

Republic of the Philippines
SANGGUNIANG PANLALAWIGAN
PROVINCE OF NEGROS ORIENTAL

EXCERPTS FROM THE JOURNAL OF THE SANGGUNIANG PANLALAWIGAN SESSION ON:

Date: April 3, 2020 – 4:18 P.M.

Classification: Special Session

RECORD OF ATTENDANCE:

HON. EDWARD MARK L. MACIAS
Vice Governor & Presiding Officer
Present

HON. JOHN T. RAYMOND, JR.	- Present	HON. JAIME L. REYES	- Present
HON. PETER PAUL F. RENACIA	- Present	HON. JOSE A. BALDADO	- Present
HON. ERWIN MICHAEL L. MACIAS	- Present	HON. ESTANISLAO V. ALVIOLA	- Present
HON. VALENTIE D. YAP	- Present	HON. CHESTER V. LIM	- Present
HON. MA. ANTONIA E. VILLEGAS	- Present	HON. KIT MARC B. ADANZA	- Present
HON. ADEMB. MAXINO (SK)	- Present	HON. KURT MATTHEW T. TEVES (LNMB)	- Present
HON. MANUEL L. SAGARBARRIA (PCL)	- Present		

RESOLUTION NO. 300

“WHEREAS, the World Health Organization (WHO) has already characterized the Corona Virus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) as pandemic;

“WHEREAS, on March 8, 2020, President Rodrigo Roa Duterte issued Presidential Proclamation No. 922, which placed the Philippines under a State of Public Health Emergency;

“WHEREAS, on March 16, 2020, President Rodrigo Roa Duterte, recognizing that the Corona Virus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) public health event constitutes a threat to national security, declared a State of Calamity throughout the Philippines by issuing Proclamation No. 929;

“WHEREAS, on March 16, 2020, the Local Chief Executive issued Executive Order No. 21, Declaring a General Community Quarantine in the Entire Province of Negros Oriental;

“WHEREAS, the quick alarming morbidity and death of two (2) COVID-19 positive persons and the increasing number of Persons with Influenza-Like Illness, Moderate Acute Respiratory Illness and Severe Acute Respiratory Illness related to COVID-19 in Negros Oriental;

“WHEREAS, Executive Order No. 21, series of 2020, 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 this spread of COVID-19, mitigate its effect on the community and prevent serious disruption to the government and community;

“WHEREAS, there is a need to establish policies and guidelines when the Province of Negros Oriental is under an Enhanced Community Quarantine (ECQ);

“WHEREFORE, On motion of Honorable Member Erwin Michael L. Macias, seconded by Honorable Member Estanislao V. Alviola, the Sangguniang Panlalawigan, resolves to enact the following Ordinance:

ORDINANCE NO. 18
Series of 2020

**AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING POLICIES
AND GUIDELINES WHEN THE PROVINCE OF
NEGROS ORIENTAL IS UNDER AN ENHANCED
COMMUNITY QUARANTINE (ECQ).**

“Be it enacted by the Sangguniang Panlalawigan in session duly assembled:

SECTION 1. COVERAGE. This Ordinance shall cover all persons whether residents or non-residents within the territorial jurisdiction of the Province of Negros Oriental.

SECTION 2. DEFINITION OF ENHANCED COMMUNITY QUARANTINE (ECQ). A State of Enhanced Community Quarantine (ECQ) is a state where strict home quarantine shall be implemented in all households, transportation shall be suspended, provision for food and essential health services shall be regulated and heightened presence of uniformed personnel to enforce quarantine procedures will be implemented.

SECTION 3. POLICIES AND GUIDELINES OF ENHANCED COMMUNITY QUARANTINE. Pursuant to the declaration of a State of Enhanced Community Quarantine in the Province of Negros Oriental, all residents of the Province are ordered and directed to obey, follow and abide strictly to the following policies and guidelines:

A. MANDATORY STAY AT HOME ORDER. All persons of the Province of Negros Oriental during the effectivity of the ECQ shall stay at home and movement outside their home shall be allowed only for purposes of accessing basic necessities and other needs.

