. The law does not only involve pet owners; the same statute also covers operators or owners of facilities housing and transporting animals. The law penalizes any person that maltreats animals, may it be their pet or not.

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REPUBLIKA NG PILIPINAS  
LUNGSOD NG ORMOC  
SANGGUNIANG PANLUNGSOD

Furthermore, Section 5 of The Anti-Rabies Act of 2007 requires all pet owners to: "(a) have their dog regularly vaccinated against rabies and maintain a registration card which shall contain all vaccinations conducted on their dog, for accurate record purposes; (b) submit their dogs for mandatory registration; (c) maintain control over their dog and not allow it to roam the streets or any public place without a leash; (d) be a responsible owner by providing their dog with proper grooming, adequate food and clean shelter; (e) within 24 hours, report immediately any dog biting incident to the concerned officials for investigation or for any appropriate action and place such dog under observation by a government or private veterinarian; and (f) assist the dog bite victim immediately and shoulder the medical expenses incurred and other incidental expenses relative to the victim's injuries."

In the same statute, the responsibilities of other sectors, like local government units and pertinent government agencies, have been streamlined to facilitate efforts to lessen the incident of rabies and to promote responsible pet ownership in the country. The law likewise imposes penalties on pet owners who fail to fulfill their responsibilities. This reminds us not only of our communal responsibility of ensuring the safety and welfare of both people and animals, but also of the dangers when pet owners fail to do their part.

Ordinance No. 57, Series of 1996, otherwise known as the Anti-Rabies Ordinance of Ormoc City, as amended, was enacted to put up measures to prevent the spread of the deadly virus in order to protect the health of the people. In order to minimize the risk to humans, public health measures that include vaccination of pets, animal control programs and provision of rabies vaccine to those at risk as well as to those who have been bitten by stray dogs has been implemented;

As the public clamor arises, not only in Ormoc City but also in the entire country, for the proper treatment and protection of companion animals or pets, the City Government of Ormoc has intensified the campaign for its well-being, and thus the enactment of this Ordinance.

In compliance of the legal requirement provided for in the Local Government Code, a public hearing of the draft ordinance was conducted on September 11, 2023.

FOREGOING PREMISES CONSIDERED, this Sanggunian finds great merit in enacting this ordinance for the benefit of the City and to the community as a whole.

BE IT ENACTED, by the 16<sup>th</sup> Sangguniang Panlungsod ng Ormoc, That;

**CHAPTER I**  
**GENERAL PROVISIONS**

**SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE-** This Ordinance shall be known as an "Ordinance Promoting Responsible Pet Ownership and Protecting the Welfare of Companion Animals of Ormoc City Pursuant to Republic Act 8485."

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REPUBLIKA NG PILIPINAS  
LUNGSOD NG ORMOC  
SANGGUNIANG PANLUNGSOD

**SECTION 2. DECLARATION OF POLICY** - Pursuant to Article II Section 2 of the 1987 Philippine Constitution, the Philippines generally adopts the accepted principles of international law as part of the law of the land and adheres to the policy of peace, equality, justice, freedom, cooperation, and amity with all nations. Part of its international commitments is respect to the sensitivity of the world community to certain practices unique to the country but are offensive to the accepted norms and conduct of the civilized world.

Hence, the Government of the Philippines is one of the signatories of the Universal Declaration on Animal Welfare in San Jose, Costa Rica and recognizes that "animals are living, sentient beings and therefore deserve due care and respect". Its principles provide that "animal welfare" shall be a common objective for all nation" and that "all appropriate steps shall be taken by nations to prevent cruelty to animals and to reduce their sufferings".

**SECTION 3. COVERAGE** - This ordinance is enacted to ensure the protection and promotion of the welfare of all companion animals found within the territorial jurisdiction of Ormoc City, whether wild or domesticated, which are kept, bred, treated, trained either as objects of trade or as household pets. For purposes of this ordinance, the pet animal shall include birds.

**Section 4. Definition of Terms** - As used in this Ordinance, the following terms, words and phrases shall be construed to mean as follows:

- a. **Animal Welfare** - the avoidance of exploitation of animals by man by maintaining appropriate standards of accommodation, feeding and general care, the prevention and treatment of disease and the assurance of freedom from unnecessary discomfort and pain.
- b. **Corral** - a pen for keeping or capturing livestock.
- c. **Companion Animals** - an animal that is kept as a pet or in a close daily relationship with humans.
- d. **Food Animal** - all domestic animals slaughtered for human consumption such as but not limited to cattle, carabao, buffaloes, horses, sheep, goats, hogs, deer, rabbits, ostrich and poultry.
- e. **Kennel** - a small shelter for a dog or cat.
- f. **New Resident** - a resident who has not yet been residing in Ormoc City for at least six (6) months.
- g. **OJT** - On the Job Training
- h. **Pound** - an establishment created by the City Government where stray dogs are apprehended and confined for three (3) days before being redeemed by their owners or if unclaimed disposed of by approved methods. The pound must be accredited by the Animal Welfare Division of the BAI, as provided for by the Animal Welfare Law.
- i. **Pet** - any animal owned and kept by human beings in the household or within the owner's private property.
- j. **Pet Shop** - retail business which sells animals and pet care resources to the public.
- k. **Responsible Pet Owner** - one who takes possession only of the number of pets he/she can afford to feed and gives proper care by giving clean, nutritious and sufficient food and water, bathing, cleaning its sleeping area, chaining or putting the pet in a cage and not allowing it to stray and having it vaccinated against dangerous communicable diseases.

