

## Office of the Governor

## EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 25-A

CREATING A TASK FORCE THAT WILL BE RESPONSIBLE IN MONITORING THE ENTRY OF LIVESTOCK ANIMALS AND MEAT PRODUCTS IN ISABELA, FOR THE PREVENTION AND CONTROL OF "AFRICAN SWINE FEVER" AND OTHER DISEASES AFFECTING THE LIVESTOCK INDUSTRY

WHEREAS, it is the policy of the State to promote a just and fair environment for trade and other economic activities, and provide effective mechanisms or measures to promote the well-being of its citizens, their livelihood, and the economy, in general;

WHEREAS, the Department of Agriculture recently banned the importation of pork from 19 countries following reported incidents of hog mortality in Luzon and other areas in the Philippines, and cases of African Swine Flu in Asian, European, and African countries, as well as fears of contaminated meat;

WHEREAS, the province of Isabela today, with its 34 progressive towns and 3 booming cities, is one of the biggest livestock raisers, as well as markets for meat products, in Northern Luzon;

WHEREAS, the Provincial Veterinary Office, is primarily tasked by the Provincial Government to ensure that local poultry and livestock industries are fully compliant with all food quality and safety standards prescribed by law, and are protected from onslaughts of animal diseases that can cause human deaths and other maladies;

WHEREAS, the entry of all hogs and other livestock animals in Isabela need to be closely monitored, with unquarantined or unscreened animals prevented from entering any part of the province;

WHEREAS, Section 465 of Republic Act 7160 which is 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, there exists an urgency to create a Task Force that will establish the monitoring and quarantine of livestock animals transported to Isabela, as well as set up related procedures that will ensure the quality and safety of fresh meat products in Isabela;

Now therefore, I, RODOLFO T. ALBANO III, Governor of Isabela, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby decree the following:

Section 1. Creation of the Task Force. There is hereby created a Task Force to monitor the entry of Livestock animals and meat products in Isabela into the 34 municipalities and 3 cities of Isabela, and ensure that livestock and meat quality and safety standards are complied with by livestock and meat transporters;

Section 2. Composition. The Task Force shall be composed of the following:

Chairman

Hon. Rodolfo T. Albano III

Vice Chairman

Hon. Faustino G. Dy III

Nagkaisa para sa Isabela





Task Force Coordinator -

Atty. Constante A. Foronda, Jr.

Public Safety Officer (PSO)

Task Force Commander -

Asst. PSO Jimmy U. Rivera, Sr.

Deputy Task Force Commander-Dr. Angelo C. Naui, VMD

Provincial Veterinarian

Members

PSS Mariano Cureg Rodriguez, PD IPPO PNP

Col Basilio P. Dumlao (ret.), Acting and Assistant PDRMMO

Mr. Rodrigo T. Sawit, PGSO

Ms. Elsa M. Pastrana, Provincial Budget Officer Ms. Joan Baldo, Acting Information Officer and other Department Heads as may be directed

by the Chairman

Section 3. Functions. The Task Force shall have the following functions:

- a) Establish check points in the southern entry point (Municipality of Cordon) and the northernmost municipality (San Pablo) for the inspection of incoming livestock animals and fresh meat products;
- b) Determine the compliance of incoming livestock suppliers with applicable agriculture and environmental laws, and identify irregular, inappropriate, suspicious, and potentially unsafe and unhealthy practices and procedures governing or related to the transport of the livestock to Isabela;
- c) Order and implement non-negotiable one-day quarantine procedures if Checkpoint Inspection finds there is a lack of required documents in the transport of the livestock animals, or the livestock and meat products being transported to Isabela do not appear healthy or fit for consumption;
- d) Refer to the proper law enforcement authorities, all individuals with incomplete documents who are involved in the transport of livestock animals and fresh meat products, as well as those who are transporting unhealthy livestock animals;
- e) Conduct regular assessment of the health of Inspection and Quarantine personnel to help determine the impact of the transported livestock on public health and safety;
- f) Create a database containing information gathered and researched, and raw and processed data that will be helpful in the conduct of monitoring activities, which can be accessed by members of the Task Force;
- g) Recommend corrective or mitigating measures in accordance with its mandate, including but not limited to penalties and fines, and the issuance of a temporary or permanent ban on erring outside suppliers who brought in sick or suspicious live stock, in violation of this Order;
- h) Conduct regular meetings for cohesive action and systematic procedures;
- Request from any official, instrumentality or agency of the government or any private person or enterprise dealing in or engaged in public and health and safety, such data or information as it may need to implement its mandate;
- Recruit and screen persons from the private or public sector for designation as additional members of the Task Force, as necessary;



- k) Disseminate information on public health and food/livestock safety to all residents of Isabela, to raise awareness or increase public vigilance on food quality and safety issues as well as arm them with information on what signs or situations to look out for when raising livestock or purchasing fresh meat products;
- Submit a quarterly Report of all findings and recommendations to the Provincial Governor for his action;
- m) Perform other tasks as may be necessary to achieve the objectives of the Task Force.

Section 4. Funding. Funding for the Task Force shall be sourced from the Office of the Governor.

**Section 5. 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.

Section 6. Effectivity. This Executive Order shall take effect immediately.

Issued this 26th day of AUGUST , 2019 in the City of Ilagan, Isabela.

RODOLFO T. ALBANO III. O Governor

CHTA/NORLES