Provided, that only one able bodied and below 65 years old member of the household is allowed to go out for this purpose and shall bring his/her quarantine pass issued by the Mayor or his/her duly authorized representative. An alternate member is allowed and whose name shall be included in the same pass in case the primary holder of the pass becomes indisposed.

The Mandatory Stay at Home Order shall not apply to the following:

1. Medical practitioners, officers, hospital staff, nurses, caregivers and health volunteers for the purpose of rendering medical assistance and/or services;
2. Emergency personnel;
3. All authorized national and local government officials and employees;
4. Drivers and personnel of delivery vehicles of all types of cargoes;
5. Construction workers duly authorized by the Governor, City and Municipal Mayors or thru their duly authorized Barangay Captains;
6. Accredited media personnel by the Philippine Information Agency;
7. Farmers, fishermen and agribusiness personnel;
8. Persons who seek medical attention or who are already admitted in any medical facility, provided that only one companion shall be allowed;
9. Employees of exempted establishments as provided under Section 3.C hereof; and
10. Such other persons as may be authorized by the Governor, City and Municipal Mayors or their duly authorized representative.

The Armed Forces of the Philippines, Philippine National Police, and other law enforcement agencies are directed to ensure enforcement/compliance hereof.

B. NON-DISRUPTION OF GOVERNMENT WORKS.

Government offices providing basic services shall continue to operate provided that they adopt alternative work arrangements pursuant to Civil Service Commission Memorandum Circular No. 07, series of 2020, or other issuances in relation to pandemics.

Government offices are hereby directed to issue accreditation orders to identify their skeletal work forces for critical services operating during the duration of the Enhanced Community Quarantine. Bona fide identification cards and certification on active duty issued by their respective agencies shall be sufficient for movement around their respective LGUs until such time that such accreditation orders shall have been issued by the agency concerned.

C. CLOSURE OF BUSINESSES.

- I. All business establishments shall be closed for the duration of the ECQ except the following:

TWENTY-FOUR HOUR OPERATIONS

1. Hospitals, medical clinics and laboratories;
2. Pharmacies and drug stores;
3. Gasoline stations;
4. Cargo handlers, forwarders, shipping lines, truckers, and container yards;

5. Water, electricity, cable and telecommunication companies;
6. Funeral parlors;
7. Establishments rendering delivery services, whether in-house or outsourced transporting food, medicine and other basic necessities should secure a medical certification issued by the originating City/Municipal Health on the date of travel; and
8. Sugar centrals and distilleries shall remain open for 24 hours and its operations should not be suspended.

LIMITED OPERATING HOURS (UNTIL 8:00 PM)

1. Food establishments, provided that there shall be no dine-in customers and only cooked takeout orders or delivery services are allowed;
2. Food manufacturers and suppliers;
3. Public markets, supermarkets, groceries, bakeshops, and convenience stores;
4. Water-refilling stations;
5. Veterinary clinic;
6. Animal feed veterinary supply suppliers;
7. Banks and money transfers;
8. Hardware stores;
9. Delivery and courier services;
10. Dealers or suppliers of agricultural products, LPG and other petroleum products;
11. Laundry services; and
12. Automotive supplies.

Transporting and selling of alcoholic beverages is strictly prohibited during the period of quarantine.

The management of the foregoing exempted establishments shall adopt a strict skeletal workforce, implement social distancing measures, and provide adequate transportation to their employees.

These establishments are directed to conduct temperature check prior to allowing customers and patrons inside their premises. Further, these establishments must require their employees to wear masks and proper equipment when necessary, provide alcohol and/or sanitizers and keep hand washing stations within their premises. Finally, same should direct their employees to immediately proceed to their respective homes after ending their shift.

Credit cooperatives performing quasi banking and licensed by the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas (BSP) shall remain open. The office hours to be set by their respective management, provided, that it shall conform to the Executive Order issued by Mayors of their place of business regulating the office hours.

The City and Municipal Mayors reserves the right to set the operating hours and reserves the right to authorize other establishments to operate as may deem fit and necessary.

