[ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER NO. 43, June 01, 2021]

AUTHORIZING THE GRANT OF HAZARD PAY TO GOVERNMENT PERSONNEL WHO PHYSICALLY REPORT FOR WORK DURING THE PERIOD OF IMPLEMENTATION OF AN ENHANCED COMMUNITY QUARANTINE AND A MODIFIED ENHANCED COMMUNITY QUARANTINE, AMENDING ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER NO. 26 (S.2020), AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

WHEREAS, Proclamation No.922 (S.2020) declared a State of Public Health Emergency in recognition of the COVID-19 public health event as a threat to national security, and prompted a whole-of-government approach in addressing the COVID-19 outbreak in the country;

WHEREAS, Proclamation No. 1021 extended the period of the State of Calamity throughout the Philippines for a period of one year, effective 12 September 2020 to 12 September 2021;

WHEREAS, pursuant to the recommendation of the Inter-Agency Task Force (IATF) for the Management of Emerging Infectious Disease under its Resolution No. 106-A (s.2021), the President imposed an Enhanced Community Quarantine (ECQ) in the National Capital Region and other provinces beginning 27 March 2021 until 04 April 2021, and was subsequently extended until 11 April 2021;

WHEREAS, upon the recommendation of the IATF through its Resolution No. 109-A (s.2021), various areas in the country were placed under a Modified ECQ (MECQ);

WHEREAS, government employees occupying regular, contractual or casual positions, or those engaged through contract service (COS), job order (JO) or other similar schemes, whose services are urgently essential and who physically report for work during the period of an ECQ and MECQ, are inevitably exposed to the risk of COVID-19 infection and other similar health dangers and hazards; and

WHEREAS, Joint Resolution No. 4 (s.2009) authorizes the grant of Hazard Pay to government personnel exposed to hazardous situations, such as, but not limited to, disease-infested places, which pose occupational risk or perils of life;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, RODRIGO ROA DUTERTE, President of the Republic of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by the Constitution and existing laws, do hereby order:

Section 1. Section 1 of Administrative Order (AO) No. 26 is hereby amended as follows:

"SECTION 1. Grant of the COVID-19 Hazard Pay. National government agencies (NGAs) including state universities and colleges (SUCs) and government-owned or -controlled corporations (GOCCs) are