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**NITIJELA OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE MARSHALL ISLANDS  
41ST CONSTITUTION REGULAR SESSION, 2020**



Republic of the Marshall Islands  
*Jepilpilin Ke Ejukaan*

**RESOLUTION 03**

A **RESOLUTION** requesting the Nitijela to confirm a Proclamation Declaring State of Health Emergency due to the Global Health Emergency of International Concern on the 2019 Novel Coronavirus issued by the President on behalf of the Cabinet on February 7, 2020, and shall remain in effect until the expiry of 12 months from date of certification or unless revoked earlier by the Cabinet.

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**WHEREAS**, the World Health Organization has declared the Novel Coronavirus outbreak as Public Health Emergency of International Concern (PHEIC); and

**WHEREAS**, the 2019 Novel Coronavirus (nCoV) has not been identified in the Republic of the Marshall Islands (RMI); however, the threat of this new coronavirus being imported into Republic of the Marshall Islands continues to heighten. The Ministry of Health and Human Services (MoHHS) and border control agencies have been implementing health screenings at the Amata Kabua International Airport and Majuro Seaport since January 24, 2020. Meanwhile, over 60,000 confirmed cases have been identified worldwide, and the virus has claimed over 1300 lives in the People's Republic of China (PRC), 1 in Hong Kong and 1 in Philippines; and

**WHEREAS**, there has been one coronavirus death outside of PRC that occurred in the Philippines on a 44-year old visitor from the city of Wuhan where the virus was first reported; and

**WHEREAS**, there is no confirmed treatment for nCoV except supportive care and isolation; and

**WHEREAS**, nCoV is considered to be highly contagious with prolonged contact and, to date, all of the exact modes of transmission are unknown; and

**WHEREAS**, healthcare providers, first responders and immediate contacts are at risk of contracting nCoV; and

**WHEREAS**, immune-compromised persons are the most vulnerable populations to develop severe complications and or death; and

**WHEREAS**, the MoHHS health infrastructure is limited and does not have sufficient resources to respond to an outbreak. Therefore, it is extremely important to halt the spread of nCoV virus within the RMI; and

**WHEREAS**, the RMI is home to more than 53,000 people living on 70 square miles of land spanning an area of more than 750,000 square miles of ocean in the Western Pacific and the transmission of nCoV can be extensive; and

**WHEREAS**, to implement an effective and efficient response against this nCoV, there is an urgent need for the whole of government and whole of society to cooperate and adhere to relevant instructions and protocols to prevent entry of the nCoV to RMI; and

**WHEREAS**, the RMI has been under a State of Health Emergency since August of 2019 because of a severe outbreak of dengue 3 which continues to be a major health issue to this day and that has devastated both the human and financial resources of the RMI; and

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, by the People of the Republic of the Marshall Islands, through their Nitijela at its 41<sup>st</sup> Constitutional Regular Session further to *Emergencies Act 1997*, hereby confirm that the Proclamation Declaring a State of Health Emergency due to the Global Health Emergency of International Concern on the 2019 Novel Coronavirus issued by the President on behalf of the Cabinet on February 7, 2020 and expires 12 months from the date of certification as set out above, unless revoked earlier by the Cabinet; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the President and the Cabinet shall execute the functions pursuant to the *Emergencies Act 1979*, relevant laws of the Republic and in line with the Nitijela's confirmation, with any modifications, if any, to further the

aims of the Proclamation Declaring a State of Health Emergency due to the Global Health Emergency of International Concern on the 2019 Novel Coronavirus.

CERTIFICATE

I hereby certify:

- 1. That Nitijela Resolution No: 03 was passed by the Nitijela of the Republic of the Marshall Islands on the 18<sup>th</sup> day of February 2020; and
- 2. That I am satisfied that Nitijela Resolution No: 03 was passed in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Constitution of the Republic of the Marshall Islands and the Rules of Procedures of the Nitijela.

I hereby place my signature before the Clerk this 18<sup>th</sup> day of February 2020.



**Hon. Kenneth A. Kedi**  
Speaker  
Nitijela of the Marshall Islands

Attest:



**Morean S. Watak**  
Clerk  
Nitijela of the Marshall Islands