II. No hotel or similar establishments shall be allowed to operate, except those accommodating:

1. Guest who have existing booking accommodation prior to the declaration of Enhanced Community Quarantine, provided, no new booking shall be accommodated;
2. Guests who have existing long-term leases; and
3. Employees of Business Process Outsourcing (BPO) companies.

III. All Business Process Outsourcing (BPOs) and Knowledge Process Outsourcing (KPOs) and export-oriented industries, as applicable, may remain operational, pursuant to the Department of Information and Communications Technology (DICT) Memorandum Circular No. 005, series of 2020, or other issuances in relation to pandemics.

D. SUSPENSION OF ALL OPERATIONS OF LAND VEHICLES.

The operation of all land vehicles whether public or private plying within the territorial jurisdiction of the Province of Negros Oriental shall be temporarily suspended, except:

1. Private vehicles and motorcycles which are allowed to ply within the clustered cities and municipalities for the purpose of securing food, basic commodities and medicine.

For this purpose, the Cities and Municipalities are hereby clustered as follows:

Cluster I – Comprising the City of Dumaguete and Municipalities of Bacong up to Siaton to the south to include Valencia, and the Municipalities from Sibulan up to San Jose, Negros Oriental.

Cluster II – Comprising the City of Bayawan and Municipalities of Santa Catalina and Basay;

Cluster III – Comprising the Cities of Tanjay and Bais, Municipalities of Amlan, Pamplona, Mabinay, Manjuyod, Bindoy and Ayungon.

Provided, that the Municipality of Ayungon shall allow passage thru the Ayungon-Nabilog-Tambo-Mabato National Highway and the national highway from Poblacion Ayungon up to Tayasan Boundary for residents of the following hinterland barangays of Tayasan: Bago, Guinalaban, Jilabangan, Lag-it, Linao, Pindahan, Pinalubngan, Pinocawan, Tambulan, and Tanlad. Provided, that the requirements as stipulated in this Ordinance and the checkpoint

protocols will be followed in regulating the flow of persons. Provided further, that the traveler will directly proceed to the Municipality of Tayasan.

Cluster IV – Comprising the Municipalities of Tayasan and Jimalalud.

Provided, that in cases of non-availability of needed medicines in the 2 municipalities and there is a need to buy them from other nearby clusters, concerned should bring along with them boundary and quarantine passes issued by their respective mayor or thru his/her duly authorized representative, vehicle pass if concern owns a vehicle, and identification card.

Cluster V – Comprising the Cities of Guihulngan and Canlaon, and Municipalities of La Libertad and Vallehermoso.

Provided that the person shall carry identification card and a quarantine pass issued by their City or Municipal Mayors or their duly authorized representative. Provided also, that protocols at the checkpoints shall be followed.

2. Emergency vehicles, provided, the driver and the patient attendant shall carry with them their quarantine pass and identification card.
3. Delivery trucks carrying basic commodities and essential goods and delivery trucks carrying construction materials and equipment.

For Residents

- a. Bring Original Business Permit (for dry goods-grocery stores and LPG retailers).
- b. Vehicles of all incoming/outgoing cargoes in the city/municipality should have a copy of OR/CR for the registration of the vehicle and Driver's License.
- c. Maximum of 2 assistants and 1 driver are allowed per cargo. The persons who came in should be the ones to get out. No substitution of passenger and driver.
- d. Upon entry, the driver and passenger should be disinfected or sanitized using alcohol spray provided by the LGU.
- e. Outbound drivers having symptoms of the pandemic disease are not allowed to go out of the city/municipality and so with inbound drivers with the same symptoms are subject for isolation/quarantine for 14 days.

For Non-Residents

- a. Present a photocopy of Business Permit and Delivery Receipt.
- b. Vehicles of all incoming/outgoing cargoes in the city/municipality should have a copy of OR/CR for the registration of the vehicle and Driver's License.
- c. Maximum of 2 assistants and 1 driver are allowed per cargo.

4. All AFP, PNP, PCG, DILG and BJMP vehicles.
5. Authorized government vehicles.
6. Buses authorized by the Governor, City and Municipal Mayors.
7. All other vehicles duly authorized by the Governor, City and Municipal Mayors or his/her duly authorized representative.