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REPUBLIKA NG PILIPINAS  
LUNGSOD NG ORMOC  
SANGGUNIANG PANLUNGSOD

- l. **Sentient Beings** - capable of experiencing pain and suffering.
- m. **Stockyard** - a large yard containing pens and sheds, typically adjacent to a slaughterhouse, in which livestock is kept and sorted.
- n. **Stud/Stock Farm** - an establishment for selective breeding of livestock. A group of animals and especially horses kept primarily for breeding.
- o. **Veterinary Clinic/Hospital** - a place for the care and treatment of small animals involving outpatient care and medical procedures involving hospitalization, but shall not include the keeping of animals in outdoor pens.
- p. **Viscous and Dangerous Animal** - means any animal that has shown the propensity to attack a person or another animal, has attacked without provocation a person or another animal, or which has been trained to attack on command.
- q. **Zoo** - an establishment which maintains a collection of wild animals, typically in a park or gardens, for study, conservation, or display to the public.

**CHAPTER II**  
**COMPANION ANIMAL WELFARE, CARE AND PROTECTION**

**SECTION 5. PROMOTION OF COMPANION ANIMAL WELFARE AND RESPECT TO THE RIGHTS OF COMPANION ANIMALS** - It shall be unlawful for any person to torture any companion animal, to neglect to provide care, sustenance or shelter, or to subject any dog or horse to dogfights or horsefights, or maltreat any companion animal or cause or procure to be tortured, or deprived of adequate care, sustenance or shelter, or maltreat or use the same in research or experiments not expressly authorized by the Law.

**SECTION 6. CARE OF COMPANION ANIMALS DURING TRANSIT** - It shall be the duty of any owner or operator of any land, air or water public utility, transporting companion animals to:

- a. Provide, in all cases, adequate, clean and sanitary facilities for the safe conveyance and delivery thereof to their consignee at the place of consignment;
- b. Provide sufficient food and water while in transit for more than twelve (12) hours or whenever necessary and while in temporary holding place while awaiting transport;
- c. Provide maximum comfort while in transit and minimize, if not totally prevent, incidence of sickness and death;
- d. Prevent any form of cruelty from being inflicted upon the companion animals;
- e. Ensure that companion animals are not confined under cruel and inhumane condition such as but not limited to placing of animals on trunks or under false bottoms, cages not adequate considering the number and size of animals, insufficiently ventilated cages or spaces during transport and while in transit;
- f. Prevent use of cruel restraint such as but no limited to trussing, use of tin cans, wire, plastic straw as well as other similar materials as muzzles; and

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REPUBLIKA NG PILIPINAS  
LUNGSOD NG ORMOC  
SANGGUNIANG PANLUNGSOD

- g. Prevent subjecting/exposing the companion animals to extreme weather conditions.

**SECTION 7. CARE OF COMPANION ANIMALS DURING TRADING OR WHILE IN DISPLAY, EXHIBIT OR SALE** - The above-mentioned duties shall likewise apply to the owner/operator of any transport facility or any companion animals' facility when the animals are held or kept temporarily during trading, display, exhibit or sale.

**SECTION 8. SHIPPING/TRANSPORT PERMIT** - No public utility shall transport any companion animals without a written permit from the Director of the Bureau of Animal Industry or his/her authorized representative. Such transport permit shall be presented to the local police officer or to the City Veterinarian or any deputized officer or representative of the Bureau of Animal Industry when so required.

**SECTION 9. KILLING OF COMPANION ANIMALS** - The killing of any companion animal other than cattle pigs, goats, sheep, poultry, rabbits, carabaos, horses, and crocodiles, is likewise hereby declared unlawful.

Exceptions:

- a. When it is done as part of a religious ritual of an established religion or sect or a ritual required by tribal or ethnic customs of indigenous cultural communities. The tribal leader however, is required to record and report thereof to the City Veterinarian.
- b. When the pet animal is afflicted with an incurable communicable disease as determined by a licensed veterinarian.
- c. When the killing is deemed necessary to put an end to the misery suffered by the animal and certified by a duly licensed veterinarian;
- d. When it is done to prevent an imminent danger to the life and limb of a human being;
- e. When done for the purpose of animal population control;
- f. When the companion animal is killed after it has been used in authorized research of experiments; and
- g. Any other ground analogous to the foregoing as determined by a licensed veterinarian.

In all the above cases including those of pigs, goats, sheep, poultry, rabbits, horses, deer, the killing of companion animals shall be done through humane procedures at all times.

For this purpose, humane procedures shall mean the most scientific methods available as maybe determined and approved by the Committees and contained in the Implementing Rules and Regulations.



