

LOURDES A. LEON GUERRERO
GOVERNOR



JOSHUA F. TENORIO
LT. GOVERNOR

UFISINAN I MAGA'HĀGAN GUĀHAN
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR OF GUAM

Via Hand Delivery
and E-mail: speaker@guamlegislature.org

November 5, 2022

HONORABLE THERESE M. TERLAJE
Speaker
I Mina 'trentai Sais Na Liheslaturan Guåhan
36th Guam Legislature
Guam Congress Building
163 Chalan Santo Papa
Hagåtña, Guam 96910

RE: EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 2022-24

Hafa Adai Madame Speaker:

Pursuant to Public Law 34-16, transmitted herewith is the following Executive Order:

EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 2022-24: RELATIVE TO EXTENDING THE PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY

Thank you.

Senseremente,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Leslie A. Travis".

LESLIE A. TRAVIS
Legal Counsel

Enclosure: Executive Order No. 2022-24

cc via email: *Maga'hågan Guåhan*
Sigundo Maga'låhen Guåhan
Hon. F. Philip Carbullido, Chief Justice of Guam
Compiler of Law
Central Files
Cabinet Members



ISLAND OF GUAM
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
HAGATNA, GUAM 96932
U.S.A.

EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 2022-24

RELATIVE TO EXTENDING THE PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY

WHEREAS, on January 31, 2020, United States Health and Human Services Secretary Alex M. Azar II declared a public health emergency for the United States, to aid the nation's healthcare community in responding to the 2019 novel coronavirus ("COVID-19"); and

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020, President Donald Trump declared a national emergency over the COVID-19 outbreak in the United States; and

WHEREAS, on March 14, 2020, before any cases of COVID-19 were identified on Guam, I, Lourdes A. Leon Guerrero, *I Maga'hågan Guåhan*, Governor of Guam, acting pursuant to the power provided by the Organic Act of Guam and the laws of Guam, declared a public health emergency on the island of Guam, for the purpose of identifying and mobilizing our island's response and recovery measures in response to the significant public health risk posed by COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, consistent with Guam law, the declaration and renewal of the public health emergency has enabled us to activate critical resources that have helped guide our island through this crisis and which buoy our recovery, some of which are still in use as of the time of this writing; and

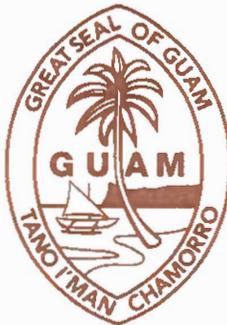
WHEREAS, despite lingering concerns and misinformation regarding community restrictions such as social distancing and limitation on social gathering numbers, no such community-wide restrictions exist. Our community is free to congregate as it did prior to the pandemic. Our businesses are open. Our island is again receiving significant numbers of visitors; and

WHEREAS, individual businesses are, of course, free to impose additional restrictions on the use of their facilities subject to federal and local law. Similarly, consistent with federal requirements, masks are required to be worn at medical facilities, where our most vulnerable go to seek treatment; and

WHEREAS, life has returned to qualified normal. Our people are returning to their full lives with their loved ones, but are perhaps more cognizant of their health and more considerate of the vulnerability of others; and

WHEREAS, notwithstanding our community's return to normalcy, several emergency measures remain activated for the safety of our community and to assist with ongoing recovery efforts; and

WHEREAS, among these measures is the activation of the Guam National Guard in Executive Order No. 2020-03. The Guam National Guard has steadily reduced the number of members on active-duty orders as our island recovered from the spread of COVID-19. Today, twenty-one (21) service members continue to assist the Department of Public



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Health and Social Services with vaccination and booster clinics. Pursuant to 10 GCA § 63500, the Guam National Guard may only be ordered into active duty in times of war or insurrection, or in times of a state emergency; and

WHEREAS, additionally, in Executive Order No. 2020-05, I ordered the waiver of licensing requirements, permits, or fees for health care providers. Pursuant to 10 GCA § 19608, the authority to waive these requirements only exists for such period as the state of public health emergency exists. This waiver has enabled our professional licensing boards to extend temporary licenses to over one thousand (1,000) medical healthcare professionals, including nurses, physicians, and respiratory therapists, over the course of the public health emergency. As of the time of this writing, over sixty (60) medical professionals serve our community under an emergency temporary work permit, and their services remain vital as members of our community resume treatment for medical conditions they deferred during the height of the pandemic; and

WHEREAS, Section 2302 of the Families First Coronavirus Response Act (“FFCRA”) authorizes the provision of emergency allotments to SNAP households “[i]n the event of a public health emergency declaration by the Secretary of Health and Human Services...based on an outbreak of coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) and the issuance of an emergency or disaster declaration by a State based on an outbreak of COVID-19.” As of May 2022, this emergency allotment provided over \$2 million in cumulative monthly assistance to over fifteen thousand (15,000) households. The current projection for those affected on Guam still exceeds thirteen thousand (13,000) households; and

WHEREAS, in Executive Order No. 2022-23, I outlined these outstanding measures that rely on the declaration of a local public health emergency. In that Order, I called upon the Guam Legislature to provide a mechanism for temporary permitting of medical professionals in the absence of a public health emergency, as well as coordination with medical compacts to which Guam is a party, to ensure our island retains the services of these medical healthcare professionals to the greatest extent possible following the end of our public health emergency; and

WHEREAS, understanding the impact that ending our public health emergency will have on these remaining concerns, I recognize that it is time to consider ending the public health emergency; and

WHEREAS, the national public health emergency is presently scheduled to end on January 11, 2023, subject to further renewal; and

WHEREAS, barring serious disruption to our response and recovery efforts, I am also prepared to end our public health emergency at that time; and

WHEREAS, as our public health emergency draws to an end, I ask that all affected agencies prepare for the inevitable impact this action will have on their operations, and that affected members of our community likewise prepare for the impact that ending the public health emergency will have on their lives and livelihoods.



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NOW THEREFORE, I, LOURDES A. LEON GUERRERO, *I Maga'hågan Guåhan*, Governor of Guam, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Organic Act of Guam as amended, do hereby order:

1. **EXTENSION OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY.** The public health emergency first declared in Executive Order No. 2020-03, and most recently extended in Executive Order No. 2022-23, shall be extended for an additional thirty (30) day period, effective November 6, 2022. The public health emergency is now scheduled to expire on December 6, 2022.
 - a. In anticipation of a target end date for the public health emergency on **January 11, 2023**, affected agencies are instructed to coordinate transition measures and provide information to individuals affected by any consequent change in services.
2. **SEVERABILITY.** If any provision of this Executive Order or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the invalidity shall not affect other provisions or applications of this Order that can be given effect without the invalid provision or application, and to this end, the provisions of this order are severable.
3. **PRIOR ORDERS REMAIN IN EFFECT.** All prior Executive Orders remain in full force and effect except where previously amended or rescinded to the extent they conflict with this Order.

SIGNED AND PROMULGATED at Hagåtña, Guam, this **5th** day of November 2022.

LOURDES A. LEON GUERRERO
Maga'hågan Guåhan
Governor of Guam

Attested by:

JOSHUA F. TENORIO
Sigundo Maga'låhen Guåhan
Lt. Governor of Guam