The Provincial, City and Municipal Government shall undertake providing transportation for frontliners, health and medical workers, workers in exempt establishments in the Cities and Municipalities of Negros Oriental.

E. RESTRICTION OF LAND AND SEA TRAVEL

Travel or transit in the province, cities or municipalities is prohibited, except the following:

1. Authorized government officials and employees;
2. Health and emergency workers;
3. Bona fide members of the Task Force created by the provincial government regarding the pandemic disease, provided, they shall carry with them their official identification card signed by the Governor.
4. Law enforcement personnel, including the police, military, PCG, DILG, BJMP and force multipliers;
5. Individuals duly authorized to conduct humanitarian and relief operations;
6. Persons working in the aforecited exempted establishments;
7. Media personnel with duly issued press/company identification card;
8. Workers attending to installation, construction, indoor repair of public utilities and/or road construction;
9. Transiting outbound passengers;
10. Trucks and vehicles transporting all types of goods and cargoes;
11. Delivery services whether in-house or outsourced, transporting food, medicine and other basic necessities; and
12. Vehicles authorized by the Governor, City and Municipal Mayors or their duly authorized representative.

Provided, that they present the proper identification if needed.

F. BORDER CONTROL

During the Enhanced Community Quarantine, strict monitoring of the borders of the Province, Cities and Municipalities shall be implemented and to this end, the following shall be observed:

1. No person is allowed to enter or exit the Province, Cities or Municipalities, except for the following:
 - I. Medical Services
 - a. All Department of Health officials and their complement;

- b. All health and service personnel stationed at the local government unit health facilities;
 - c. All Philippine Red Cross vehicles bearing the Red Cross logo and staff with Red Cross ID;
 - d. Core staff from the World Health Organization and its regional offices;
 - e. Doctors, Nurses, Medical Technologists and their drivers;
 - f. Hospital staff and employees including janitorial and security services;
 - g. Medical professionals and other employees; and
 - h. Private caregivers.
- II. Emergency responders from any of the following:
- a. Bureau of Fire Protection;
 - b. Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Office;
 - c. Department of Social Welfare and Development;
 - d. Provincial/City/Municipal Social Welfare Development;
 - e. Barangay Health Emergency Response Teams (BHERTs); and
 - f. Local Government Units.
- III. Security Service Personnel
- a. Armed Forces of the Philippines;
 - b. Philippine National Police;
 - c. Philippine Coast Guard;
 - d. Bureau of Jail Management and Penology;
 - e. National Bureau of Investigation;
 - f. Bureau of Quarantine;
 - g. Bureau of Customs;
 - h. Philippine Ports Authority;
 - i. Land Transportation Office;
 - j. Bantay Dagat and Bantay Lasang enforcers,
 - k. SCAA/CAFGU;
 - l. Company Security Officers and security guards; and
 - m. Force Multipliers (Barangay Officials and Tanods).
- IV. Banks
- a. Bank executives and key officials;
 - b. Bank employees;
 - c. Bank ATM Service team/crew; and
 - d. Pick-up personnel and armored vehicle crew.
- V. Money Changer Services – officers and employees
- VI. Supermarkets/Groceries/Convenience Stores
- a. Officials and employees.

- VII. Public Markets
 - a. Vendors; and
 - b. Loaders.
- VIII. Pharmacies/Drugstores
 - a. Pharmacists and employees.
- IX. Food Chain/restaurants/carinderia engaged in delivery and take-out.
 - a. Staff and Crew.
- X. Public Utilities
 - a. Officials and employees.
- XI. Sanitation - Residence, industrial, hospital and toxic garbage/waste collectors and drivers.
- XII. Delivery personnel of cargoes - with or without load (3 personnel including helpers).
- XIII. Employees working at the manufacturing establishments engaged in the production and distribution of food, essential and hygiene products, medicines and vitamins, medical products such as PPEs, masks, gloves and others;
- XIV. Logistics/Warehouse establishment employees;
- XV. Authorized Officials and employees of BPOs, KPOs and Export-Oriented Business personnel;
- XVI. Heads of mission or their designated foreign mission representatives, including limited foreign mission personnel and staff may be exempted from the strict home quarantine requirement whenever performing diplomatic functions, subject to such appropriate guidelines issued by the Department of Foreign Affairs, provided, that protocols on the establishment of skeletal workforces shall be observed.
- XVII. Other Authorized Persons
 - 1. Officials of the national government and/or their duly authorized representatives.
 - a. Ombudsman and Deputy Ombudsman;
 - b. Justice of the Supreme Court, Court of Appeals;
 - c. Judges of the Regional, Metropolitan, City and Municipal Trial Courts and Prosecutors;