REPUBLIKA NG PILIPINAS  
LUNGSOD NG ORMOC  
SANGGUNIANG PANLUNGSOD

**SECTION 10. TRANSPORTING OR TRAFFICKING OF DOGS AND CATS FOR SLAUGHTER AND INTRODUCTION OF MEATS FROM NON-FOOD ANIMALS INTO THE MARKET OR HUMAN FOOD CHAIN** - It shall be unlawful

for any persons, association, partnership or cooperation, cooperative or any government agency or instrumentality to trade or engage in the trading of dogs and cats as well as other companion animals not considered or defined as food animal by the National Meat Inspection Service for purposes of slaughter for food except when done as part of a religious ritual of an established religion or sect or a ritual required by tribal or ethnic customs of indigenous cultural communities as provided above and as provided under Section 6 (1) of RA 8485, when such companion animals are used as feast offerings. Eating of the meat of the companion animal offered or used for purposes of religious rituals or celebrations of an indigenous rural community shall however, be limited to those who participated in the said ritual or celebration and shall not in any way be offered for sale. No meat, carcass or parts thereof, or any by-products of animals not considered food animals such as those derived from dogs and cats, either raw or cooked shall be sold or offered for sale as food in any market, restaurant, groceries or any retail stores, clandestinely or openly. Slaughtering of non-food animals such as dogs and cats in the City abattoir or slaughter houses shall in no case be allowed.

Buying or purchasing dogs/cats for purposes of selling the same to the persons/group identified as engaging in the illegal dog/cat trade slaughter of the said animals for food shall likewise be penalized. A person or group of persons shall be considered as engaged in the illegal dog/cat trade when he fails to show necessary permits or authority to engage in the business of the animal transport or facility as defined under RA 8485 and the object of the buying is to sell/slaughter the said animals for food.

**CHAPTER III  
SANITATION**

**SECTION 11. SANITATION** - It shall be unlawful for any person owning or having control or custody of any companion animal like dogs and cats to permit their animals to urinate or defecate upon the public property of this city or private property of another. Cages/Pens shall always be kept clean by its owner, free from feces and urine, so as not to emit foul odor that may affect their environs.

Furthermore, any person walking a dog or cat on public property of this city or upon the private property of another should carry at all times a suitable biodegradable receptacle and instrument for the removal and disposal of feces.

**CHAPTER IV  
OBLIGATIONS OF THE OWNER OF THE FACILITIES**

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REPUBLIKA NG PILIPINAS  
LUNGSOD NG ORMOC  
SANGGUNIANG PANLUNGSOD

**SECTION 12. RESPONSIBILITY OF THE OWNER OF THE FACILITIES-**

The owner/operator of the pet shops, kennels, veterinary clinic, veterinary hospital, stockyard, corral, stud farm, or stock farm or zoo shall ensure that their facility shall continue to be adequate, clean and sanitary and that the same will not be used for, nor cause pain/or suffering to the companion animals. Failure of the said owner/operator of the aforementioned facilities shall be a ground for the City Veterinarian to issue an order directing the said owner/operator of the affected facilities to stop its operation/closure of the business after due process. The City Veterinarian shall likewise recommend the cancellation of the Certificate of Registration issued to the establishment concerned without prejudice to the filing of the necessary action before the proper court or forum for violation of the pertinent provision of this ordinance or the Animal Welfare Act.

**SECTION 13. REQUIREMENT FOR REGISTRATION WITH THE BUREAU OF ANIMAL INDUSTRY** - No natural or juridical person shall establish, maintain and operate any pet shop, kennel, veterinary clinic, veterinary hospital, corral, stud farm or stock farm or zoo, with large population, for the breeding, treatment, sale or trading, or training of animals without first securing from the Bureau of Animal Industry a Certificate of Registration therefore.

**SECTION 14. CERTIFICATE OF REGISTRATION WITH THE BUREAU OF ANIMAL INDUSTRY** - A pre-requisite for the issuance of a Business/Mayor's Permit - No animal facilities mentioned above shall be issued a business/mayor's permit unless a Certificate of Registration with the Bureau of Animal Industry-Animal Welfare Division shall have been obtained and presented. Any cancellation/revocation of such Certificate of Registration during its validity period shall likewise be a ground to revoke/cancel the business permit issued by the City Government.

**SECTION 15. SUPERVISION AND REGULATION** - The Animal Welfare Committee of Ormoc City thru the City Veterinarian or his duly authorized representative shall supervise and regulate the operation and continued operation of the above facilities with the provisions of this ordinance and the animal welfare law in coordination with the Bureau of Animal Industry located within the area of its jurisdiction. The Animal Welfare Committee thru the City Veterinarian shall actively enforce all laws and regulations for the prevention of cruelty to companion animals and promote their welfare. He/She shall have the power to inspect the above cited facilities to ensure that its owners/operators continue to comply with the provisions of the Animal Welfare Act and this ordinance. The Animal Welfare Committee and the City Veterinarian shall make the necessary recommendation to their Local Chief Executives all actions/programs necessary to promote animal welfare as well as the conduct of sustained information and education campaign.

