

HON. GABRIEL H. BORDADO, JR.
City Vice Mayor & Presiding Officer

- City Councilors -

HON. CECILIA VELUZ-DE ASIS	HON. JOSE A. TUASON
HON. NELSON S. LEGACION	HON. JOAQUIN F. PEREZ, JR.
HON. ESTEBAN R. ABONAL	HON. RAOUL T. ROSALES
HON. DAVID CASPER NATHAN A. SERGIO	HON. DAN PAOLO R. MORALES
HON. MARIA ELIZABETH Q. LAVADIA	HON. ALEX C. NERO-Absent
HON. RAY-AN CYDRICK G. RENTOY	

RESOLUTION NO. 2012-090

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RESOLUTION URGING PRIVATE BUSINESS ESTABLISHMENTS CATERING TO THE GENERAL PUBLIC, SUCH AS RESTAURANTS AND MALLS, TO UPHOLD THE RIGHT OF WOMEN AND MEN TO A HEALTHY AND SAFE ENVIRONMENT BY PROVIDING SEPARATE TOILET FACILITIES FOR FEMALES AND MALES.

Author: Hon. Maria Elizabeth Q. Lavadia

WHEREAS, Naga City respects and upholds the rights of women as part of its values, culture and traditions, and has institutionalized these through the Naga City Women's Code, and other ordinances and resolutions aimed at the protection of women's rights and the promotion of women's development, and for these has gained due recognition from national women's organizations such as the Philippine Council on Women;

WHEREAS, Naga City is also Bicol's center of economic and population growth, and as a consequence, is experiencing a corresponding expansion in the number of private service establishments;

WHEREAS, Naga City is a prime tourist destination in the country, as a host for pilgrims of the Virgin of Peñafrancia, a venue for national and international conventions and meetings, a favored site for rest and recreation site for local and foreign tourists and adventure seekers, and a center of commerce, education, and culture; and as such, , welcomes and serves hundreds of thousands of visitors each year through its public and private establishments;

WHEREAS, the Naga City Women's Code, in recognition of women's right to a healthy and gender-fair work environment, mandates the city government of Naga to "ensure that the workplace, private or public" to require employers to establish "separate toilet, rooms, lavatories and lounge for men and women" (Section 7, 7.6,b), however there are no corresponding regulations or encouragement for private establishments catering to the public to establish the same sex-segregated toilet facilities;

WHEREAS, despite the improvements in the quality, size, and status of service establishments being launched and operated in the city borne of the economic and population

growth of the city, there seems to be no effort to provide a corresponding increase in the level of service and comfort for women and men by establishing separate comfort rooms, as expected of a city renowned for its sensitivity to gender needs;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Sangguniang Panlungsod ng Naga, in its affirmation of its strong commitment to uphold the rights of women, shall

Inform and educate private establishments, through appropriate official channels and the mass media, of the right of women to a safe and healthy environment, including the acknowledgment and application of this right through the provision of sex-segregated toilet room facilities, not only for employees, but also to clients and visitors;

Encourage existing private establishments catering to the general public with same-sex or common toilet facilities, particularly restaurants and malls, to commit to making plans for the restructuring or converting these to sex-segregated or separate Female and Male toilet facilities at the soonest possible time;

Convince investors and planners of business establishments, such as restaurants, malls, or other public establishments, to incorporate in their structural designs sex-segregated toilets and other gender-sensitive structures and fixtures even those not required by building codes or other regulations;

Encourage the Sangguniang Panlungsod ng Naga to draw up mechanisms to provide special recognition to private establishments who went beyond the requirements of building codes or regulations, and constructed "gender-fair and gender-sensitive" facilities, as a way of encouraging other establishments to follow their examples, and for these establishments to be better promoted to the public, and thus advocate Women's Rights and principles in through a positive approach.

RESOLVED THIS xxx DAY OF MARCH, WOMEN'S MONTH, AT THE CITY OF NAGA:

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