- d. Provincial Governor, Provincial Vice-Governor, Provincial Board Members, Officials and employees assigned in the Provincial Capitol;
 - e. City and Municipal Mayors, Vice Mayors and respective Members of the Sangguniang Panglunsod/Bayan, local government officials and employees;
 - f. Media personalities;
 - g. Such other persons determined by the Governor, City and Municipal Mayors or their duly representative to enter and exit the province, city or municipality.
2. No vehicle is allowed to enter or exit the Province of Negros Oriental, Cities and Municipalities during the period of ECQ, except the following:
- a. Those vehicles carrying persons allowed to enter and exit the Province, its cities and municipalities;
 - b. Those vehicles carrying essential goods and basic commodities;
 - c. Emergency vehicles such as ambulances, fire trucks and the like;
 - d. All vehicles of the AFP, PNP, PCG BJMP and BFP;
 - e. Those vehicles determined by the Governor, City and Municipal Mayors or his/her duly authorized representative to enter and exit the Province, its cities and municipalities.

G. BORDER CHECK POINTS AND OPERATIONS

In establishing border control under the declaration of Enhanced Community Quarantine, the Action Plan of the IATF on COVID-19 Committee on Law Enforcement and Peace and Order shall be adopted.

The movement of all types of cargoes in the points of entry shall be unhampered upon the presentation of the cargo manifest or delivery receipt indicating the destination, nature, and quantity of loaded goods/cargoes and subject to established guidelines and protocols (such as temperature check, etc.) as crafted by authorized government agencies.

H. SHARING OF UNVERIFIED INFORMATION

In order to streamline and decentralize the operations, management and information dissemination in addressing the COVID-19 or other pandemics, the provincial government shall create a task force that will act as the policy-making body in addressing the pandemic in the province. Dissemination of Information shall only be handled by the said task force to prevent confusion and chaos.

Sharing of unconfirmed reports is strictly prohibited. Only valid and verified information from the proper authorities shall be allowed to be published and shared. Appropriate legal action shall be imposed upon violation hereof.

I. DESIGNATED ISOLATION AREA

Municipalities and cities are mandated to set up a Quarantine Area for individuals with symptoms of the illness declared as pandemic following DOH protocols. If a quarantine area has already been in place for those with recent travel history, another separate area must be set for said individuals.

The province will also set up its own Isolation Area following the same DOH protocols.

J. HANDLING AND DISPOSAL OF REMAINS OF CONFIRMED CASES AND PATIENTS UNDER INVESTIGATIONS (PUIS)

1. In handling the remains of confirmed cases, general infection precautions must be strictly observed to avoid further spread of the disease and shall conform to DILG MC 2020-063 or other issuances in relation to pandemics.
2. LGUs (cities and municipalities) shall designate funeral service facilities to handle the remains of confirmed cases and provide possible financial assistance to cover the logistics, fuel, salary and other expenses that will be incurred in the process.
3. LGUs (cities and municipalities) and the DILG shall monitor and penalize funeral homes that refuse to provide logistics and transport of said remains, including but not limited to refusal to pick-up the remains, subject to the policies and guidelines of the aforementioned LGUs or the DILG.
4. To reiterate, the funeral services staff and personnel are granted exemptions from the imposed Enhanced Community Quarantine. The said individuals may freely move and travel to ensure that the remains of deceased individuals will be given proper funeral services.
5. Funeral Homes/companies are directed to provide transportation and/or housing accommodations for funeral service staff.

K. MOBILE PALENGKE

Municipalities and cities are mandated to set up roving stores to encourage people to stay at home and away from public places. The mechanism can always involve the barangays.

