

LOURDES A. LEON GUERRERO
MAGA'HÅGA • GOVERNOR



JOSHUA F. TENORIO
SIGUNDO MAGA'LÅHI • LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

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

June 1, 2020

HONORABLE TINA ROSE MUÑA BARNES

Speaker

I Mina'trentai Singko Na Liheslaturan Guåhan

35th Guam Legislature

Guam Congress Building

163 Chalan Santo Papa

Hagåtña, Guam 96910

Re: Executive Order No. 2020-17

Dear Madame Speaker:

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

EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 2020-17:
RELATIVE TO GUAM'S LAUNCHING OF THE PANDEMIC
UNEMPLOYMENT ASSISTANCE AND FEDERAL
PANDEMIC UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION
PROGRAMS

If you have any questions, please contact my office at # 475-9475/76.

Senseramente,

SOPHIA SANTOS DIAZ

Legal Counsel

Enclosure(s): Executive Order No. 2020-17

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
HAGÁTÑA, GUAM 96932
U.S.A.**

EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 2020-17

**RELATIVE TO GUAM'S LAUNCHING OF THE PANDEMIC
UNEMPLOYMENT ASSISTANCE AND FEDERAL PANDEMIC
UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION PROGRAMS**

WHEREAS, on March 27, 2020, President Donald Trump signed the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security ("CARES") Act into law; and

WHEREAS, Section 2102 of the CARES Act created the Pandemic Unemployment Assistance ("PUA") and Federal Pandemic Unemployment Compensation ("FPUC") programs which promise to provide significant unemployment benefits; and

WHEREAS, on March 28, 2020, Guam expediently entered into an agreement with the United States Department of Labor ("USDOL") for immediate participation in the PUA and FPUC programs; and

WHEREAS, Title 20, Section 625, of the *Code of Federal Regulations*, requires that Guam follow the Hawaii Employment Security Law; and

WHEREAS, the USDOL has rendered a legal opinion mandating that Guam use the Hawaii Employment Security Law in administering the PUA and FPUC programs; and

WHEREAS, Guam has since continued to work with USDOL in solidifying the technical platforms to allow ease of access for employers and claimants; and

WHEREAS, on May 31, 2020 the Guam Department of Labor ("GDOL") had successfully completed a soft testing of the PUA module; and

WHEREAS, GDOL has met its timelines and has signed the necessary Acceptance Certificates for the PUA module launch.

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. ADHERENCE TO THE HAWAII EMPLOYMENT SECURITY LAW.** GDOL and the Guam Department of Administration ("DOA"), in administering the PUA and FPUC programs, shall adhere to and operate consistent with Haw. Rev. Stat. Section 383:1-176, to the extent that it does not conflict with local laws or regulations.
- 2. ESTABLISHMENT OF THE GUAM DEPARTMENT OF LABOR, PANDEMIC UNEMPLOYMENT ASSISTANCE APPEALS OFFICE.** The GDOL shall establish a Pandemic Unemployment Assistance Appeals Office and administer such programs as required by 20 C.F.R. Section 625.30.
- 3. SUSPENSION OF THE WORK SEARCH REQUIREMENT.** Pursuant to and as guided by Unemployment Insurance Program Letter Nos. 13-20 and 16-20, the



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requirements for claimants of PUA and FPUC to be “actively seeking work” shall be suspended pending a designation that Guam is in Pandemic Condition of Readiness 3 (“PCOR 3”).

4. **ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANCE.** DOA shall assist GDOL in the processing and disbursement of payments and any other tasks needed for the administration of the PUA and FPUC programs. DOA may recover costs associated with such assistance from GDOL.

SIGNED AND PROMULGATED at Hagátña, Guam, this **1st** day of **June 2020**.



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

Attested by:

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