**CHAPTER V  
OBLIGATION AND LIABILITY OF THE OWNER**

**SECTION 16. RESPONSIBILITIES OF PET OWNER** - Every pet owner, custodian or caretaker are enjoined to be responsible and to take care of their companion animals. It shall be the owner's duty to:

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REPUBLIKA NG PILIPINAS  
LUNGSOD NG ORMOC  
SANGGUNIANG PANLUNGSOD

- a. Register/License his pet;
- b. Immunize companion animals regularly against dangerous and communicable animal diseases;
- c. Leash or cage companion animals and not allowing them to go astray;
- d. Provide companion animals with adequate food, water, and shelter;
- e. Monitor and report any abnormal behavior/temper and bite incidence;
- f. Assume full liability whenever his pet has bitten a victim outside of his enclosed premises or whenever he lost control of his pet;
- g. Provide treatment to companion animals upon consultation with Licensed Veterinarians;
- h. Inform the City Veterinarian Office or the Punong Barangay about the death of his/her companion animal;
- i. Participate in any activity to eradicate dangerous and communicable animal diseases and control of stray animals;
- j. Bury dead animal three feet (3 ft.) below the ground; and
- k. Any person walking a dog or cat on public property of this City or upon the private property of another should carry at all times suitable biodegradable receptacle and instrument for the removal and disposal of feces.

**SECTION 17. REGISTRATION-** It shall be unlawful for any person to own, keep or have control of any companion animals, three (3) months old or older, without having obtained a registration for such animal.

1. The requirements for pet registration shall be as follows:

*For the owner:*

- a. Duly accomplished Application Form;
- b. Certificate of Residency from the Barangay;
- c. 2 pcs 2x2 photo;
- d. Registration fee of Fifty Pesos (PHP 50.00);
- e. Additional fee of Three Hundred Pesos (PHP 300.00) for microchipping is required for dogs and cats only; and
- f. For companion animals other than dogs and cats may be microchipped at the option of the owner subject to the same fee.

*For the companion animal:*

- a. Certificate/Proof of Anti-Rabies Vaccination, issued within the same year of registration;
- b. The animal's physical presence/appearance; and
- c. Photograph of the animal.

2. Five (5) days after the submission of the application, a Certificate of Registration shall be issued by the Office for Veterinary Services, stating the following:

- a. Name, Address and Contact Nos. of the owner or the person to whom the registered animal was issued;
- b. Name, Breed, Sex, and Color of the Animal;
- c. Date of Birth of the Animal;
- d. Registration No.

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REPUBLIKA NG PILIPINAS  
LUNGSOD NG ORMOC  
SANGGUNIANG PANLUNGSOD

3. New residents shall have thirty (30) days to register their companion animals.
4. Exceptions to the provisions of this Section are the following:
  - a. Companion animals owned or in the custody of or under the control of persons who are non-residents of the city or temporarily staying in the city for a period not exceeding 30 days;
  - b. Companion animals brought to the city exclusively for the purpose of entering the same in a Pet show or exhibition; and
  - c. Companion animals owned by pet shops and other enterprises maintaining companion animals, which have been granted business licenses by the city.
5. Companion animal shops and other enterprises maintaining companion animals, which have been granted business licenses by the city, are required to register with the City Veterinary Office and periodically submit a list of the companion animals in their custody.
6. When the Barangay passes their own Ordinance for pet registration with the imposition of a registration fee, the City shall no longer accept fees from owners residing in that Barangay which have passed said Ordinance.

**SECTION 18. INSTALLATION OF MICROCHIP** - every registered companion animal must be submitted for one-time microchipping except those that cannot be microchipped, will be their permanent identification that cannot be transferred to other companion animals unless transfer of ownership which requires updating the record through the City Veterinary Office. The microchip is unique for every companion animals and no one will have the same identity/number.

In case of those companion animals that cannot be microchipped, their permanent identification can be done in other means as prescribed by the Animal Welfare Committee.

This will be a legal bond between owner and companion animal, and security and protection of the companion animals. The following information will be encoded in the microchip;

- a. Name, Address, Contact Number, E-mail Address and other vital information pertaining to the registrant companion animal owner;
- b. Name, Breed, Sex, Color, and other vital information pertaining to the registered companion animal;
- c. Date of Anti-Rabies Vaccination/ Expiration;
- d. Vaccine used;
- e. Name and Signature of Veterinarian;

Provided, that a registration fee of Three Hundred Fifty Pesos (PHP 350.00) for each companion animal shall be imposed on the companion animal owner. The registration fee is inclusive of the microchip. The voluntary spay and neuter of the pets will entitle the owner to have the microchip and registration free of charge.



REPUBLIKA NG PILIPINAS  
LUNGSOD NG ORMOC  
SANGGUNIANG PANLUNGSOD

Provided further, that in case of death of the registered companion animal, owners are required to inform the Barangay and/or the City Veterinary Office within five (5) days for proper recording.