L. ECONOMIC RESPONSE MEASURES

1. **Food/Cash Assistance.** Local Government Units, through their Local Social Welfare and Development Offices, are mandated to assist their needy constituents and displaced workers, especially daily wage earners/no work-no pay workers, during the state of ECQ. LGUs are authorized to use their Quick Response Fund (QRF) in accordance to the Rules and Regulations of Republic Act 10121.

Local Government Units are directed to distribute the relief packages through a house-to-house mechanism.

2. **Financial Relief.** Recognizing the significant impact of the pandemic to the general public, and in order to alleviate difficulties faced by the general public, the Financial Relief Guidelines issued by the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas dated March 16, 2020 or other issuances in relation to pandemics is hereby adopted. Financial institutions are encouraged to provide financial relief to clients affected by the outbreak.

Further, credit cooperatives, microfinancing, loan firms, and institutions offering car, motorcycle, and home appliance loans/installments shall provide financial reliefs to their customers.

In addition, institutions providing basic utilities such as water and electricity shall also provide financial relief to their members.

These measures aim to encourage the grant of a temporary grace period for loan payments, restructure loan accounts to their borrowers and customers, without penalty charges, and temporarily suspend interest rates.

M. ENFORCEMENT OF COMPLIANCE FOR BUSINESSES

The Philippine National Police, with the cooperation of the Business Permit Licensing Office and other involved in licensing of businesses of Cities and Municipalities, are hereby directed to implement the full extent of this Ordinance and in consequence thereto, revoke the Business Permit of the establishment and file appropriate action.

N. IMPLEMENTATION AND PENALTIES FOR NON-IMPLEMENTATION

All Cities and Municipalities, through the active involvement of the Barangay Captains, Officials, Tanods and other force multipliers, are likewise mandated to implement this Ordinance in their respective jurisdiction and in coordination with law enforcement agencies.

Non-compliant barangay officials shall be filed appropriate administrative and/or criminal cases as provided under relevant laws and issuances. The Provincial Legal Officer, the City or Municipal Attorney is directed to monitor compliance of the Barangays.

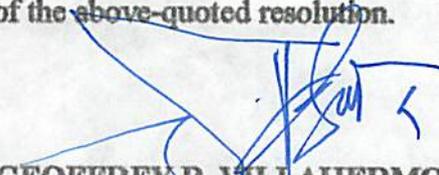
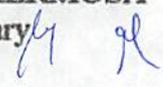
SECTION 4. SEPARABILITY CLAUSE. If for any reason or reasons, any part or provision of this Ordinance shall be held to be unconstitutional or invalid, other parts or provisions hereof which are not affected thereby shall continue to be in full force and effect.

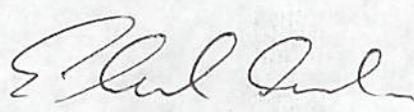
SECTION 5. REPEALING CLAUSE. All ordinances, executive orders and issuances by cities and municipalities that are inconsistent herewith will be superseded by this Ordinance.

SECTION 6. EFFECTIVITY. This Ordinance shall take effect on April 3, 2020.

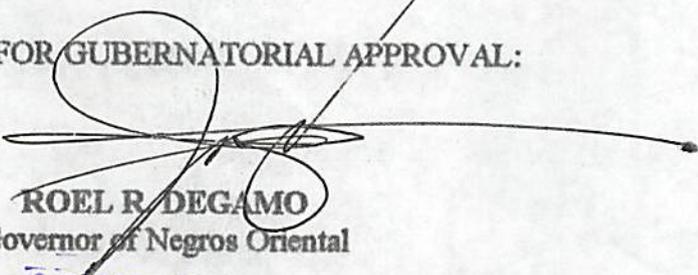
"Unanimously Approved."

I hereby certify to the correctness of the above-quoted resolution.


GEOFFREY P. VILLAHERMOSA
Provincial Secretary 


EDWARD MARK L. MACIAS, M.D.
Vice Governor of Negros Oriental
Presiding Officer

ORIGINAL FOR GUBERNATORIAL APPROVAL:


ROEL R. DEGAMO
Governor of Negros Oriental

Date: 20 APR 2020