



Office of the Sangguniang Panlungsod

**CITY RESOLUTION NO. 2023-273
Series of 2023**

DISTRICT I
HON. CATHERINE SARINO-EVARISTO
City Councilor

HON. MICHAEL E. SOLIS
City Councilor

HON. ADRIELITO G. GAWARAN
City Councilor

HON. VICTORIO L. GUERRERO, JR.
City Councilor

HON. ALEJANDRO F. GUTIERREZ
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HON. SIMPLICIO G. DOMINGUEZ
City Councilor

HON. RAMON N. BAUTISTA
Liga ng mga Barangay President

HON. MAC RAVEN ESPIRITU
SK Federation President

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

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

Approved by:
HON. STRIKE B. REVILLA
City Mayor

RESOLUTION TEMPORARILY SUSPENDING THE ISSUANCE OR RENEWAL OF ANY PERMIT FOR THE OPERATION OF BUSINESS ESTABLISHMENTS ENGAGED IN E-GAMES, E-BINGO, AND OTHERS FORMS OF ONLINE OR ELECTRONIC GAMBLING WHILE THE CITY GOVERNMENT STUDIES THE SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC COST OF SUCH ENTERPRISES AND HOW TO PREVENT FUTURE VIOLATIONS OF VARIOUS LAWS AND ORDINANCES BY OPERATORS THEREOF.

Sponsored by:

Hon. Michael E. Solis

Co-Sponsored by:

Hon. Roberto L. Advincula, Hon. Ramon N. Bautista, Hon. Simplicio G. Dominguez, Hon. Mac Raven Espiritu, Hon. Catherine Sarino-Evaristo, Hon. Reynaldo M. Fabian, Hon. Adrielito G. Gawaran, Hon. Victorio L. Guerrero, Jr., Hon. Alejandro F. Gutierrez, Hon. Rogelio M. Nolasco, Hon. Alde Joselito F. Pagulayan, Hon. Reynaldo D. Palabrica, and Hon. Levy M. Tela.

WHEREAS, Section 11 (v) of Republic Act No. 10160 (the "Charter of the City of Bacoor") empowered the Sangguniang Panlungsod to enact ordinances intended to prevent, suppress, and impose appropriate penalties for habitual drunkenness in public places, vagrancy, mendicancy, prostitution, the establishment and maintenance of houses of ill-repute, gambling and other prohibited games of chance, fraudulent devices and ways to obtain money or property, drug addiction, maintenance of drug dens, drug pushing, juvenile delinquency, the printing, distribution or exhibition of obscene or pornographic materials or publications and such other activities inimical to the welfare and morals of the inhabitants of the City of Bacoor.

WHEREAS, on 24 May 2023, the City Mayor, Hon. Strike B. Revilla, wrote the Sangguniang Panlungsod and requested for the approval of an ordinance revoking all letters of no objection (LONO) issued by past city administrations in favor of operators of e-bingo, e-games, and similar betting platforms which have been found to have violated relevant laws and city ordinances, imposing stricter regulatory requirements for the conduct of such types of businesses in the City of Bacoor, and providing penalties for any violation of the proposed ordinance (i.e., Proposed City Ordinance No. 2033-088 or "PCO 2023-088") if it is approved by the Sanggunian.

WHEREAS, pursuant to the Internal Rules of Procedure of the Sanggunian, PCO 2023-088 was referred to the Committee on Games and Amusement.

WHEREAS, while PCO 2023-088 is being studied, the Sangguniang Panlungsod believes that the City Government should temporarily suspend the issuance of new permits, or the renewal of



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City Mayor

expired permits, in favor of business establishments engaged in e-games, e-bingos, and other forms of online or electronic gambling while the social and economic cost of such enterprises are being studied by the City Government together with the means by which any future violation of existing laws and ordinances by operators of such businesses can be prevented.

WHEREAS, the proliferation of gambling and other games of chance using the internet and other electronic formats have caught local governments such as the City of Bacoor by surprise because of the novel and complex nature of the said business models that have no precedence in the history of the country. Lamentably, while the City Government is studying how to regulate such businesses while protecting the morals of the public, unverified reports have been received by the Office of the City Mayor alleging that poverty-stricken beneficiaries of the Pantawid Pamilya Pilipino Program (or more popularly known as "4Ps") are betting the meager cash benefits they are receiving from the said program on e-bingo, e-games, and other forms of electronic games of chance.

