

UFISINAN I MAGA'HÅGA
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

LOURDES A. LEON GUERRERO
MAGA'HÅGA • GOVERNOR



JOSHUA F. TENORIO
SIGUNDO MAGA'LÅHI • LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

Via E-mail: Michael.SanNicolas@mail.house.gov

March 21, 2020

The Honorable Michael F.Q. San Nicolas
Guam Delegate to House of Representatives
1632 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman San Nicolas,

Thank you for your letter regarding the impact of the 2019 Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) on Guam's economy and the available federal programs the government and people of Guam will have access to as it relates to the process to declare Guam a major disaster area under the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act as well as the Economic Injury Disaster Loan (EIDL) Program under the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA). My Administration has already been tracking and working on these disaster related requests.

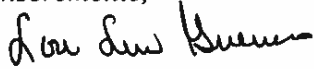
As you might be aware, as of March 13, 2020, an Emergency Declaration was declared for an incident period beginning January 20, 2020 and continuing. My Administration has been monitoring the request for a Major Disaster Declaration made by Governor Andrew Cuomo of the State of New York to President Donald J. Trump. Governor Cuomo's request was recently approved which sets a major precedence for a Major Disaster Declaration being approved for a health-related emergency, something that has not been approved in the past.

Although such path has been paved with this recent approval for the State of New York, my Administration has already been working with our federal counterparts at the U.S. Department of Labor (DOL) in anticipation of such a reality. In the coming days, given the precedence set in New York, I will be requesting for a Major Disaster Declaration for Guam. This is only the first step to accessing the Individual Assistance Programs such as the Disaster Unemployment Assistance (DUA) program as this will require additional justification that the government surely has toward assisting our people.

Additionally, the EIDL Declaration request was already sent to the U.S. SBA on March 17, 2020 and we are working with our federal partners directly with the U.S. SBA and will soon get such approval in the coming days for our people to access the available opportunities under the EIDL Program.

As we continue to monitor the federal actions undertaken by the major players in Washington, I have continued to work at the executive level through the National Governors Association and our direct executive-level federal partners to ensure the territories, including Guam, are included in the third COVID-19-related stimulus package. I urge you to continue your part in Congress in ensuring the same.

Senseremente,



LOURDES A. LEON GUERRERO

Maga'hågan Guåhan

Governor of Guam

cc via email: *Sigundo Maga'låhen Guåhan*