



Republic of the Philippines  
**DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT**  
A. Francisco Gold Condominium II, EDSA, Diliman, Quezon City

**OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY**

**MEMORANDUM CIRCULAR**  
**NO. 2010 - 150**

December 15 2010

**TO :** THE REGIONAL GOVERNOR, PROVINCIAL GOVERNORS, VICE GOVERNORS, CITY MAYOR, CITY VICE MAYOR, MUNICIPAL MAYORS, MUNICIPAL VICE MAYORS, SANGGUNIAN MEMBERS AT ALL LEVELS AND DILG REGIONAL SECRETARY, AUTONOMOUS REGION IN MUSLIM MINDANAO

**SUBJECT :** DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS FOR ABSENTEEISM OF LOCAL OFFICIALS IN THE AUTONOMOUS REGION IN MUSLIM MINDANAO

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Presidential Administrative Order No. 273, s. 2009, as amended, mandates the Department of the Interior and Local Government to exercise the power of general supervision over the Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao.

In a series of consultations with the political leaders in the ARMM, it was pointed out that absenteeism of local officials is a pressing issue that need to be addressed, in the interest of public service and in the promotion of good local governance.

In this connection, attention is invited to the Muslim Mindanao Autonomy Act No. 25, known as the Local Government Code of the Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao. Specifically, Section 55 (f) and Section 45 (b) (5), thereof provide, quote:

*Section 55. Grounds for Disciplinary Actions. - An elective local official may be disciplined, suspended, or removed from office on any of the following grounds:*

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*(f) Unauthorized absence for fifteen (15) consecutive working days, except in the case of members of the sangguniang panlalawigan, sangguniang panlungsod, sangguniang bayan, and sangguniang barangay;*

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*Section 45. Internal Rules of Procedure.- xxx (b) On the first regular session following the election of its members and within ninety days (90) thereafter, the **sanggunian** concerned shall adopt or update its existing rules of procedure which shall provide for the following:*

xxx

*(5) The discipline of (**sanggunian**) members for disorderly behavior and **absences without justifiable cause for four (4) consecutive sessions**, for which they may be censured, reprimanded from the session, suspended for not more than sixty (60) days, or expelled xxx. (emphasis supplied)*

Further, pending the investigation of a complaint on absenteeism, preventive suspension may be imposed, pursuant to Section 58 of the ARMM LG Code:

- (1) By the Regional Governor, if the respondent is an elective official of a province, a highly urbanized city or an independent component city;
- (2) By the Provincial Governor, if the respondent is an elective official of a component city or municipality; and
- (3) By the Mayor, if the respondent is an elective official of the barangay.

Relative thereto, all Local Chief Executives in the ARMM are directed to:

1. Hold public office at the established seat of government as specified in the law creating the local government unit, i.e., Provincial Capitol, City Hall or Municipal Hall (Section 11 of the ARMM LG Code);
2. Render full time service and devote their time and attention to the performance of their official duties, and disengage from practicing their professions or engaging in any occupation other than the exercise of their functions as Local Chief Executives (Section 86 of the ARMM LG Code);
3. Set the example in observing the standards of personal conduct among government officials in the discharge and execution of official duties, i.e., commitment to public service, professionalism and responsiveness to public interest; and
4. Enforce disciplinary actions on absenteeism of erring local officials pursuant to Chapter 4, Title II, Book I of the ARMM LG Code.

Likewise, the ARMM Regional Governor is hereby directed to:

1. Support the enforcement of disciplinary actions or efforts of the Provincial Governors on absenteeism of erring local officials;
2. Impose appropriate sanctions, in accordance with pertinent laws, rules and regulations against Local Chief Executives for non-compliance with the law and this Memorandum Circular.
3. Direct the DILG Regional Secretary to monitor the compliance of local authorities to this Memorandum Circular; and
4. Cause the immediate and widest dissemination of this Circular to all Provincial Governors, City Mayor and Municipal Mayors in the ARMM.

This Memorandum Circular shall take effect immediately.

  
**JESSE M. ROBREDO**  
Secretary