Provided furthermore, that in case of transfer, change of ownership of a registered companion animal, owners therefore shall within reasonable time but not exceeding ten (10) days, shall bring the pet to the City Veterinary Office for proper identification and change of registration. Registration fee of Fifty Pesos (PHP 50.00) shall apply in this case.

Only a licensed veterinarian, a certified veterinary technician, OJT veterinary student, or a trained personnel certified by the City Veterinarian under their direct supervision and control, can perform the microchipping.

**SECTION 19. VACCINATION** - All companion animal owners are required to submit their companion animals, three (3) months of age or older for mandatory anti-rabies vaccination annually.

- a. Upon vaccination, a certificate of vaccination duly signed by the City Veterinarian shall be correspondingly issued to the owner/possessor who shall at all times be prepared to present the same to the proper authorities upon demand.
- b. Every owner/possessor who desires their companion animals to be vaccinated, except for anti-rabies vaccination for dogs and cats, shall pay to the City Treasurer the sum of Fifty Pesos (PHP 50.00) per pet as service fee which shall accrue to the General Fund.
- c. All companion animals, the owners/possessors of which have resisted or failed to have their pets vaccinated despite of a written notice/reminder from the Office for Veterinary Services, shall be confiscated or eventually exterminated by the said office as the case maybe after one (1) week period shall have lapsed with the assistance of the PNP.
- d. In the implementation of this ordinance the City Veterinarian may establish vaccination stations in the City Proper and the different barangays. Prior announcements will be made at least one (1) week before vaccination schedules.
- e. MASS VACCINATION. Free mass dog and cat rabies vaccination campaign shall be conducted only in qualified endemic areas where one laboratory-supported positive case in dogs and cats may arise within the year, the same shall be instituted by the City Veterinary Office and other participating agencies.

**SECTION 20. SURRENDER OF SUSPECTED RABIES-INFECTED DOGS OR COMPANION ANIMALS** - Suspected rabies-infected companion animals which have bitten humans or animals shall be surrendered to the City Veterinary Office or his duly authorized representative for confinement and observation within a period of fourteen (14) days at the animal pound until otherwise declared free of rabies infection, also for appropriate laboratory examination and testing and for appropriate disposal. Confinement and observation may be undertaken by the companion animal owner himself upon the written consent of the City Veterinarian or his duly authorized representative and shall report its daily progress to the Office for Veterinary Services. Expenses for laboratory examination shall be borne by the owner.

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REPUBLIKA NG PILIPINAS  
LUNGSOD NG ORMOC  
SANGGUNIANG PANLUNGSOD

**SECTION 21. NOTICE OF TRANSFER AND LOSS** - Owners of registered dogs, cats and other companion animals shall inform the City Veterinary Office or his duly authorized representative, or any of the Barangay Officials, to update the registration record of their companion animals in the event of permanent transfer of residence of the owner, conveyance of the animals to the new owner, loss of the animal, or death. A period of three (3) days from the time of knowledge that the companion animal be considered as lost.

The Barangay Official who receives the information of conveyance of the animals to the new owner, loss of the animal, or death, shall report the same to the City Veterinary Office.

A fee of fifty pesos (PHP 50.00) shall be imposed for updating of the record of the companion animal in case of transfer of ownership or conveyance.

**CHAPTER VI  
IMPOUNDMENT**

**SECTION 22. IMPOUNDMENT** - Any companion animal engaging in an activity or existing in a condition, as prohibited by the provisions of this Ordinance shall be taken up and impounded by the City Veterinary Office.

Any person may take up and deliver or cause to be taken up or delivered to the City Veterinary Office any companion animal "at large" within the city on public property or upon said person's private property.

Provided that any person taking up any companion animal under the provision of this Section shall immediately thereafter give notice thereof to the City Veterinary Office and the City Veterinarian shall thereupon hold and dispose of said animal in the same manner as though said animal had been found astray and impounded.

**SECTION 23. IMPOUNDMENT FEE** - There shall be an impoundment fee of Five Hundred Pesos (PHP 500.00) for every companion animal that is impounded for whatever reason.

**SECTION 24. PERIOD OF IMPOUNDMENT**- All companion animals shall be kept by the City Veterinary Office at the pet pound located at Barangay Cagbuhangin, Ormoc City for a period of not less than three (3) days, unless redeemed within such period. Calculation of the 3-day impoundment period shall commence from the date of apprehension/surrender and shall include Saturdays, Sundays and Holidays.

**Section 25. Notice of Impoundment**- The City Veterinary Office shall give notice to the owner of the companion animal of the impoundment, if such information is available on record. Otherwise, the City Veterinary Office shall cause the advertisement of the impoundment in a conspicuous area within the perimeter where the companion animal was found. Expenses or costs for the advertisement shall be charged to the owner.

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REPUBLIKA NG PILIPINAS  
LUNGSOD NG ORMOC  
SANGGUNIANG PANLUNGSOD

**POUND NOTICE**

Impounded at the Office for Veterinary Services, the following described animal/s:

which, unless redeemed before the date herein indicated shall be given up for adoption in case of dogs and cats, or by auction by the city government in case of livestock, or for extermination, for circumstances that may warrant under the law, all to be taken up by the City Veterinary Office located at Brgy. Alegria, Ormoc City at (time) on (date).