WHEREAS, the Sangguniang Panlungsod is aware that people addicted to gambling exacts a heavy toll not only on members of their immediate family but to society as well. This conclusion is supported by the following studies: "*The Hidden Social Costs' of Gambling*" (Grinols 2011); "*Social Costs Of Gambling: A Comparative Study Of Nutmeg And Cheese State Gamblers*" (Thompson, Gazel, Rickman 2000); and "*The societal costs of problem gambling in Sweden*" (Hofmarcher, Romild, Spangberg, Persson, and Hajansson 2020). Due to the scarcity of studies conducted locally on the said topic, the SP Secretariat had no choice but to rely on studies on the same subject conducted abroad — which by itself is testament to the unique challenges being faced by the city council with regard the issue of online gambling and its social and economic costs.

WHEREAS, as indicated in the empirical studies aforesated, problem gambling is associated with substantial societal costs. According to Earl Grinols' "*The Hidden Social Costs' of Gambling*" (2011), the impact on society of one additional pathological gambler is about \$9,393 per year, and a comparative study on gamblers in Wisconsin and Connecticut, USA demonstrated that problem gamblers imposed annual costs of \$8,681 and \$15,994 respectively on other persons (Thompson, Gazel, Rickman 2000). Furthermore, a recent study in Sweden quantified the societal costs of problem gambling to be 1.42 billion euros in 2018, accounting for 0.30% of the country's gross domestic product (Hofmarcher, Romild, Spangberg, Persson, and Hajansson 2020).

WHEREAS, the intent of this resolution is not to enact a ban on e-games, e-bingo, and other forms of online or electronic gambling, but rather to temporarily suspend the issuance of new permits and the renewal of expired permits for business establishments engaged in these activities, thereby giving time for the City Government to evaluate their societal and economic impact, and to formulate appropriate regulatory measures to prevent future violations of relevant laws and ordinances by operators of various forms of online and electronic gambling.

WHEREAS, the Sangguniang Panlungsod recognizes the necessity of balancing the potential economic benefits of these businesses, including job creation and revenue generation, against the



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Approved by:

HON. STRIKE B. REVILLA
City Mayor

potential societal costs thereof, including the risk of problem gambling, the potential misuse of public assistance funds, and the potential for these businesses to be used for illegal activities.

NOW THEREFORE, upon motion of Hon. Michael E. Solis unanimously seconded by the rest of the Body, **BE IT RESOLVED AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED** by the 5th Sangguniang Panlungsod of the City of Bacoor, Cavite to temporarily suspend the issuance of new permits, or the renewal of any expired permit, for the operation of businesses engaged in e-games, e-bingo, and other forms of online or electronic gambling until 31 December 2023 while the City Government of Bacoor, Cavite conducts a study on the social and economic cost of such enterprises.

RESOLVED FURTHER, this resolution shall only suspend the issuance or renewal of the said permits only within the period above mentioned and does not permanently prohibit the operation of businesses engaged in e-games, e-bingo, and other forms of online or electronic gambling.

RESOLVED MOREOVER, during the period of suspension, the City Government is committed to carrying out a comprehensive review of the potential harms and benefits of these businesses, and to engaging with stakeholders, including operators, patrons, social service providers, and the broader community, in order to ensure that any future regulatory measures are fair, balanced, and in the best interests of all parties.

RESOLVED LASTLY, to furnish the Office of the City Mayor, the Business Permits and Licensing Office (BPLO), all other departments and units under the Office of the City Mayor, and the University of the Philippines-Office of the National Administrative Register (UP-ONAR) with copies of this Resolution.

UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED by the 5th Sangguniang Panlungsod of the City of Bacoor, Cavite on 29 May 2023 at Bacoor City, Cavite.

I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was duly approved by the 5th Sangguniang Panlungsod of the City of Bacoor, Cavite in accordance with law.

Certified by:

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

Attested by:


ATTY. KHALID A. ATEGA JR.
Sangguniang Panlungsod Secretary

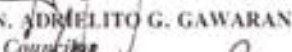



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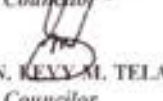

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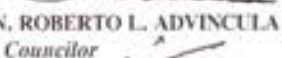

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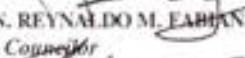

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