



Republic of the Philippines  
Region IX  
PROVINCE OF ZAMBOANGA SIBUGAY  
Municipality of Buug

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**OFFICE OF THE SANGGUNIANG BAYAN**

Excerpt FROM THE MINUTES OF THE 17<sup>th</sup> REGULAR SESSION OF THE SANGGUNIANG BAYAN NG BUUG ZAMBOANGA SIBUGAY HELD AT THE MUNICIPAL SESSION HALL, BUUG, ZAMBOANGA SIBUGAY ON MAY 5, 2025 AT 10:00 IN THE MORNING.

NAME	POSITION	PRESENT	ABSENT	LATE	OB
<b>HON. JONAM R. LAGAS</b>	Municipal Vice-Mayor <b>Presiding</b>	√			
Hon. Marvin Jessie G. Gako	SB Member	√			
Hon. Sherwin R. Quintero	SB Member	√			
Hon. Romeo L. Cerbo	SB Member	√			
Hon. Freida C. Curiba	SB Member	√			
Hon. Abdul S. Dimasagka	SB Member	√			
Hon. Julio S. Alcantara, Sr.	SB Member	√			
Hon. Eduardo F. Emorecha	SB Member	√			
Hon. Renato T. Banagan	SB Member	√			
Hon. Keith Jones B. Lagas	Liga Ng Mga Barangay		√		
Hon. Riel Laurence F. Maquiling	SKF President		√		

**MUNICIPAL ORDINANCE NO. 12-2025**

**AN ORDINANCE STRENGTHENING ALTERNATIVE CHILD CARE AND STREAMLINING DOMESTIC ADOPTION IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF BUUG, ZAMBOANGA SIBUGAY, IN ACCORDANCE WITH REPUBLIC ACT NO. 11642, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE "DOMESTIC ADMINISTRATIVE ADOPTION AND ALTERNATIVE CHILD CARE ACT"**

**WHEREAS**, the **1987 Philippine Constitution**, under **Article XV, Section 3**, provides that the State shall defend the right of children to assistance and special protection from all forms of neglect, abuse, cruelty, exploitation, and other conditions prejudicial to their development;

**WHEREAS**, **Republic Act No. 7610**, or the "**Special Protection of Children Against Abuse, Exploitation and Discrimination Act**," ensures that abandoned, neglected, and surrendered children are provided with appropriate alternative care and protection;

**WHEREAS**, **Republic Act No. 11642**, also known as the "**Domestic Administrative Adoption and Alternative Child Care Act**", was enacted to simplify and expedite domestic adoption by shifting adoption proceedings from the judiciary to an administrative process under the **National Authority for Child Care (NACC)**;

**WHEREAS**, there is a pressing need to enhance the local implementation of **RA 11642** within the Municipality of Buug by establishing stronger mechanisms for alternative child care and domestic adoption;

**WHEREAS**, the Municipality of Buug recognizes the importance of legal adoption and foster care in ensuring that children grow up in safe, loving, and permanent families;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, be it ordained by the Sangguniang Bayan of Buug, Zamboanga Sibugay, in session duly assembled, that:

**SECTION 1. TITLE.** This Ordinance shall be known as the "**Buug Alternative Child Care and Administrative Adoption Support Ordinance**".

**SECTION 2. OBJECTIVES.** This Ordinance aims to:

1. Strengthen **alternative child care** through **adoption, foster care, kinship care, and residential care** programs;
2. Establish a **Municipal Alternative Child Care and Adoption Support Office (MACCASO)** under the **Municipal Social Welfare and Development Office (MSWDO)**;
3. Ensure **fast, accessible, and ethical** adoption procedures by aligning with **RA 11642**;
4. Provide **legal, financial, and psychosocial support** for adoptive families and children under alternative care;
5. Promote **awareness and advocacy** to encourage legal adoption and eliminate the stigma surrounding it.

