



Republic of the Philippines
CITY OF SANTA ROSA
Province of Laguna

OFFICE OF THE SANGGUNIANG PANLUNGSOD

EXCERPT FROM THE MINUTES OF 20TH REGULAR SESSION OF SANGGUNIANG PANLUNGSOD OF CITY OF SANTA ROSA, LAGUNA HELD ON TUESDAY, JUNE 6, 2006 AT THE LEGISLATIVE BUILDING.

Present:

- | | |
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| 1. Hon. ARLENE ARCILLAS-NAZARENO | - City Vice-Mayor,
Presiding Officer |
| 2. Hon. LAUDEMER A. CARTA | - SP Member |
| 3. Hon. JOSE C. CARTAÑO | - SP Member |
| 4. Hon. PETRONIO C. FACTORIZA | - SP Member |
| 5. Hon. ARTURO M. TIONGCO | - SP Member |
| 6. Hon. ARNEL DC. GOMEZ | - SP Member |
| 7. Hon. ANTONIA T. LASERNA | - SP Member |
| 8. Hon. ROY M. GONZALES | - SP Member |
| 9. Hon. RONALD IAN A. DE GUZMAN | - SP Member |
| 10. Hon. MYTHOR C. CENDAÑA | - SP Member |
| 11. Hon. AIZEL B. ALIPON | - SP Member |

Absent:

- | | |
|-----------------------|-------------|
| 1. Hon. RAUL P. AALA | - SP Member |
| 2. Hon. ROMEO P. AALA | - SP Member |

RESOLUTION No. 136-2006

(On motion by Member De Guzman and seconded
by Member Carta and Member Gomez)

RESOLUTION EXPRESSING THE STRONG OPPOSITION OF THE CITY GOVERNMENT OF SANTA ROSA TO HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 1 THAT SEEKS TO CONVERT 23 MUNICIPALITIES INTO CITIES WITHOUT THE BENEFIT OF APPLYING THE NEW INCOME REQUIREMENT PROVIDED FOR IN REPUBLIC ACT 9009, WHICH AMENDED SECTION 450 OF REPUBLIC ACT 7160 OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE "THE 1991 LOCAL GOVERNMENT CODE", AND URGING THE SENATE OF THE PHILIPPINES TO HOLD IN ABEYANCE HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 1, AND ANY FURTHER CONVERSION OF MUNICIPALITIES TO CITIES UNTIL SUCH TIME THAT CURRENT SHARING SCHEME OF INTERNAL REVENUE ALLOTMENT (IRA) UNDER THE CODE IS REVIEWED AND UPDATED.

WHEREAS, pending before the Senate of the Philippines is House Resolution No. 1 that seeks to convert 23 municipalities into cities;

WHEREAS, the said House Resolution No. 1 was adopted by the Lower House without compliance of the new income requirement provided for in Republic Act No. 9009, which amended Section 450 of the 1991 Local Government Code, and therefore irregular;



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WHEREAS, it sets aside an objective requirement for cityhood embodied in RA 9009, which Congress wisely enacted into law, in response to the advocacy of the League of Cities of the Philippines (LCP) against unwarranted, runaway conversion that threatens the viability of existing cities;

WHEREAS, the Standardized Conversion Requirement stipulated under Section 450 of the Local Government Code, which are minimum standards or a collective bar fixed by law that differentiates a city "consisting of mere urbanized and developed barangays (Section 448) – from a municipality, must be strictly enforced and met by municipalities seeking cityhood;

WHEREAS, increasing the requirement on income bar from the original P20 Million to P100 Million sends a message that the creation of cities is a serious business, municipalities aiming for cityhood need to be subjected to and must meet more stringent standards, thus, these conversion requirements must not trifled with;

WHEREAS, per Section 450 of the Code, as amended, the income requirement for conversion is indispensable considering that while there is substitute ability between territorial and population requisites, i.e. any one of the them will suffice, there is no substitute for the income requirement;

WHEREAS, in 1996, when the IRA stood at P56.6 billion, the average Philippine city at that time already received roughly P200 Million as its share, and nine years later, even if the IRA has almost tripled to P15.6 billion, each of the 117 current cities will only get an average of P298 million – an increase of only 496;

WHEREAS, by comparison, during the same period, the average IRA share of provinces grew by 161%–from P169 million in 1996 to P442 million this year which was made possible by creation of only two new provinces between 1996 and 2005 – compared to 57 new cities;

WHEREAS, looking at the combined IRA share grew by 168% propelling the average IRA share of a municipality from P12.8 million in 1996 to P34.4 million in 2005, municipalities also registered a heftier gain;

WHEREAS, while cities have been at the losing end in the IRA sharing, they are bearing a greater share of the burden of providing basic urban services to a growing number of the Philippine population, putting their long-term viability and sustainability at great peril;

WHEREAS, in order to save the Philippines cities from losing heavily and bearing heavier burden due to the continuing decrease of their Internal Revenue Allotment (IRA) brought about by deteriorating economy and continuous conversion of municipalities to cities, there is an imperative need for the Senate of the Philippines to hold in abeyance House Resolution No. 1 and any further conversion of municipalities to cities until such time that the sharing scheme of the IRA under the Local Government Code is reviewed and updated.

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NOW, THEREFORE, by virtue of a motion seconded, it is:

AS IT RESOLVED, as it is hereby resolved, to express the strong opposition of the City Government of Santa Rosa to House Resolution No. 1 that seeks to convert 23 municipalities into cities without the benefit of applying the new income requirement provided for in Republic Act 9009, which amended Section 450 of Republic Act 7160 otherwise known as "The 1991 Local Government Code", and urging the Senate of the Philippines to hold in abeyance House Resolution No. 1, and any further conversion of municipalities to cities until such time that current sharing scheme of Internal Revenue Allotment (IRA) under the Code is reviewed and updated.

LET COPIES of this resolution be furnished His Honor, the City Mayor for his concurrence, the Senate of the Philippines thru the Honorable Senate President Franklin Drilon, for their favorable consideration, the Honorable Geronimo B.P. Treñas, President, League of Cities of the Philippines and all cities in the country for their concurrence and support.

UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.

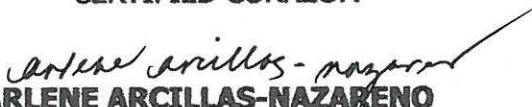
CERTIFICATION:

I hereby certify to the correctness of the foregoing resolution.


CYNTHIA M. GOMEZ

Secretary to the Sangguniang Panlungsod

CERTIFIED CORRECT:


ARLENE ARCILLAS-NAZARENO
City Vice-Mayor

APPROVED:


JOSE B. CATINDIG, Jr.
City Mayor