

Office of the Governor

EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 21 - 2019

DIRECTING THE ISABELA PROVINCIAL HEALTH OFFICE TO ENSURE MASSIVE IMMUNIZATION PROGRAM AND NEW BORN SCREENING IN THE PROVINCE

WHEREAS, it is the policy of the State to take a proactive role in the preventive health care of infants and children. Towards this end, the State shall adopt a comprehensive, mandatory and sustainable immunization program for vaccine-preventable diseases for all infants and children including mothers;

WHEREAS, the law mandates that all health care practitioners or health care workers who are administering prenatal care shall educate all pregnant mothers on the importance of giving their infants the basic immunization services as well as any possible effects of immunization;

WHEREAS, elimination, eradication control of the childhood vaccine-preventable diseases requires that at least 95% of our child population be fully immunized annually; that 80% of our pregnant mothers be vaccinated with tetanus toxoid to protect the newborn from neonatal tetanus and that all vaccine-preventable disease cases be detected, investigated and reported on a timely basis;

WHEREAS, it is the policy of the State to protect and promote the right to health of the people, including the rights of children to survival and full and healthy development as normal individuals. In pursuit of such policy, the State shall institutionalize a national newborn screening system that is comprehensive, integrative and sustainable, and will facilitate collaboration among government and non-government agencies at the national and local levels, the private sector, families and communities, professional health organizations, academic institutions, and non-governmental organizations;

WHEREAS, low and unequally distributed routine immunization coverage causes many infants/children annually to remain unprotected, thus, rendering them susceptible to vaccine-preventable diseases and thereby threatens the province to outbreaks/epidemics;

WHEREAS, achieving a fully immunized children and mothers will require unified commitments of the national government, local chief executives, health workers, communities and all sectors of the society;

NOW THEREFORE, I, RODOLFO T. ALBANO III, Governor of Isabela, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby direct the Isabela Provincial Health Office to ensure massive immunization program and new born screening in the province and constantly facilitate the following:

- Shall intensify the routine reaching of all mothers and infants with safe and effective vaccines and to identify, investigate and report vaccine- preventable cases;
- 2. Shall formulate, disseminate guidelines and procedures on implementing this massive immunization drive and new born screening; provide technical assistance to Local Government Units (LGUs); conduct advocacy and social mobilization activities; provide, allocate and distribute in a timely manner all the necessary vaccines; and monitor submission of required reports of all immunization and new born screening activities to the office of the Governor.
- 3. Shall develop programs to strengthen quality of service and intensify implementation and monitoring of New Born Screening (NBS);
- 4. Shall further ensure that mothers of all children with incomplete immunization shall be informed through regular and social media of the immunization program being provided by the government. It shall coordinate with the local government health units for the complete vaccination of these children.

This Executive Order shall take effect immediately.

Issued this 1 day of August, 2019 in the City of Ilagan, Isabela.

HON. RODOLFO T. ALBANO III

SABELA