**SECTION 2. DEFENITION OF TERMS.** For purposes of this Ordinance, the following terms shall be defined as follows:

1. **Alternative Child Care** – Refers to substitute parental care provided to children who are abandoned, neglected, surrendered, orphaned, or otherwise in need of special protection. This includes **kinship care, foster care, residential care, and adoption**.
2. **Adoption** – A socio-legal process where a child is permanently placed under the parental authority of a person or family other than the child's biological parents, granting the adoptee all rights and responsibilities of a legitimate child.
3. **Administrative Adoption** – The process of legally adopting a child **through the National Authority for Child Care (NACC)** without the need for court proceedings, as provided under **RA 11642**.
4. **National Authority for Child Care (NACC)** – The **government agency** created under **RA 11642** that oversees adoption, foster care, and other alternative child care programs in the Philippines.
5. **Child Legally Available for Adoption (CLAA)** – A child who has been declared legally eligible for adoption by the NACC, either due to abandonment, neglect, surrender, orphanhood, or other valid reasons.
6. **Foster Care** – A form of temporary alternative care where a child is placed with a **licensed foster parent or family** who provides parental care and supervision until a permanent solution (such as adoption or reintegration with biological parents) is found.
7. **Foster Parent** – An **individual or couple** licensed by the **Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD)** to provide temporary family care for a foster child.

8. **Kinship Care** – A form of alternative child care where a child is placed under the **custody of relatives** (grandparents, uncles, aunts, or older siblings) when the biological parents are unable to care for them.
9. **Residential Care Facility** – A **government or private institution** that provides temporary shelter, care, and rehabilitation services to children in need of special protection, including abandoned, orphaned, or neglected children.
10. **Child Trafficking** – The illegal act of **buying, selling, or transferring children** for unlawful purposes, including forced labor, sexual exploitation, or illegal adoption. This is punishable under **RA 9208 (Anti-Trafficking in Persons Act)**.
11. **Simulated Birth** – The act of **falsifying birth records** to make it appear that a child was born to a person who is not the biological parent. This is illegal under **RA 11642** and other related laws.
12. **Adoption Matching Process** – The careful and systematic process conducted by the **NACC** to determine the **best possible adoptive family** for a child, considering the child's needs and the adoptive parents' capability to provide care and support.
13. **Pre-Adoption Services** – Services provided to prospective adoptive parents before the adoption process, including **counseling, home study assessment, and adoption education seminars**.
14. **Post-Adoption Services** – Ongoing support for adoptive families and adoptees, including **legal aid, psychosocial counseling, and integration programs** to ensure a smooth transition into family life.
15. **Local Child Care and Adoption Support Office (LCCASO)/Municipal Alternative Child Care and Adoption Support Office (MACCASO)** – The **municipal office under the MSWDO** responsible for coordinating with the NACC, assisting in adoption processes, and providing support services for adoptive families and children in alternative care.
16. **Abandoned Child** – A child whose **biological parents or guardians have willfully left them without proper care, supervision, or communication** for a prolonged period, as determined by social workers and the **MSWDO**.
17. **Neglected Child** – A child who lacks proper **parental care, education, medical attention, or basic needs** due to the failure or refusal of their biological parents or guardians.
18. **Surrendered Child** – A child **voluntarily given up** by their biological parents or guardians for adoption, with official consent and documentation processed through the **NACC and DSWD**.
19. **Orphaned Child** – A child who has **lost both biological parents** and has no legal guardian or relative able to provide care.
20. **Illegal Adoption** – Any adoption that is conducted outside the legal process prescribed by **RA 11642**, including adoptions arranged through informal agreements, child trafficking, or falsified birth records.