**SECTION 26. REDEMPTION-** The owner or adopter may claim/redeem/adopt the impounded companion animal beyond the 3 days period provided he/she shall pay an additional impoundment fee of Sixty-five Pesos (PHP 65.00) per day but not more than one month on top of the Five Hundred Pesos (PHP 500.00) to cover the maintenance expenses, and pay all accrued fees, corresponding charges, and other relevant expenses in cases of compulsory registration of unregistered companion animals.

In case of redemption by owner and the companion animal is unregistered, the owner shall present a proof of ownership.

**SECTION 27. DISPOSITION** - Any companion animal held in custody which is not claimed by its owner within three (3) days after notice shall be deemed to be abandoned and may be disposed of by the City Veterinary Office through adoption, provided however that if said animal is dangerous to retain or is suffering excessively, it may be forthwith humanely destroyed.

- a. A wildlife animal which has been taken up shall be deemed not to be impounded. Such animal should not be retained for any minimum period of time, but shall be surrendered immediately to Wildlife Rescue Center of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), unless said animal is dangerous or suffering excessively, in which case it may be forthwith humanely destroyed.
- b. For a justifiable reason, an animal may be voluntarily surrendered by owner, which shall be deemed abandoned and need not be impounded and kept by the Office for Veterinary Services for any minimum period of time. It may be destroyed or otherwise given up for adoption by the City Veterinary Office for a prescribed fee under Section 24 & 27 hereof.
- c. However, any person who voluntarily surrenders a companion animal without justifiable reason shall be liable under Section 37 of this ordinance.

**CHAPTER VII  
QUARANTINE DIRECTIVES**

**SECTION 28. QUARANTINE DIRECTIVES** - Any companion animal falling into one or more of the following categories shall be isolated or quarantined at the place and under the conditions prescribed by the City Veterinary Office and pertinent national laws and regulations.

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REPUBLIKA NG PILIPINAS  
LUNGSOD NG ORMOC  
SANGGUNIANG PANLUNGSOD

- a. Known rabid animals;
- b. Suspected rabid animals;
- c. Companion animals which have bitten or otherwise exposed a human being to rabies or suspected rabies;
- d. Companion animals which have been bitten by a known or suspected rabid animal or have been in direct contact with the same;
- e. Companion animals suspected of or proven to be harboring infectious diseases that may cause a widespread infection to the locality.

Provided, in the event that any companion animal consecutively causes or is reported and recorded to have caused severe injury to a person or another animal several times within a year, or is regarded as "vicious and dangerous" as defined in this Ordinance, the City Veterinarian may recommend that such companion animal be declared as a menace to public health and safety and shall so inform the City Health Office, who in turn shall file the appropriate charges in court before the City Prosecutor. If the court finds the companion animal to be a menace to public health and safety, the City Veterinary Office upon the order of the court, shall impound, hold and humanely destroy the animal unless the owner show the court good cause why the companion animal should not be destroyed.

**CHAPTER VIII**

**CREATION OF THE ANIMAL WELFARE ENFORCEMENT COMMITTEE**

**SECTION 29. CREATION OF ANIMAL WELFARE ENFORCEMENT COMMITTEE** - There is hereby created an Animal Welfare Enforcement Committee, which shall be composed of the following:

- Chairperson: SP Chairperson, Committee on Health, Nutrition and Sanitation
- Vice Chairperson: SP Chairperson, Committee on Agriculture, Fisheries and Agrarian Reform
- Members:
  - City Veterinary Officer
  - City Health Officer
  - Head of City Agriculture Department
  - Bureau of Animal Industry (BAI)
  - Community Environment and Natural Resources Officer
  - Accredited Civil Society Organization with an advocacy of Animal Welfare
  - President of Liga ng mga Barangay
  - Regional Animal Welfare Officer (DA RFO 8)
  - Designated PNP Ormoc City Animal Welfare Enforcement Officer

**SECTION 30. POWERS AND FUNCTIONS OF THE COMMITTEE**- The Committee shall have the following powers and functions:

- a. Draft the implementing rules and regulations of this ordinance within 3 months from the constitution of the committee and immediately submit the same to the mayor for approval.
- b. Provide a guideline for an animal welfare community development program of every barangay in Ormoc City.



REPUBLIKA NG PILIPINAS  
LUNGSOD NG ORMOC  
SANGGUNIANG PANLUNGSOD

- c. Monitor and document compliance of this Ordinance.
- d. Propose programs and activities to the City Mayor such as pet registration, immunization, microchipping, and education campaign in the city down to the barangay level, spay and neuter and guidelines subject to the approval of the City Mayor.
- e. Propose a program for a widespread dissemination of information regarding responsible pet ownership and the rabies control and prevention.
- f. Act as coordinating body of the designated Barangay Animal Welfare Officer.
- g. Prescribe any other means of permanent identification of companion animals that cannot be microchipped as determined by the City Veterinarian.

