



**OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
AMERICAN SAMOA GOVERNMENT**

**FIRST AMENDMENT TO THE DECLARATION OF
ONGOING PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY AND
STATE OF EMERGENCY DATED MARCH 7, 2022**

WHEREAS, the Declaration of Ongoing Public Health Emergency and State of Emergency dated March 7, 2022 is currently in effect in the Territory of American Samoa; and

WHEREAS, we have community spread of COVID-19 in American Samoa; and

WHEREAS, representatives of the federal government are supporting our efforts to combat COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, I declared that Code RED restrictions have been in effect since 12:01 am on Tuesday February 22, 2022;

NOW THEREFORE, I, Lemanu P. S. Mauga, Governor of American Samoa, Amend the Declaration of Ongoing Public Health Emergency and State of Emergency dated March 7, 2022 (herein "Declaration"):

The Territory remains in Code RED and the Declaration is amended as follows.

Section 3 relating to Code Red is replaced and replaced by the following:

"Code Red: In the event of community spread of COVID-19 locally, the Governor may declare that Code Red is in effect.

- (A) The Code Blue and Code Yellow restrictions remain in effect except as modified below.
- (B) Only essential businesses will be allowed to operate. Business hours are limited to 5 am to 6 pm.
 - (i) Buses and taxis may operate 24 hours a day. Mask use is required in buses and taxis.
 - (ii) Gas stations may resume their normal business hours.

- (C) All employers, public and private, will designate essential employees who directly perform or support essential services such as those related to public safety; health; utilities; food production, distribution, and sales; sanitation and laundry; telecommunications; media; essential construction; essential retail, port operations; essential payroll and fiscal services; and similarly, essential services.
- (D) Only those employees whose presence on-site is absolutely essential should work at places of employment. To the maximum extent possible, all employers should implement emergency operations procedures that include working remotely.
- (E) Non-essential businesses shall close except as provided herein:
 - (i) A single worker may be present at a business location. Customers are not permitted to enter nonessential business locations.
 - (ii) All remote work that does not involve the presence of more than one employee is permitted.
 - (iii) Outdoor work is permitted so long as workers can stay 6 feet away from other people and masks are worn in accordance with Section 2, Paragraph 1 of the Declaration. Outdoor work that involves people working alone does not require masking.
 - (iv) Requests for exceptions should be made by submitting a site safety plan to the Emergency Operations Center at eoc.opschief@asdhs.as.gov or (684) 699-3800 Ext: 116.
- (F) All ASG offices will be closed except for first responders and essential employees. Directors should implement emergency operations procedures that include working remotely.
- (G) All air and sea travel will be suspended unless approved by the Governor or Lieutenant Governor upon assurance that the health and safety of American Samoa residents will be protected.
- (H) Ports of entry will be closed except for military and approved air or sea passenger cargo vessels.
- (I) All public gatherings are prohibited except as provided herein.
 - (i) Individual exercise or workouts are permitted, but group workouts, organized sports, and organized practices are prohibited.
 - (ii) Any training or supporting services for essential government functions provided that mask use and social distancing is observed.
- (J) A curfew shall be in effect from 9:00 pm each night until 4:30 am. While the curfew is in effect, no person shall leave their home unless they are engaged in or traveling to or from an essential business or activity or they are engaged in the enforcement of this curfew.

- (K) All persons in public places shall observe social distancing guidelines by maintaining six (6) feet of physical distance from others and wearing a face mask or covering mask that covers their mouth and nose when interacting with anyone who does not live with them.
- (L) Additional requirements and restrictions will be issued as necessary for the protection of public health.”

Section 4 related to general provisions is amended by adding Paragraph (I) as follows:

- “(I) A.S.C.A. § 31.1001, relating to licensing of medical professionals, is suspended to the extent that any person who is licensed to provide medical services by a U.S. state, U.S. territory, or the District of Columbia shall be deemed as licensed in American Samoa provided that
- (1) The person is licensed as a physician, nurse practitioner, nurse, pharmacist, paramedic, emergency medical technician, or other medical provider in a U.S. state, U.S. territory, or the District of Columbia; and
 - (2) The person’s license to provide medical services has not been suspended in any state, territory, or the District of Columbia; and
 - (3) The person is preparing for, responding to, mitigating the effects of, or recovery from COVID-19; and
 - (4) The person is provided a federal medical responder (uniformed service, federal government employee, or federal contractor) or is under contract with the American Samoa Medical Center Authority (LBJ Tropical Medical Center) or the Department of Health.”

This amendment to the Declaration will be effective immediately and will remain in effect until the Declaration dated March 2, 2022 expires or is superseded. This amendment applies to those people who are currently in quarantine as well as those who are quarantined after the effective date of this amendment.

Dated: March 7, 2022



LEMANU P. S. MAUGA
GOVERNOR