



POHNPEI STATE GOVERNMENT

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

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AMENDMENT TO CONSTITUTIONAL EMERGENCY ORDER NO. 20-04

WHEREAS, on February 7, 2021, the Governor issued Constitutional Emergency Order No. 20-04 which encapsulated all prior measures taken by the leadership of the Executive and the Legislative branches to maintain Pohnpei State's collective response to the imminent threat of Covid-19; and

WHEREAS, given the undeniable vulnerability of the State of Pohnpei to the COVID-19 pandemic experienced all over the world and the limited resources available to combat and mitigate the effects of the pandemic, it is of paramount importance and legal duty to continue to take all the precautionary measures and interventions necessary to protect the lives of our people; and

WHEREAS, due to recent medical development measures such as effective vaccination and reliable laboratory testing, an amendment is necessary that will guide in the implementation of this Constitutional Emergency Order.

NOW THEREFORE, I, Reed B. Oliver, Governor of the State of Pohnpei, pursuant to the authority vested upon me under Article 13, Section 9 of the Pohnpei Constitution and pursuant to 8 PC 1-102(e), do hereby amend the Constitutional Emergency Order as follows:

Paragraph (6) of the Constitutional Emergency Order is amended to read as follows:

"6) Air and sea travel:

a) With respect to international travel:

(i) No passenger is allowed to disembark in the State of Pohnpei, except crew of commercial airlines, humanitarian support aircraft and vessels, including search and rescue assets, FSM licensed fishing vessels, and all cargo vessels and tankers who may disembark only in the performance of required operational duties within the immediate airport or seaport facilities; PROVIDED that they do not come in contact with anyone including airport or seaport personnel; and

(ii) PROVIDED FURTHER, that in the event of an emergency or unforeseen circumstances caused by accidents, *force majeure*, disease, illness, or other extenuating factors that may result in substantial risk, injury or loss of life to any person, the Department of Health and Social Services in coordination with relevant state agencies and the Pohnpei COVID-19 Emergency Task Force shall, on a case by case basis, undertake all required medical protocols and health measures relative to COVID-19 including risk assessment, quarantine or isolation

requirements or a combination thereof deemed necessary, prior to allowing any person entry into the state of Pohnpei.

(iii) Exceptions with respect to international travel may be granted on a case-by-case basis for admittance into the State of Pohnpei of the following classes of people:

(aa) Certified health experts in all areas, technicians and workers assigned to assist the Pohnpei Government or the FSM National Government with respect to COVID-19;

(bb) Stranded returning Pohnpei residents who have not established a residency abroad;

(cc) Diplomats and personnel assigned to Embassies that are present on the island of Pohnpei, and their immediate family members;

(dd) Crew members of open-sea fishing vessels who are citizens of the Federated States of Micronesia;

(ee) The remains of deceased Pohnpeians and deceased residents of Pohnpei who may be accompanied by not more than five members of the immediate family of the deceased; and

(ff) Persons who are employed or who have been recruited to be employed in the State of Pohnpei, and their immediate families; and

(gg) Persons not listed in Subparagraph (iii) who meets the following requirements

- Certificate of Qualified Entry into the State of Pohnpei;
- Copy of passport biopage;
- Copy of a negative COVID-19 PCR test (taken within 72 hours prior to arrival)
- Copy of COVID-19 vaccination record (if available)

(iv) Admittance into the State of Pohnpei pursuant to the exceptions specified in Sub-paragraph (iii) immediately above in this Constitutional Emergency Order shall be premised upon prior favorable advice, assessment and recommendation by the Pohnpei COVID-19 Emergency Task Force, in consultation with the FSM COVID-19 Emergency Task Force, and subject to all screening, detection, quarantine, and isolation procedures and protocols of the State of Pohnpei.

(v) Persons seeking the use of one of the exceptions set forth in Sub-paragraph (iii) of this subparagraph of the Constitutional Emergency Order shall first obtain, prior to the commencement of travel to the State of Pohnpei, a written "Certificate of Qualified Entry into the State of Pohnpei" which shall be issued by the Director of the Pohnpei Department of Health Services for that specific individual; PROVIDED that the Director may issue said certificate to the respective person qualified to enter the State of Pohnpei in digital form over a secure internet server; PROVIDED FURTHER that the Director shall ensure compliance with Sub-subparagraph (iv) of this subparagraph of this Constitutional Emergency Order prior to the issuance of the Certificate of Qualified Entry into the State of Pohnpei and shall ensure that there is sufficient room at the Emergency Medical Unit and/or the State's Medical Monitoring Area to accommodate the incoming travelers.

(vi) The Governor shall take the necessary steps to notify passenger carrying marine vessels and passenger carrying airlines servicing the State of Pohnpei of the requirements of this subparagraph of the Constitutional Emergency Order.

(vii) Any person who shall knowingly forge or otherwise falsify a Certificate of Qualified Entry into the State of Pohnpei as set forth in this Constitutional Emergency Order shall be guilty of a felony offense against the State of Pohnpei and upon conviction thereof shall be punished by a fine of not less than \$1,000 or imprisoned for not less than one year, or both such fine and imprisonment.

(b) With respect to interstate travel:

(i) Travel by sea or air between and within the FSM states is permitted for essential personnel and people who are returning to their state of residence or employment, as long as there are no confirmed cases of COVID-19 within the FSM state where the person originated the travel or within one or more of the FSM states where the person disembarked during his travel; PROVIDED that if there is a confirmed COVID-19 case within an FSM state where the person originated the travel or within one or more of the FSM states where the person disembarked during his travel, said person shall be subject to the international restrictions of Sub-paragraph (a) of this paragraph of this Constitutional Emergency Order.

(ii) All passengers shall ensure that they are screened for COVID-19 at the airport or seaport prior to check in or boarding and shall present documentation of such screening upon arrival in Pohnpei. All passengers are also subject to screening procedures upon arrival in Pohnpei.

(iii) The Governor of Pohnpei State shall coordinate with the Governors of the other three FSM states to ensure that no passenger exhibiting symptoms of COVID-19 will be permitted to board a plane or ship engaged in interstate transportation.

(iv) Any passenger that develops symptoms during transit will be permitted to enter the State of Pohnpei, but will be subject to quarantine/isolation requirements.

(v) For purposes of this sub-paragraph of the Constitutional Emergency Order, the term "passenger" includes every person intending to board, is on board, or is departing from an aircraft or sea vessel engaged solely in interstate travel.

c) Persons in Sub-paragraphs (a) and (b) will be subject to the established procedures, protocols, and guidelines of the Pohnpei COVID-19 Emergency Task Force relative to Pohnpei State's preventive and containment measures against COVID-19 in effect as of the date of this Constitutional Emergency Order; PROVIDED FURTHER that any person who violates any provisions of this Constitutional Emergency Order shall be guilty of a felony offense against the State of Pohnpei and upon conviction thereof, shall be punished by a fine of not less than \$1,000 or imprisoned for not less than one year, or both such fine and imprisonment."

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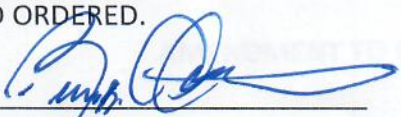
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

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Paragraph (8) of the Constitutional Emergency Order is amended to read as follows:

"Unless revoked or amended sooner, this Constitutional Emergency Order is valid for a period of thirty (30) days counting from March 10, 2021."

SO ORDERED.


Reed B. Oliver
Governor
State of Pohnpei

Date: 3/08/2021