



Republic of the Philippines  
**SANGGUNIANG BAYAN**  
Taytay, Rizal

DO No. 2507 – 002

**ORDINANCE NO. 853 series of 2025**

**AN ORDINANCE LOCALIZING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8485, AS AMENDED BY REPUBLIC ACT NO. 10631, ALSO KNOWN AS THE ANIMAL WELFARE ACT OF 1998, IN THE MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT OF TAYTAY, PROVINCE OF RIZAL, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

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Authored and Sponsored by: Coun. John Tobit E. Cruz  
Co-Sponsored by: Vice Mayor Jan Victor B. Cabitac  
Coun. Joanne Marie P. Calderon  
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WHEREAS, Section 1 of the Republic Act (R.A.) No. 8485, otherwise known as “The Animal Welfare of 1998” states that, *“the purpose of this Act to protect and promote the welfare of all animals in the Philippines by supervising and regulating the establishment and operations of all facilities utilized for breeding, maintaining, keeping, treating or training of all animals either as objects of trade or as household pets. For purposes of this Act, pet animal shall include birds”*;

WHEREAS, Section 6 of R.A. No. 8485 mandates that, *“it shall be unlawful for any person to torture any animal, to neglect to provide adequate care, sustenance or shelter, or maltreat any animal or to subject any dog or horse to dogfights or horsefights, kill or cause or procure to be tortured or deprived of adequate care, sustenance or shelter, or maltreat or use the same in research or experiments not expressly authorized by the Committee on Animal Welfare”*;

WHEREAS, Section 1 of R.A. No. 10631 mandates that *“animal welfare pertains to the physical and psychological well-being of animals. It includes, but not limited to, the avoidance of abuse, maltreatment, cruelty and exploitation of animals by humans by maintaining appropriate standards of accommodation, feeding and general care, the prevention and treatment of disease and the assurance of freedom from fear, distress, harassment, and unnecessary discomfort and pain, and allowing animals to express normal behavior”*;

WHEREAS, Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG) Memorandum Circular (MC) No. 2024-126 states that DILG, consistent with its mandate of assisting in the implementation of the laws, has issued enabling policies and joint issuances with the Department of Agriculture (DA);

WHEREAS, the Local Government Unit (LGU) structure enables them to effectively carry out their mandated task to properly address the reports on cases of animal cruelty received by DILG with a prescribed reiteration and consolidation of set guidelines and standards;

WHEREAS, this Ordinance is distinct from Ordinance No. 750, series of 2022, also known as “Responsible Pet Ownership Ordinance of Taytay,” which was enacted pursuant to RA No. 9482, otherwise known as the “Anti-Rabies Act of 2007”, and primarily focuses on the regulation of pet ownership and the elimination of rabies;

WHEREAS, both of these Ordinances shall collectively contribute to the general welfare, with the promotion of protection and humane treatment of animals, while simultaneously ensuring public safety, health, and overall well-being of the community;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED, by the 13<sup>th</sup> Sangguniang Bayan of Taytay, in a session duly assembled, that:

**Section 1. Short Title** - This ordinance shall be known as the **Taytay Animal Welfare Ordinance**.

**Section 2. Purpose** - This Ordinance is being issued to implement all program components of animal welfare law that are applicable locally, particularly in the establishment and management of animal pounds, as well as all other facilities established and utilized for breeding, keeping, treating, or training animals either as objects of trade or as household pets.

**Section 3. Program Implementation** - The program components of R.A. No. 8485 and its amendatory law, R.A. No. 10631, are to be implemented within the Municipality of Taytay through assigned Animal Welfare Enforcement Officers (AWEOs) delegated by the Municipal Veterinary Office. The implementation of the program components shall be headed by the Municipal Veterinary Services Office.

Animal welfare enforcement by the municipal government shall be in coordination with the concerned Department of Agriculture - Regional Field Office (DA-RFO) through their deputized AWEOs. DA is the overall lead in the implementation of animal welfare programs provided under the law.

**Section 4. Program Components** - The Municipal Government of Taytay, Rizal shall incorporate the following animal welfare programs in their operations, to wit:

**4.1. Designation of Animal Welfare Office Focal Person at the Municipal Veterinary Services Office (MVSO) with the following duties:**

- a. The Animal Welfare Office Focal Person shall designate animal welfare officer/s per barangay to take charge of all animal welfare concerns within its area of jurisdiction.
- b. The designated animal welfare officer shall coordinate with the deputized Animal Welfare Officers of the DA-RFO, designated animal welfare officers from the Philippine National Police (PNP) and/or National Bureau of Investigation (NBI), and deputized animal welfare enforcement officers from Non-Government organizations (NGOs) and/or People’s Organization (POs), to undertake the following functions:
  1. Facilitate the implementation of approved animal welfare programs and other related policies;
  2. Enforce all laws and regulations for the prevention of cruelty to animals and promotion of animal welfare;
  3. Advise the Local Chief Executive on all matters that pertain to the improvement of animal welfare; and
  4. Assist the DA-RFO, PNP/NBI, and deputized animal welfare enforcement officers from the NGOs/POs in animal welfare enforcement, to include



animal facility inspection.

