

EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 260

Establishing Response, Quarantine and Preventive Measures to Minimize the Impact of Swine Flu Influenza A (H1N1) in Palau

WHEREAS, Swine Flu Influenza A (H1N1) virus was identified on April 13, 2009 and since then it has been categorized as a serious health threat by the World Health Organization (WHO) and has elevated it to "pandemic alert level" while the Center for Disease Control (CDC) have elevated the threat to Phase 5 (pandemic risk; and

WHEREAS, the Swine Flu has spread to many countries from Mexico where it began, such countries as the United State, Canada, Spain, New Zealand, U.K., Israel, Germany, Netherlands, Switzerland, Peru and Costa Rica; and

WHEREAS, many more countries have suspected cases making the total countries with confirmed and suspected cases of Swine Flu Influenza virus to 35; and

WHEREAS, there is no known vaccine for the treatment of the Swine Flu Influenza A (H1N1) virus; and

WHEREAS, Swine Flu is considered to be highly contagious with transmission via droplets; and

WHEREAS, healthcare providers are at risk of contracting the Swine Flu;

NOW, THEREFORE, by virtue of the authority vested in me as President, pursuant to the Constitution and the laws of the Republic, it is hereby ORDERED as follows:

1. Border Inspection. The Minister of Health shall, upon determining that there is a genuine threat to the health and welfare of the people of Palau, institute border inspection to identify individuals infected with the cause of the threat.

2. Travel Restriction. The Minister of Health, or his/her designee, shall institute travel restrictions on the Palauans traveling to any of the countries with confirmed and suspected cases of Swine Flu Influenza A (H1N1) virus.

3. Quarantine Policy. The Minister of Health, or his/her designee, shall institute, within five days, a quarantine policy, both at Belau National Hospital compound and at other locations, to limit and minimize the spread of Swine Flu.

4. Reporting. The Minister of Health shall report to the President on a weekly basis, or more frequently if necessary, the status of the Swine Flu Influenza A (H1N1) preventive measures as quarantine and prevention instituted.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my official seal this 4th day of May, 2009, at the Capitol, Ngerulmud, Melekeok State, Republic of Palau.

/s/
Johnson Toribiong
President of the Republic of Palau