

Office of the Governor

EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. ___15 Series OF 2020

DIRECTING ALL LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNITS, ALL EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS BOTH PUBLIC AND PRIVATE WITHIN THE PROVINCE, AND THE PUBLIC IN GENERAL TO PRACTICE SOCIAL DISTANCING AND AVOID MASS GATHERING OF PEOPLE AND ARE THEREFORE DISCOURAGED FROM THE CONDUCT OF FIESTAS, HARVEST FESTIVAL, GRADUATION BALLS AND OTHER SIMILAR EVENTS THAT REQUIRES ASSEMBLY OF LARGE NUMBER OF PEOPLE WHILE THE SITUATION REMAINS CRITICAL PURSUANT TO THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE ISABELA PROVINCIAL TASK FORCE ON COVID 19

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 15, Article 2 of the 19897 Philippine Constitution Section 465 in relation to Section 16 of Republic Act 7160 which popularly known as the Local Government Code of 1991 empowers the Local Chief Executive to carry out measures for the faithful and appropriate enforcement and execution of laws and ordinances;

WHEREAS, the novel corona virus identified as "COVID-19" ("the virus"), first discovered in the city of Wuhan, Hubei Province, People's Republic of China ("China"), is a severe, potentially fatal respiratory illness that can result in pneumonia, acute respiratory distress syndrome, septic shock, and multi-organ failure; and

WHEREAS, the spread of the virus indicates that is it being transmitted through human-to-human contact and outbreaks of the virus in the Philippines and in other countries across the world are being addressed through a combination of quarantining, medical monitoring, and community engagement;

WHEREAS, the World Health Organization declared on January 30, 2020, that COVID-19 is a "Public Health Emergency of International Concern;" and that the Philippines is already one of several countries with a confirmed COVID-19 case and on February 1, 2020, the Department of Health (DOH) had confirmed the first mortality of COVID-19 in the Philippines;

WHEREAS, the Isabela Task Force COVID 19 was established to formulate and implement COVID- 19 Plan of Action for the province and to provide coordinated efforts regarding processes, logistical support and appropriate measures to prevent the virus from entering the province and for the containment of the disease in case of infection;





WHEREAS, in response to the declaration of the DOH raising the COVID 19 alert system to code red sub- level 1 and Presidential Proclamation No. 922 Declaring a State of Public Health Emergency in the entire Philippines Due to COVID 19, Memorandum No. 2020-001 Series of 2020 was issued by the Governor and as Chairman of Isabela PDRRMC, as pre-emptive call to ensure that the province can prepare for suspected cases of COVID-19 and to set mandatory protocols regarding such;

WHEREAS, large celebrations and events such as fiestas, festivals, concerts, rallies and public programs and other similar gatherings fosters close contact and an environment susceptible to rapid transmission of the virus;

WHEREAS, due to high transmissibility of the virus, it is appropriate to take preventive measures such as social distancing and avoidance of large gathering of people to limit the probability of widespread contagion;

NOW THEREFORE, I, RODOLFO T. ALBANO III, Governor of the Province of Isabela, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby direct all local government units, all educational institutions both public and private within the province and the public in general to practice social distancing and avoid mass gathering of people and are therefore discouraged from the conduct of fiestas, harvest festival, graduation balls and other similar events that requires assembly of large number of people while the situation remains critical pursuant to the recommendation of the Isabela Provincial Task Force on COVID 19.

Each department, office, division, private entities concerned, and agencies of this province is hereby required, to the extent not inconsistent with law, to cooperate fully with the Provincial Government within the limits of its statutory authority and to extend needed assistance on a timely basis as is necessary to accomplish the purposes of this Order.

Separability Clause. Should any provision of this Order be declared invalid or unconstitutional, the other provisions unaffected thereby shall remain valid and subsisting

Repealing Clause. All issuances, orders, rules and regulations, or parts thereof that are inconsistent with any provision of this Order are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

Effectivity. This Executive Order shall take effect immediately.

Issued this Eleventh day of March, 2020 in the City of Ilagan, Isabela.

RODOLFO T. ALBANO III

SABELA