

Republika ng Pilipinas
Lungsod ng Dagupan
TANGGAPAN NG SANGGUNIANG PANLUNGSOD

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EXCERPT FROM THE MINUTES OF THE 79th REGULAR SESSION OF THE 11th SANGGUNIANG PANLUNGSOD, DAGUPAN CITY, HELD AT THE SP SESSION HALL ON JUNE 3, 2025.

PRESENT:

Hon. Alipio Serafin D. Fernandez
Hon. Maria Librada Fe M. Reyna
Hon. Alvin T. Coquia
Hon. Redford Christian P. Erfe-Mejia

Hon. Celia C. Lim
Hon. Marilou Maria Lourdes S. Fernandez, DMD
Hon. Victoria Czarinna C. Lim-Acosta

Presiding Officer Pro Tempore, Member
Majority Floor Leader, Member
First Deputy Majority Floor Leader, Member
Second Deputy Majority Floor Leader,
Member
City Councilor, Member
City Councilor, Member
City Councilor, Member

ABSENT:

Hon. Dean Bryan L. Kua
Hon. Michael B. Fernandez
Hon. Jeslito C. Seen

Hon. Dennis C. Canto
Hon. Marcelino D. Fernandez

Hon. Bradley Claude C. Benavides

City Vice Mayor & Presiding Officer (O.B.)
Minority Floor Leader, Member (O.B.)
Deputy Minority Floor Leader, Member
(O.B.)
City Councilor, Member (O.B.)
Liga ng mga Barangay President, Ex-Officio
Member (O.B.)
Pederasyon ng mga Sangguniang Kabataan
President, Ex-Officio Member (O.B.)

ORDINANCE NO. 2323-2025

PROVIDING MONTHLY ALLOWANCE IN THE AMOUNT OF ONE THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED PESOS (Php1,500.00) TO ALL CLERKS OF COURT ASSIGNED OR STATIONED IN THE CITY OF DAGUPAN, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

WHEREAS, Section 458 (1)(xii) of the Local Government Code of 1991 provides that

“(xii) when the finances of the city government allow, provide for additional allowances and other benefits to judges, prosecutors xxx and xxx stationed or assigned to the city”;

WHEREAS, the Clerks of Courts play an indispensable role in the administration of justice, preservation of the rule of law and the maintenance of peace and order in the City of Dagupan;

WHEREAS, due to the unceasing number of cases they are handling and the rising cost of living brought about by inflation, there is also an imperative necessity to provide them a monthly allowance in the amount of One Thousand Five Hundred Pesos (Php1,500.00) in recognition of their risks they are enduring as administrators of law and efforts in safekeeping of the effectiveness and enthusiasm they dispense in the performance of their judicial functions;

NOW, THEREFORE, on motion of Councilor Redford Christian P. Erfe-Mejia, duly and jointly seconded by Councilors Maria Librada Fe M. Reyna, Celia C. Lim, Victoria Czarinna C. Lim-Acosta, Marilou Maria Lourdes S. Fernandez, and Alvin T. Coquia, be it ordained by the Sangguniang Panlungsod in regular session assembled that:

Section 1. **TITLE.** This ORDINANCE shall be known as CLERKS OF COURTS ORDINANCE ASSIGNED OR STATIONED IN VARIOUS COURTS IN JUSTICE HALL BUILDING IN THE CITY OF DAGUPAN.

Section 2. **STATEMENT OF POLICY.** It is the policy of the city government to provide allowances, incentives and bonus not only to judges assigned or stationed in the trial courts in the city but also to give due credence to clerks of courts whose primary duties include managing court records, ensuring compliance with legal procedures as well as assisting in court proceedings.

Section 3. **GRANTING OF MONTHLY ALLOWANCE TO CLERKS OF COURTS ASSIGNED OR STATIONED IN TRIAL COURTS IN THE CITY OF DAGUPAN.** There is hereby provided the monthly allowance to clerks of courts assigned or stationed in the City of Dagupan in the amount of One Thousand Five Hundred Pesos (Php1,500.00), nine (9) Clerks of Court assigned in Regional Trial Courts and four (4) in the Municipal Trial Court.

