



Republic of the Philippines
City of Bago
OFFICE OF THE SANGGUNIANG PANLUNGSOD

ORDINANCE NO. 21-24

AN ORDINANCE REQUIRING LEISURE PARKS, CAMP SITE, RESORT WITH POOL, BEACH AND RIVER RESORT OWNERS AND OTHER SIMILAR BUSINESSES TO PROVIDE DULY CERTIFIED LIFE GUARD AND FIRST AID EQUIPMENT IN THEIR OPERATION.

Explanatory Note:

WHEREAS, the LGU has the power to promote the general welfare of its constituents.

WHEREAS, drowning incidents as per UNICEF data is the leading cause of death among children 14 years old and below.

WHEREAS, the rapid development and local tourist destinations in our City has increased specifically resorts with water activities, camp sites and similar businesses.

WHEREAS, with the influx of local and foreign tourists due to the easing of the applicable alert level system concerned business owners owes these tourists not only full enjoyment and relaxation but most importantly, their health and safety concerns.

WHEREAS, on September 7, 2020, the Department of Tourism (DOT) issued Memorandum Circular No. 2020-007 or the Health and Safety Guidelines Governing the Operation of Island and Beach Destinations under the New Normal which provides for the health and safety protocol for all beach and recreational resorts all over the country under the new normal;

WHEREAS, pursuant to the foregoing mandate of the DOT and in order to have a quick emergency response during untoward incidents/accidents in the above-mentioned places there is a need to institutionalize specific measure through the enactment of this Ordinance.

NOW THEREFORE, on motion of SP Member Jozsef Mark Dexter M. Somcio, unanimously seconded by SP Members present, be it ordained by the Sangguniang Panlungsod of Bago City in session, that:

SECTION 1. Short Title. – This ordinance shall be known as, “**Bago City Life Guard Ordinance**”.

SECTION 2. Definition of Terms. – Terms used in this ordinance are defined as follows:

- a. **Beach** – refers to an extensive area or shingle slopping to a sea especially the area between the high and low water marks on a seacoast.
- b. **Buoy/Flag Markers** – refers to a floating object or flag that is anchored to warn of danger or to mark a location.
- c. **Camp Site** – refers to areas where tents can be set up or other sleeping and camping equipment can be installed or other related activities may be undertaken.
- d. **Craft** – refers to water equipment (under this ordinance) that may be used for water rescue.
- e. **Certified Life Guard** – refers to a duly trained emergency responder certified by the City Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Office of Bago City.

- f. **First Aid Equipment** – includes all must have tools or medical needs that are to be needed during rescue or trauma and medical responses.
- g. **Leisure Parks** – refers to open spaces with different amenities that can be utilized by the general public etc. water park, including the Bantayan Park.
- h. **Pool/Swimming Pool** – refers to any structure, basin, chamber, tank or any receptacle which is capable of containing an artificial body of water for swimming, diving, and/or bathing.
- i. **Resort** – refers to a place frequented by people for relaxation/recreation, attracting visitors for vacations and/or tourism.
- j. **Children/Minor** – below 18 years old.

SECTION 3. Scope of Application. – This ordinance shall be applicable on the following:

- a. Resorts with water activities etc. pool, beach, river, water parks, leisure parks, camp site and all other similar business that accommodates people for bathing and other recreational activities.

SECTION 4. Requirements. – As a prerequisite for the issuance of business permits, resort owners are required to provide the following upon inspection:

- a. First Aid Equipment and infrastructure (depending on the services offered by the resort/to be identified by the CDDRMO Bago City);
- b. Safety Signage's;
- c. Certification of employment of the certified life guard of the said resort with his/her certificate of competency issued by the CDRRMO.

SECTION 5. Functions of concerned agencies. – The following agencies of the City shall function as follows:

- a. **CDRRMO** – For the Life Guard, it shall be the final issuing office of the certificate of competency to the applicant regardless of the training he/she has undergone with other agencies.
- b. **Joint Inspection Team** – (with a member from CDRRMO), shall issue a Certificate of Compliance as to the aforementioned requirements.

SECTION 6. Punishable Acts. – The following acts committed by owners or operators of resorts with water activities etc. pool, beach, river, water parks, leisure parks, camp site and all other similar business that accommodates people for bathing and other recreational activities shall be prohibited and punished under this Ordinance:

- a. Opening and/or operating without a duly certified life guard.
- b. Absence of required first aid equipment, tools, safety signage's, infrastructure and other emergency medical needs;
- c. Allowing children to swim or do other recreational activities without adult companion;
- d. Night swimming beyond 10:00 o'clock without the presence of a Life Guard.

SECTION 7. Fines/Penalty. – Violation of Section 6 of this Ordinance shall be penalized as follows:

1. 1st Offense – A fine of One Thousand (P1,000.00) Pesos;

2. 2nd Offense – A fine of Three Thousand (P3,000.00) Pesos;

3. 3rd Offense and subsequent violations – A fine of Five Thousand (P5,000.00) Pesos and cancellation of business permit/Closure of Business and recommendation for the revocation of their accreditation issued by the Department of Tourism.

SECTION 8. Separability Clause. – If any provision of this Ordinance is held invalid, provisions which are not affected shall remain in force and effect.

SECTION 9. Effectivity Clause. – This Ordinance shall take effect after fifteen (15) days after publication in the newspaper of local circulation.

Enacted: December 22, 2021

I hereby certify to the correctness of the foregoing Ordinance which was duly enacted by the Sangguniang Panlungsod during its Regular Session held on December 22, 2021.

ATTY. ALLAN C. GALUNAN
Secretary to the Sangguniang Panlungsod

ATTESTED:

ANDREW MARTIN Y. TORRES
SP Member-Acting Presiding Officer

Approved _____ 2021.

NICHOLAS M. YULO
City Mayor