



# The Office of Senator Amanda L. Shelton

*Legislative Secretary & Chairwoman*

Committee on Higher Education and the Advancement of Women, Youth and Senior Citizens

*I Mina'trentai Singko Na Libeslaturan Guahan*

35th Guam Legislature

April 3, 2020

Honorable Lourdes A. Leon Guerrero  
Governor of Guam  
513 West Marine Corps Drive  
Ricardo J. Bordallo Complex  
Hagåtña, Guam 96910

Re: Guam's COVID-19 Intervention Efforts

*Håfa Adai* Governor Leon Guerrero,

*Un Dangkalu Si Yu'os Ma'åse'* for your announcement of greater control of our roadways and tighter social distancing requirements during your press conference today. These robust measures will assist in our efforts to flatten the curve to slow the spread of COVID-19 and ease the burden on our island's key health services.

During our briefing with the State Surgeon's Physical Advisory Group yesterday, and after today's press conference it was made clear that further intervention is needed to protect our people and flatten the curve. We believe that implementing and enforcing much more strict compliance with social distancing and stay-at-home orders is needed to minimize "Guam suffering through the greatest casualties since WWII."

With these warning signs in mind, we implore you to consider the following additional social distancing measures that may prove useful as we battle against COVID-19 together:

- **Imposing a Fully-Enforced Curfew for All Residents-** Because of the risk of the rapid spread of the virus, and the need to protect all members of the community, especially those most vulnerable to the virus, health care providers, and front line workers we urge you to further impose a full curfew for all Guam residents from 6:00 pm to 5:00 am until April 30, 2020. This mandate will order all nonessential workers to shelter-in-place between those times. Businesses related to the distribution of supply food chain, medical supplies and equipment, and gas are excluded and may



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remain open. Countries hit hardest by the COVID-19 outbreak stringent measures have yielded results with virus stabilization in recent days and weeks.

- **Staggered-Alphabetically Assigned Permits-** We ask that you implement a stronger measure similar to what was outlined today by issuing an alphabetically staggered schedule on alternating days to permit residents to leave their residence to purchase necessities such as food and medicine, attend medical appointments, and vital family care for children or the elderly and individuals working for an essential business as outlined in Executive Order 2020-05. The current scheme, which goes into effect Tuesday, does not limit the amount of residents leaving their home but instead permits them to leave if they have a valid reason to do so. A staggered system allowing residents will further curtail movement outside of the home.
- **Mobilizing Our Social Workers-** Additional patient volumes will place pressure on our fragile healthcare infrastructure, therefore it is imperative we take measures to increase and mobilize our island's health, social care, and safety workforce. Isolation can leave many in our community in vulnerable situations. Utilizing our island's social workers and classifying them as essential in all agencies to respond to the COVID-19 will enable them to continue caring for vulnerable populations.
- **Mobilizing Autonomous Agency Law Enforcement Officers-** Furthermore, in addition to the use of GPD School Resource Officers, Department of Youth Affairs Youth Resource Officers, Judiciary of Guam Marshals, and the Guam National Guard, we encourage you to mobilize our Port and Airport police officers. We ask that you allow them to operate in areas outside of their jurisdictions to assist the Guam Police Department with enforcing these social distancing interventions while continuing to protect and support our people.
- **Extending Public and Private Schools Closures-** Given current uncertainty over the COVID-19 outbreak, we encourage you to look at the feasibility of closing both public and private schools for the remainder of the school year. Guam would follow a long list of other U.S. jurisdiction who have already closed in-person instruction through the end of the year including: Alabama, Arizona, California, Georgia, Indiana, Kansas, Michigan, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Vermont, and Virginia. The government should work to support the Department of Education and other respective schools to support and strengthen its digital infrastructure to get schools through this crisis.

Let us work together to implement these measures expeditiously. Strong measures enforced now may blunt the impact of the coronavirus on Guam in the near future. No

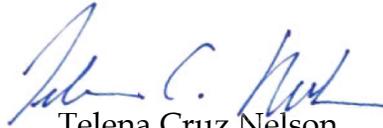
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measure is too drastic when it comes to protecting the health and safety of Guam. Instead of leading from behind, let us strengthen our position moving forward as leaders doing all we can to tackle COVID-19. Let us not wait for the predictions outlined today to become our new reality. Let us do all we can, today, to protect our people and save lives.

*Sins eru yan Minagâhet,*



Amanda L. Shelton  
Majority Whip  
Legislative Secretary  
35<sup>th</sup> Guam Legislature



Telena Cruz Nelson  
Majority Leader  
Vice Speaker  
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