



LOLO M. MOLIGA
GOVERNOR

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LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

DECLARATION OF CONTINUED PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY

WHEREAS, the Office of the Governor and the Department of Health remain prepared to take all necessary measures to protect the health and welfare of residents of American Samoa; and

WHEREAS, American Samoa has been under a Public Health Emergency since November 13, 2019 and a related State of Emergency since December 8, 2019 in response to the measles outbreak; and

WHEREAS, the Territory has eleven confirmed cases of the measles with one suspected case pending laboratory confirmation; and

WHEREAS, based on the clinical guidelines established by the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), two incubation periods must pass from the last confirmed case of measles to declare an end to the outbreak; and

WHEREAS, two incubation periods for measles equals forty-two days and the last confirmed case of measles began showing symptoms on December 24, 2019; and

WHEREAS, there remains vulnerable populations, including school-age children and undocumented children and adults, in American Samoa still in need of MMR vaccinations; and

WHEREAS, the conditions in neighboring Pacific states, including the Independent State of Samoa where 83 confirmed measles related deaths have occurred, remain cause for heightened alert with regard to preventing the spread of measles;

THEREFORE, I, Lolo M. Moliga, Governor of American Samoa, declare a continuation of the public health emergency initially declared on November 13, 2019 and extended on December 8, 2019 and authorize the Department of Health to utilize all necessary powers under the American Samoa Emergency Health Powers Act to contain the measles outbreak. The state of emergency declared on December 8, 2019 is likewise extended.

Pursuant to A.S.C.A. 13.0307 and 26.0105, I further declare that:

The restrictions on entry permits currently in place will continue until further notice;

Daycare centers are to remain closed until January 13, subject to the further update and advice of DOH;


All DOH health screening, examination, and clearance policies for travelers currently in place will remain until further notice;

The short-term amnesty program will remain in effect for the duration of this extended emergency period. All aliens without an official status (overstayers) present in the Territory on December 8, 2019, are to immediately register with the Immigration Office. The amnesty program will close for registration on February 6, 2020. At the close of registration, there will be increased immigration enforcement efforts and all those who have not registered for the amnesty program will be subject all applicable penalties including fines and deportation.

All other emergency policies currently in effect will remain so until further notice or expiration of this extended public health emergency declaration;

This declaration will be in effect for thirty (30) days and will expire on February 6, 2020.

Dated: January 7, 2020



LOLO M. MOLIGA
Governor