Section 4. **IMPLEMENTING OFFICE.** The City Treasurer's Office shall be in charge in the processing and releasing of said monthly allowance provided to these Clerk of Courts.

Section 5. **FUNDING REQUIREMENT.** The amount necessary for the initial implementation of this Ordinance shall be chargeable against the current year's appropriations for said purpose. Thereafter, the amount necessary for the continued operation of the program shall be included in the succeeding Annual Budget of the city.

Section 6. **SEPARABILITY CLAUSE.** If for any reason or reasons, any part of or provision of this Ordinance shall be declared unconstitutional or invalid, other parts or provisions thereof shall not be affected thereby shall continue to be in full force and effect.

Section 7. **REPEALING CLAUSE.** Any existing resolution or ordinance which are in conflict with the provisions of this Ordinance are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

Section 8. **EFFECTIVITY CLAUSE.** This Ordinance shall take effect after its approval.

ENACTED UNANIMOUSLY.

Author:

COUNCILOR REDFORD CHRISTIAN P. ERFE-MEJIA

Co. Authors:

COUNCILOR MARIA LEONADA FE M. REYNA

COUNCILOR ALVIN T. COQUIA

COUNCILOR ALIPIO SERAFIN D. FERNANDEZ

COUNCILOR MARILOU MARIA LOURDES S. FERNANDEZ

COUNCILOR CELIA C. LIM

COUNCILOR VICTORIA CARMINA C. LIM-ACOSTA

ALIPIO SERAFIN D. FERNANDEZ
Presiding Officer Pro Tempore

ATTESTED:

RYAN C. RAVANZO
City Secretary

APPROVED:

BELEN T. FERNANDEZ
City Mayor

Date: _____



REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
OFFICE OF THE CITY MAYOR
DAGUPAN CITY

July 2, 2025

Hon. Dean Bryan L. Kua
Presiding Officer
Sangguniang Panlungsod of Dagupan City
and all Honorable Members of the
Sangguniang Panlungsod of Dagupan
Dagupan City

Received by: *[Signature]*
7/3/25
Sangguniang Panlungsod
Dagupan City, Pangasinan

Dear Vice Mayor Kua and Members of the Sangguniang Panlungsod:

Greetings of public service!

I am respectfully returning without my signature SP Ordinance No. 2323-2025, entitled: "An Ordinance Providing Monthly Allowance in the Amount of One Thousand Five Hundred Pesos (P1,500.00) to All Clerks of Court Assigned or Stationed in the City of Dagupan, Appropriating Funds Therefor and for Other Purposes," pursuant to my power of veto under Section 55 of the Local Government Code (R.A. No. 7160).

While the intent to support clerks of court is acknowledged and appreciated, I am constrained to veto the said ordinance due to the following reasons:

1. **Lack of Clear Fiscal Justification and Coverage** The ordinance fails to indicate the number of intended beneficiaries and does not provide a detailed fiscal impact analysis. This omission hampers the City's ability to assess the total financial burden such a recurring appropriation would entail, making it difficult to determine the sustainability of the measure in light of our current and projected budgetary standing.
2. **Non-Alignment with Local Government Priorities and Mandates** While we recognize the importance of clerks of court, they are employees of the Judiciary under the national government. The granting of monthly allowances from local government funds, absent a formal agreement or legal mandate, may set a precedent that could strain local resources and raise questions on the proper scope of LGU support to national agencies.

3. Risk of Inequity and Lack of Broader Policy Framework The ordinance proposes a specific benefit to a particular group of national employees without reference to a broader and uniform policy applicable to similarly situated national personnel stationed in Dagupan. This selective allocation may be viewed as inequitable and not grounded on a clear, consistent policy framework.


In view of the above considerations, I am returning the said ordinance without my signature and hereby exercise my veto.

I trust in the continued prudence and sound judgment of the Honorable Members of the Sangguniang Panlungsod in safeguarding the fiscal integrity and legal propriety of our local legislation.

Rest assured, this proposal is being studied and evaluated for the upcoming preparation of our budget for 2026.

Thank you for your kind understanding.

Very truly yours,


HON. BELEN T. FERNANDEZ
City Mayor Dagupan City