



Executive Order No. 21-38
Series of 2021

**AN EXECUTIVE ORDER IMPLEMENTING MORE STRINGENT TRAVEL
PROTOCOLS FOR INBOUND TRAVEL TO THE PROVINCE OF NEGROS
OCCIDENTAL IN ORDER TO PREVENT THE SPREAD OF THE COVID-19 DELTA
VARIANT IN THE PROVINCE**

WHEREAS, on March 16, 2020, President Rodrigo Roa Duterte issued Proclamation No. 929 declaring a State of Calamity throughout the Philippines due to Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) wherein Local Government Units are enjoined to render full assistance and cooperation and mobilize necessary resources to undertake critical, urgent, appropriate response and measures in a timely manner to curtail and eliminate the threat of COVID-19;

WHEREAS, Section 16 of Republic Act No. 7160 also known as the Local Government Code provides that within their respective territorial jurisdictions, local government units shall ensure and promote health and safety, and preserve the comfort and convenience of their inhabitants;

WHEREAS, in May 2021, the World Health Organization (WHO) designated a new variant of the COVID-19 virus called the "Delta Variant" which is significantly more transmissible than other COVID-19 variants, and has been linked to new COVID-19 case surges in India, Indonesia, Europe, Israel, and the United States of America;

WHEREAS, as of June 21, 2021, the Philippines has so far reported 35 positive COVID-19 Delta Variant cases wherein two (2) cases were detected in Western Visayas, particularly in Antique, which is the first detected local transmission;

WHEREAS, in light of the foregoing developments, there is a need to implement proactive travel protocols in order to curb the spread of the COVID-19 Delta Variant in the Province of Negros Occidental;

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

SECTION 1. SUSPENSION OF EXECUTIVE ORDER 21-34, SERIES OF 2021, ENTITLED "AN EXECUTIVE ORDER ADOPTING THE SALIENT POINTS OF THE GUIDELINES AND PROTOCOLS FOR FULLY VACCINATED INDIVIDUALS UNDER COVID-19 INTER-AGENCY TASK FORCE FOR EMERGING INFECTIOUS DISEASES (IATF-EID) RESOLUTION NO. 124-B, SERIES OF 2021". The implementation of the provisions of Executive Order 21-34, series of 2021 is hereby suspended in order to prevent the spread of the highly contagious COVID-19 Delta Variant in the Province of Negros Occidental.

SECTION 2. TRAVEL PROTOCOLS TO PREVENT THE SPREAD OF THE COVID-19 DELTA VARIANT IN THE PROVINCE OF NEGROS OCCIDENTAL. Travel to the Province of Negros Occidental shall be subject to the following requirements:

1. SAFE, SWIFT, AND SMART PASSAGE (S-PaSS) PERMIT.

Inbound travelers shall secure an electronic or printed copy of the Approved Travel Coordination Permit issued by the S-PaSS travel management system.

2. STAYSAFE.PH APPLICATION

Inbound travelers shall show proof that they have downloaded and registered with the StaySafe.ph application for contact tracing.

3. NEGATIVE RT-PCR TEST RESULT PRIOR TO TRAVEL.

- a. Shall be valid for 72 hours from date of swab sample extraction.
- b. Must be conducted and issued by a Department of Health accredited Molecular Laboratory.

NON-COMPLIANCE WITH THE REQUIREMENTS. Travelers who do not comply with the abovementioned requirements shall not be allowed to board or travel to the Province of Negros Occidental.

SECTION 3. VOLUNTARY SWABBING. The Province of Negros Occidental shall offer voluntary swabbing ("swab and go") to inbound passengers at the airport and seaports. The Province shall bear the cost of the RT-PCR test.

Inbound passengers who avail of this service shall be required to undergo facility quarantine at either a LGU Quarantine Facility or an Accredited Provincial Quarantine Facility pending the results of their RT PCR swab test.

SECTION 4. INFORMATION DISSEMINATION. For effective information dissemination, all LGUs shall serve copies and apprise all barangay officials of this Executive Order.

SECTION 5. SANCTIONS FOR NON-COMPLIANCE. All persons and/or establishments who do not comply with the provisions of this Executive Order, as well as the established health and safety protocols issued by the Department of Health, the IATF-EID, other agencies, and the Province of Negros Occidental, shall face appropriate administrative and/or criminal sanctions under existing laws and regulations.

SECTION 6. SEPARABILITY CLAUSE. Should any provisions of this Order be declared invalid or unconstitutional, the remaining provisions not affected thereby shall remain in full force and effect.

SECTION 7. REPEALING CLAUSE. All other executive issuances, rules and regulations or parts thereof which are inconsistent with this Executive Order are hereby revoked, amended or modified accordingly.

SECTION 8. AMENDMENTS. Any of the above provisions may be subject to amendments, pursuant to any issuances by the National IATF or as justified by other compelling circumstances.

SECTION 9. EFFECTIVITY – This Executive Order shall take effect immediately.

Issued this 22nd day of July, 2021 at Bacolod City, Negros Occidental.


EUGENIO JOSE V. LACSON
Provincial Governor