



Republic of the Philippines
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
Province of Negros Occidental

EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 20-15
Series of 2020

**AN ORDER IMPLEMENTING THE CLOSURE
OF BORDERS, PORTS AND AIRPORTS OF NEGROS OCCIDENTAL**

WHEREAS, it is the policy of the State to protect and promote the right to health of the people and instill health consciousness among them;

WHEREAS, the Local Government Code of 1991 states that provinces shall exercise powers necessary, appropriate or incidental for its efficient and effective governance, and those which are essential to the promotion of general welfare, health and safety including the provisions of services to control communicable diseases;

WHEREAS, the World Health Organization recently declared the 2019 Corona Virus Infectious Disease (COVID -19) as an international pandemic;

WHEREAS, on March 8, 2020, President Rodrigo Roa Duterte issued Proclamation No. 922 declaring the Philippines under the State of Public Health Emergency by reason of COVID -19;

WHEREAS, the above-mentioned proclamation empowers Local Government Units (LGUs) to immediately act to prevent loss of life, utilize appropriate resources to implement urgent and critical measures to contain or prevent the spread of COVID-19, mitigate its effect on the community, and prevent serious disruption to the government and community;

WHEREAS, the Inter Agency Task Force for the Management of Emerging Infectious Disease through Resolution No. 11, Series of 2020, dated March 12, 2020, has effectively raised the Code Alert System for COVID-19 to Code Red Sublevel 2 which prompted the President Rodrigo Roa Duterte to place Metro Manila under a community quarantine due to COVID-19;

WHEREAS, after due consultation with the Local Chief Executives, national agencies, and medical experts, there is a need to implement measures in order to insulate Negros Occidental from COVID-19.

NOW THEREFORE, I, EUGENIO JOSE V. LACSON, Governor of the Province of Negros Occidental, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby order:

Section 1. CLOSURE OF BORDERS, PORTS AND AIRPORTS OF NEGROS OCCIDENTAL. All borders, ports, and airports of Negros Occidental are now declared **CLOSED**, effective immediately and shall remain in full force and effect until April 14, 2020. Entry of persons shall be restricted except to the following: (1) all duly identified residents of Negros Occidental, its cities and municipalities; (2) health workers responding to emergency; (3) members of the PNP and all branches of the AFP; (4) persons travelling for urgent medical or humanitarian reasons; and (5) persons transporting essential goods, supplies and medicines;



Section 2. FULL ACTIVATION OF THE INTER AGENCY COVID-19 BORDER MONITORING AND REGULATION TASK FORCE. The Inter Agency COVID-19 Border Monitoring and Regulation Task Force is hereby fully activated. It shall be composed of Officials of the Local Government Units and Barangays of Negros Occidental, members of the Philippine National Police, Armed Forces of the Philippines, Philippine Posts Authority, Philippine Coast Guard and Civil Aviation Authority of the Philippines. The Task Force is hereby ordered to defend the borders of Negros Occidental and diligently perform their powers and functions:

Section 3. EXERCISE OF POWERS. The Task Force is hereby authorized to defend the borders of Negros Occidental by setting up check points and the prevent entry of persons not allowed under this executive order, specifically along the highways located in the borders of Mabinay-Kabankalan, Bayawan-Hinoba-an, San Carlos-Vallehermoso, La Castellana - Canlaon, and other roads that may be used as entry points.

In addition, the Inter Agency COVID-19 Border Monitoring and Regulation Task Force shall be authorized to perform the following:

1. Deny entry to all non-residents of the Province of Negros Occidental, with or without symptoms of COVID-19;
2. Allow entry to all returning residents of the Province of Negros Occidental, with or without COVID-19 symptoms. All returning residents shall be required to present a valid government issued identification card prior to entry.

All returning residents must be checked for signs and symptoms of COVID-19 and undergo the following:

- (A) A 14-day home quarantine;
- (B) Endorsement to the Barangay or LGU where they reside; and
- (D) Monitoring by the Barangay Health Emergency Response Teams (BHERTs)

All residents with COVID-19 symptoms will be deemed as Person/s Under Investigation (PUI) and must submit themselves for interview, assessment and fill up a Health Information Form. All individuals travelling with the person manifesting symptoms shall be considered as Person/s Under Monitoring (PUM). All of the aforementioned PUI and PUM must then observe the 14 day quarantine period.

3. Allow entry to essential personnel, specifically the following: (1) health workers responding to emergency; (2) members of the PNP and all branches of the AFP; (3) persons travelling for urgent medical or humanitarian reasons; and (4) persons transporting essential goods, supplies and medicines;

Section 4. REGULATION OF AIR, SEA, AND LAND TRANSPORTATION. All air and sea travel are hereby BANNED during the effectivity of this executive order. The Civil Aviation Authority of the Philippines is hereby directed to ensure that all airports in Negros Occidental remain closed during the effectivity of this executive order. The Philippine Coast Guard and the Philippine Ports Authority are also directed to ensure that all ports in Negros Occidental remain closed during the effectivity of this executive order.



Operators and dispatchers of bus or other public utility vehicles shall be required to refrain from crossing the borders of Negros Occidental. They are further required to check all passengers for COVID-19 symptoms and check their temperatures prior to boarding or the purchase of tickets.

Section 5. THE HEALTH INFORMATION FORM. The Provincial Health Office (PHO) shall prepare and print Health Information Forms for all residents of Negros Occidental. The preparation and procedures on the proper use, distribution, filling-up and filing of the forms shall be under the supervision and control of the PHO.

Section 6. PROHIBITION ON THE SPREAD OF FAKE NEWS. Sharing of unconfirmed reports is strictly prohibited. Only valid and verified information shall be published and shared.

Section 7. REPEALING CLAUSE. Any or all Executive Orders previously issues inconsistent herewith are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

Section 8. EFFECTIVITY. This executive order shall take effect immediately upon approval.

Done this 15th day of March 2020.

SO ORDERED.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "E. Lacson".

EUGENIO JOSE V. LACSON
Governor