

## Office of the Governor

## EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. <u>06</u> Series of 2025

AN ORDER PROVIDING FOR THE AUTOMATIC SUSPENSION OF CLASSES IN THE PROVINCE OF ISABELA UPON THE ISSUANCE OF A HEAT INDEX WARNING OR FORECAST FROM PAGASA REACHING OR EXCEEDING A SPECIFIED THRESHOLD

WHEREAS, Section 16 of Republic Act No. 7160, otherwise known as the Local Government Code of 1991, mandates local government units (LGUs) to exercise powers necessary for efficient and effective governance, including measures to promote the health and safety of their constituents;

WHEREAS, the Philippine Atmospheric, Geophysical, and Astronomical Services Administration (PAGASA) has forecast that the summer season will begin once the Northeast Monsoon subsides in April, bringing high temperatures and humidity levels that could result in dangerous heat index levels;

WHEREAS, PAGASA classifies a heat index of 42°C and above under the "danger" category, indicating a high likelihood of heat-related illnesses such as heat cramps, heat exhaustion, and heat stroke with prolonged exposure;

WHEREAS, the Department of Education (DepEd) has issued OASOPS No. 2023-077, granting school heads the discretion to suspend in-person classes and implement Alternative Delivery Modes (ADM) during unfavorable weather or environmental conditions, including extreme heat. However, the order does not establish specific thresholds for automatic suspension, which may result in inconsistent implementation across schools;

WHEREAS, upon the recommendation of the Provincial Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Office (PDRRMO), it is deemed necessary to implement an automatic class suspension policy based on heat index warnings to protect students, teachers, and school personnel from heat-related health risks;

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, RODOLFO T. ALBANO III**, Governor of the Province of Isabela, by virtue of the powers vested in me by the Constitution and existing laws, do hereby order the following:

Section 1. Automatic Suspension of Classes Based on Heat Index Forecast. Upon the issuance of a heat index warning or forecast by PAGASA indicating temperatures reaching or exceeding 41°C, all face-to-face classes in grade school and secondary schools, both public and private, within the province shall be automatically suspended.

SABELA



**Section 2. Implementation and Coordination**. The PDRRMO shall closely monitor PAGASA heat index reports and issue official recommendations to the Office of the Governor for class suspensions as necessary. The Provincial Information Office (PIO) shall ensure timely dissemination of suspension announcements to school divisions, local government units (LGUs), and the general public.

**Section 3. Alternative Learning Delivery Modes**. All schools affected by face-to-face classes shall have the option to implement alternative learning delivery modes (ADM) as prescribed by DepEd guidelines to ensure the continuity of education.

Section 4. Public Health Precautions. In addition to class suspensions, the PDRRMO shall coordinate with the Provincial Health Office (PHO) to issue heat safety advisories, including:

- a) Hydration reminders and safe outdoor activity guidelines;
- b) Proper clothing recommendations to reduce heat exposure;
- c) First-aid measures for heat-related illnesses; and
- d) Emergency response coordination for cases of heat exhaustion or heat stroke.

**Section 5. Effectivity.** This Executive Order shall take effect immediately upon signing and shall remain in force unless otherwise repealed or amended.

	Issued t	his	27th	day	of	March	2025,	in	the	City	of	Ilagan
Isabela												

RODOLFO T. ALBANO III