4.2. Coordination of the MVSO with the Municipal Police Station through their established Local PNP Animal Welfare Desk. The MVSO shall designate animal welfare enforcement officers that shall, in coordination with the established Local PNP Animal Welfare Desk, be tasked to undertake the following:

- a. Receive complaints on animal abuse, cruelty, and/or any violations of the Animal Welfare Act;
- b. Respond and rescue animal cruelty cases;
- c. Report such animal welfare violations to the nearest Local PNP Animal Welfare Desk;
- d. Coordinate with the DA-Regional Office, Deputized Regional Animal Welfare Officer, and the nearest Local PNP Animal Welfare Desk on animal response and rescue; and
- e. When necessary, take custody of rescued animals and surrender to the nearest LGU animal pound and/or shelter.

4.3. Establishment and Management of Dog / Animal Pound

The establishment of dog or animal pound shall adhere to the standards and guidelines prescribed under Administrative Circular No. 3, Series of 2015, also known as the "Policies and Guidelines in the Establishment and Maintenance of Animal Pounds" issued by the DA, as drafted by the Committee on Animal Welfare by which DILG is a member, specifically providing for the mandatory registration of dog pound and other similar facilities with the DA-BAI as a prior requirement in the issuance of business permit.

4.4. Registration of Facilities of Business Permit / Mayor's Permit Issuance by the Municipal Government

- a. Rule 3.2 of Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR) of R.A. No. 10631 mandates the requirement for a Certificate of Registration from the Department of Agriculture - Bureau of Animal Industry (DA-BAI) from all animal facility owners in securing the Mayor's Permit. In this connection, the Municipal Veterinary Office shall:
  1. Conduct annual inventory and establish a database of all animal facilities in the locality, and identify establishments with and without a business permit;
  2. Implement and/or adopt the mandatory requirement for a DA-BAI Certificate of Registration before issuance of the business permit;
  3. Facilitate referrals to the DA-RFO, list of prospective participants to the online or face-to-face animal welfare training as a requirement for issuance of the DA Registration Certificate; and
  4. Submit updated list of animal facilities to the Department of Agriculture, Bureau of Animal Industry-Animal Health and Welfare Division (DA-BAI-AHWD), through DA-RFO, which is due every end of the quarter, copy furnished to DILG Regional Office, and Bureau of Local Government Supervision (BLGS).

4.5. Prohibition on Dog, Horse, and Animal Fights. Section 6 of RA 8485 provides that it shall be unlawful for any person to torture any animal, to neglect to provide adequate care, sustenance or shelter, or maltreat any animal or to subject any dog or horse to dogfights or horsefights, kill or cause or procure to be tortured or deprived of adequate care, sustenance or shelter, or maltreat or use the same in research or

experiments not expressly authorized by the Committee on Animal Welfare of the Department of Agriculture.

4.6. Humane Handling of Animals through the use of Euthanasia. DA Administrative Order No. 9, Series of 2011, mandates the use of acceptable agents and methods of euthanasia for cats and dogs as a humane method of control of the population of animals in the pound. In this connection, the Municipal Veterinary Office shall:

- a. Promote and provide resources for responsible pet ownership, relying on mandatory vaccinations and neutering programs;
- b. Promote humane dog population management, mass dog vaccinations, and reproduction control programs; and
- c. Take into consideration that animals be free from physical discomfort, pain, fear, and distress; allowing euthanasia to be undertaken for the purpose of animal population control and be undertaken only by a licensed veterinarian.

4.7. Ensuring Welfare of Animals in Transport. To eradicate the incidence of sickness and death and prevent any cruelty from being inflicted upon the animals during transport, the Municipality of Taytay shall adopt DA-Administrative Order Nos. 19, 02, 43, (series of 2006, 2002 and 1999) for the transport of animals by land, sea and air, respectively.

These policy guidelines and issuances mandate the DA Bureau of Animal Industry, for issuance of Transport Permit for the transport of animals, in coordination with concerned LGUs, where animals are sourced or originated.

4.8. Protection of Animals in the Wild.

Wild animals shall be equally respected with those of domestic and farmed animals. Section 7 of RA 8485 provides that it shall be the duty of every person to protect the natural habitat of the wildlife. The destruction of habitat shall be considered a form of cruelty to animals, and its preservation is a way of protecting the animals. To break the chain of cruelty and their exploitation for commodities and profit, the Municipal Veterinary Office shall:

- a. Avoid driving out and damaging the extraction of wild animals from their natural habitats;
- b. Ban the keeping of wildlife as pets, both captive-bred and caught, since the welfare needs of these wild animals cannot be fulfilled in private homes; and
- c. Monitor compliance and submit periodic or incident report to the concerned higher level of structure of governance, through the channel, as part of regular monitoring and in case of emergency and/or disease outbreak.