**SECTION 4. CREATION OF THE MUNICIPAL ALTERNATIVE CHILD CARE AND ADOPTION SUPPORT OFFICE (MACCASO).** To ensure the proper implementation of this Ordinance, the **Municipality of Buug** shall establish a **Municipal Alternative Child Care and Adoption Support Office (MACCASO)** under the supervision of the **MSWDO**, which shall:

1. **Coordinate with the National Authority for Child Care (NACC)** in adoption and child care matters;
2. Assist in **processing applications** for domestic administrative adoption under **RA 11642**;
3. **Screen, assess, and match** children with prospective adoptive families in partnership with the NACC;
4. Provide **pre-adoption and post-adoption counseling** for adoptive families and adoptees;
5. Conduct **adoption and foster care orientation seminars** for potential adoptive and foster parents;
6. Manage a **local database** of children legally available for adoption and interested adoptive families;
7. Facilitate **community-based foster care programs** to provide temporary family care for children awaiting adoption;
8. Oversee the **regulation and monitoring of residential care facilities** in Buug to ensure child welfare compliance;
9. Implement **public awareness campaigns** on legal adoption and alternative child care options;
10. Assist **low-income adoptive and foster families** in accessing financial and livelihood support.

**SECTION 5. MUNICIPAL SUPPORT SERVICES FOR ADOPTIVE AND FOSTER FAMILIES.** The Municipality of Buug shall allocate resources to provide:

1. **Legal assistance** for families undergoing adoption and foster care proceedings;
2. **Subsidies or incentives** for licensed foster families caring for children under **alternative child care programs**;
3. **Medical, psychological, and social services** for children under alternative care, including trauma-informed care programs;
4. **Capacity-building programs** for social workers, adoptive parents, and foster care providers;
5. **Emergency financial aid** for families adopting children with special needs or health conditions.

**SECTION 6. PUBLIC AWARENESS AND COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT.** To promote legal adoption and foster care, the Municipality of Buug shall:

1. Conduct **regular adoption awareness campaigns** in partnership with the **Municipal Health Office, Department of Education, and local religious organizations**;
2. Establish an **Annual Adoption and Foster Care Day** to celebrate and recognize adoptive and foster families in the municipality;
3. Partner with local media to **disseminate accurate information** about adoption and the importance of family-based care for children;
4. Organize **forums and training** for barangay officials, law enforcers, and community leaders to help identify and protect abandoned or neglected children.

**SECTION 7. BUDGETARY ALLOCATION.** The **Municipality of Buug** shall allocate an annual budget for the **MACCASO** and the implementation of this Ordinance, sourced from:

1. The **Annual General Fund** of the municipality;
2. Donations, grants, or financial assistance from **national and international organizations** supporting child welfare programs;
3. Other funding sources identified by the **Sangguniang Bayan**.

**SECTION 8. PROHIBITED ACTS AND PENALTIES.** The following acts are **strictly prohibited** within the Municipality of Buug:

1. **Illegal adoption or simulated birth registration** – Any individual, group, or entity involved in unauthorized adoption or simulation of birth records shall face penalties under **RA 11642**;
2. **Child trafficking and exploitation** – Any person found guilty of trafficking or exploiting children for adoption shall be penalized in accordance with **RA 9208 (Anti-Trafficking in Persons Act)**;
3. **Neglect or abuse of children in alternative care** – Foster or adoptive parents found guilty of child neglect or abuse shall be **disqualified from adoption or foster care programs** and shall face appropriate legal action.

**SECTION 9. REPEALING CLAUSE.** The provisions of previous local enactments, resolutions, memoranda, circulars, and other issuances inconsistent with this Ordinance are hereby repealed or modified accordingly;

**SECTION 10. SEPARABILITY CLAUSE.** Should any portion of this Ordinance be declared ultra vires or unconstitutional by competent authority, the remainder not so affected shall continue to be in full force and effect as it is susceptible to enforcement and application;

**SECTION 11. EFFECTIVITY.** This ordinance shall take effect immediately upon its approval and compliance with the posting and publication requirements set forth in Republic Act No. 7160;

**ENACTED** this 5<sup>TH</sup> day of May 2025 at Buug, Zamboanga Sibugay Province.

**CERTIFIED CORRECT:**

  
**ROSAMEE VILLASOR-APDUHAN**  
Sangguniang Bayan Secretary

**ATTESTED:**

  
**HON. JONAM R. LAGAS**  
Municipal Vice-Mayor/Presiding

**APPROVED:**

  
**HON. DIONESIA B. LAGAS**  
Municipal Mayor  
Date Approved: 06-03-25