**CHAPTER IX**  
**RESPONSIBILITY OF THE BARANGAY - LGU**

**SECTION 31. RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE BARANGAY-** Every Barangay shall perform the following functions and responsibilities:

- a. Conduct registration of every pet/companion animal in the barangay and submit a copy of the record to the City Veterinary Office quarterly;
- b. Assess owners' capability to own a pet during registration;
- c. Pass resolutions/ordinances about pet registration that covers the imposition of fees and fines;
- d. May establish their own pet park/pound/ Temporary Holding Facility. In case the barangay has no allocated space/area for a pet pound, the barangay may join with the adjacent barangay for a joint pet pound/park.
- e. Pass a resolution/guidelines relating to the capacity and qualification of a pet owner.

**SECTION 32. DESIGNATION OF AN ANIMAL WELFARE OFFICER -** All Barangay Chairman of the Committee on Agriculture is hereby designated as Barangay Animal Welfare Officer.

**SECTION 33. POWERS AND FUNCTIONS OF THE BARANGAY ANIMAL WELFARE OFFICER -** The Animal Welfare Officer shall have the following powers and functions:

- a. Must strictly implement the provisions of this Ordinance in their respective Barangay and should coordinate with the Ormoc City Animal Welfare Enforcement Committee for any technical assistance;
- b. Ensure that all companion animals in their Barangay are properly immunized, microchipped, or any other means of permanent identification, and registered;
- c. Make a monthly report on the registered and unregistered companion animals in their respective barangays and submit to the Ormoc City Animal Welfare Enforcement Committee and copy furnished the Office of the City Veterinarian;

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REPUBLIKA NG PILIPINAS  
LUNGSOD NG ORMOC  
SANGGUNIANG PANLUNGSOD

- d. Ensure that all companion animals are leashed or confined within the vicinity of the owner's property;
- e. To coordinate with the Ormoc City Animal Welfare Enforcement Committee and the Office of the City Veterinarian in the strict implementation of a dog/cat catching, impounding and field control to eliminate stray dogs/cats; and
- f. To coordinate with the Animal Welfare Enforcement Officer of the Philippine National Police (PNP) when there is seize and rescue activity and arrest of violators.

**SECTION 34. ESTABLISHMENT OF BARANGAY PET PARK**- All Barangays in Ormoc City may establish an area designated as Pet Park/Temporary Holding Facility that will allow companion animal owners to leisurely walk their companion animals. The said park/pound/Temporary Holding Facility may be also used as a place where the Barangay can set up a clinic for spay and neuter and can be used as a pet pound or a lodging facility with prescribed fees depending on the Barangay Ordinance that maybe passed thereof.

**CHAPTER X  
PET CEMETERY**

**SECTION 35. PET CEMETERY** - There shall be allocated a portion of the New Public Cemetery in Brgy. Valencia and Brgy. Can-adieng and a portion of the Pet Pound area in Brgy. Cagbuhangin, to be used as Companion Animal Cemetery.

Provided that the allocated portion in the Pet Pound in Brgy. Cagbuhangin shall be free of charge for captured companion animals who die of sickness, or due to euthanasia and unclaimed road kill. However, the area, operation, the rental fee, and management of the allocated portion in the New Public Cemetery of Brgy. Valencia and of Brgy. Can-adieng shall be subject to another ordinance for that purpose.

**CHAPTER XI  
PENAL PROVISIONS**

**SECTION 36. PENALTY**- The City Government of Ormoc hereby imposes a penalty on owners of companion animals that caused injury or damage to other persons or property.

- 1. In case of damage to property, the indemnity shall be paid by the owner/possessor of animals based on the extent of the actual damage caused on the said property in accordance with the assessment of the concerned agency;
- 2. In cases of injury sustained by certain individuals, the following shall govern:
  - a. In cases where the ownership of the companion animals has been duly established, the injured victim shall immediately be entitled to receive financial compensation from owner/possessor of animals for their medication.

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REPUBLIKA NG PILIPINAS  
LUNGSOD NG ORMOC  
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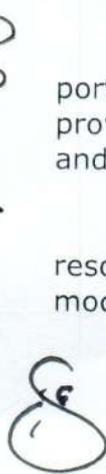
- b. When the injury sustained by the victim require medical attendance or confinement for a certain number of days, the owner of the companion animal shall also be required to pay for the loss of income of the victim during the period when he/she cannot work;
- c. The injured victim must submit a medical certificate from any licensed physician in support of their claim and/or pay slip or certification from the employer in case of payment of income loss.
- 3. If the owner of the companion animal willfully refuse, without justifiable cause, to pay the expenses necessary for the medication of the victim or pay for the damage caused to personal property, the City Veterinary Office or the victim himself shall institute appropriate charges in court to enforce his claim.
- 4. Filing and/or payment of claims, pursuant to this measure, is without prejudice or shall not constitute a bar in filing similar claims under existing laws.
- 5. Any person found violating Sections 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11,12,13,14,15,17,18,19,20,21 and 22 of this Ordinance shall be penalized as follows:
  - 1st Offense - Fine of PHP 1,000.00 or imprisonment of one (1) month or both at the discretion of the court.
  - 2nd Offense - Fine of PHP 2,000.00 or imprisonment of two (2) months or both at the discretion of the court.
  - 3rd Offense and succeeding offenses - Fine of PHP 3,000.00 or imprisonment of three (3) months or both at the discretion of the court.
- 6. The penal provisions of Ordinance No. 57, series of 1996, also known as the "Anti-Rabies Ordinance" and Ordinance No. 34, series of 2017, also known as "An Ordinance Amending Certain Provisions of Ordinance No. 57 Series Of 1996," shall prevail in cases of pet dogs. However, for other companion animals, this Ordinance shall prevail.