4.9. Establishment of Municipal Government Checkpoints

- a. The Taytay Municipal Government in the exercise of delegated authority pursuant to R.A. No. 7160 (The Local Government Code of 1991), and the management of animal movement within its territorial jurisdiction are mandated to establish checkpoints, in adherence to the provisions of DA-BAI Administrative Circular No. 03, series 2016, which shall institute the following measures:

1. Establish / reactivate checkpoints in strategic highway / road locations within their respective jurisdiction in coordination with the DA Regional



- Field Offices;
2. Operate jointly or separately as circumstances may require, with the BAI and DA Regional Office;
  3. Abide by the checkpoint protocols and operating procedures as prescribed by the BAI and DA RFOs;
  4. Implement programs to intensify the campaign against the cruelty of animals in the wild, promote stakeholders' acceptance, and influence communities to new perspectives and mindsets to bring about change in practices and behaviors that will improve the lives of animals; and
  5. Implement very limited and specific exemptions for indigenous peoples and local communities for genuine subsistence use of wildlife.

#### 4.10. Conduct of Scientific Procedure using Animals

The Department of Agriculture - Administrative Order No. 40 was issued requiring all Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) that conduct research and scientific procedures using animals to register their Animal Laboratory Facility with the DA-Bureau of Animal Industry. In this connection, the Municipal Veterinary Office is mandated to ensure that HEIs operating within our jurisdiction shall secure a clearance prior to registering to the BAI.

#### 4.11. Adoption of Regulations Governing the Welfare of Farm Animals

- a. Municipal Veterinary Office shall provide assistance to the DA-RFO in the conduct of inspection of farm facilities to ensure the adoption of animal welfare standards, to include, but not limited to, the following policies and actions:
  1. Prohibit animals from being transported for more than 28 hours without water;
  2. Require farmers to provide feeds to prevent malnourishment, water to prevent dehydration, and veterinary care as may be necessary;
  3. Reinforcement of stringent laws governing the proper housing of farm animals; and
  4. Ban of conventional battery cages for egg-laying hens.

**Section 5. Violations and Penalties** - Violations of this ordinance shall be penalized as follows:

##### 5.1. Failure of animal facility owner (pet shops, animal breeding facility and the like) to register their businesses to the municipal government:

- a. Issuance of notice of violation with the recommendation to register the business;
- b. Failure to comply with the required local government registration within the prescribed period by the implementing authority shall result in a fine of Two Thousand Five Hundred Pesos (Php 2,500.00) and immediate closure of the establishment.
- c. If the business, even during the initial inspection, imposes any public danger, the MVSO shall recommend the immediate closure of the establishment to the Business Permits and Licensing Office until all required permits and recommendations are complied with.

##### 5.2. Any person engaging in illegal dog, horse, and/or animal fights shall be fined with the following:

- a. First offense – One Thousand Pesos (Php 1,000.00)

- b. Second offense – One Thousand Five Hundred Pesos (Php 1,500.00)
- c. Third offense – Two Thousand Five Hundred Pesos (Php 2,500.00) and may be subject to legal action in accordance with applicable laws before the court of proper jurisdiction.

5.3. Any reported cruelty or negligence as described in the Animal Welfare Act shall be subject to the filing of appropriate charges to the proper courts.

5.4. Any government employee/s involved with animal control operations that may have been found violating any of the provisions of this ordinance shall be subject to administrative charges and filing of any criminal and civil actions pursuant to RA 8485, RA 10631 and other relevant laws and regulations.


**Section 6. Repealing Clause** - Any provision of existing ordinance or executive order contrary to the provisions hereof shall be deemed repealed or amended accordingly.

**Section 7. Separability Clause** - If, for any reasons, any portion of this Ordinance is declared unconstitutional or invalid, the other portions or provisions hereof which are not affected shall continue to be in full force and effect.

**Section 8. Effectivity** - This Ordinance shall take effect ten (10) days after posting of this Ordinance in all official Municipal Transparency Boards.

ENACTED, this 2<sup>nd</sup> day of September 2025, 2:45 PM at the Sangguniang Bayan Session Hall, Municipality of Taytay, Province of Rizal.

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I HEREBY CERTIFY, to the correctness of the foregoing Ordinance which was duly enacted by the Sangguniang Bayan of Taytay on second reading on August 28, 2025 and was passed on third and final reading on September 2, 2025, during the 9<sup>th</sup> Regular Session held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> day of September 2025.

  
**JULIETA M. JUANILLO**  
Board Sec. III – OIC  
SB Secretariat Office

ATTESTED AND CERTIFIED TO BE DULY  
ADOPTED BY HIS HONOR

  
**HON. JAN VICTOR B. CABITAC**  
Municipal Vice Mayor / Presiding Officer

APPROVED BY HIS HONOR  
DATE SEP 16 2025

  
**HON. ALLAN MARTINE S. DE LEON**  
Municipal Mayor