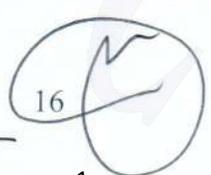
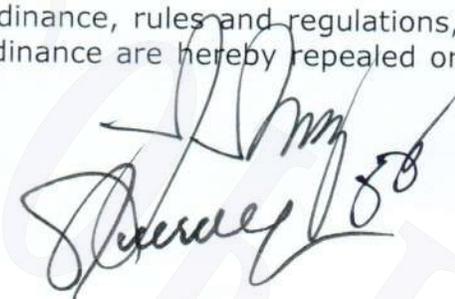
**CHAPTER XII**  
**FINAL PROVISIONS**

**SECTION 37. APPROPRIATION.** The funds required for the implementation of this Ordinance and the programs promulgated by the Animal Welfare Enforcement Committee shall be taken from the general fund and every year thereafter to the budget allocated to the City Veterinary Office.

**SECTION 38. SEPARABILITY CLAUSE.** If for any reason, any provision, portion or part of this Ordinance is found to be inconsistent with any law, other provisions or part or parts thereof not so affected thereby shall remain in full force and effect.

**SECTION 39. REPEALING CLAUSE.** Any ordinance, rules and regulations, resolutions or part thereof inconsistent with this Ordinance are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.







REPUBLIKA NG PILIPINAS  
LUNGSOD NG ORMOC  
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**SECTION 40. EFFECTIVITY.** This Ordinance shall take effect immediately following compliance with the posting requirements of the Local Government Code of 1991.

ENACTED, October 10, 2023.

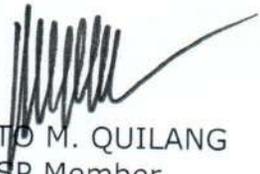
RESOLVED FURTHER, to furnish copies of this Ordinance each to the City Mayor Lucy Torres Gomez; the City Administrator, Mr. Vincent L. Emnas; the City Legal Officer, Atty. Josephine Mejia-Romero; the City Budget Officer; the City Accountant; the City Treasurer; the City Veterinary Office; the President, Liga ng mga Barangay; the City Local Government Operations Officer-DILG; and other offices concerned, all in Ormoc City.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

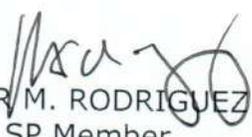
WE HEREBY CERTIFY to the correctness of the above ordinance.

  
NANCY I. LOPENA  
(OIC -/SP Secretary)  
Local Legislative Officer V

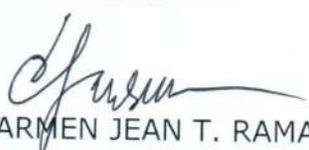
  
ROILAND H. VILLASEÑICO  
SP Member

  
NOLITO M. QUILANG  
SP Member  
Majority Floor Leader

  
REY F. EVANGELISTA  
SP Member

  
PETER M. RODRIGUEZ  
SP Member

  
JASRER M. LUCERO  
SP Member  
1<sup>st</sup> Asst. Majority Floor Leader

  
MARIA CARMEN JEAN T. RAMA  
SP Member

  
EDMUND B. KIERULF  
SP Member

  
BURT J. PADES  
SP Member  
2<sup>nd</sup> Asst. Majority Floor Leader



REPUBLIKA NG PILIPINAS  
LUNGSOD NG ORMOC  
SANGGUNIANG PANLUNGSOD

LALAINA A. MARCOS  
SP Member  
(On Leave)

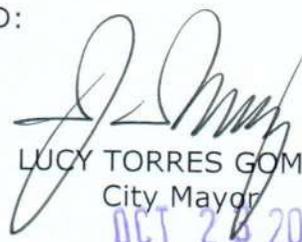
  
ESTEBAN V. LAURENTE  
Ex-Officio SP Member  
Chapter President  
Liga ng mga Barangay ng Ormoc

  
JOAN MARBIE C. SIMBAJON  
Ex-Officio SP Member  
Chapter President  
Panlungsod na Pederasyon  
ng mga Sangguniang  
Kabataan ng Ormoc

ATTESTED:

  
GREGORIO G. TRASTORZA III  
SP Member  
Presiding Officer "Pro-Tempore"

APPROVED:

  
LUCY TORRES GOMEZ  
City Mayor  
OCT 28 2023

(Date)