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Office of the Secretary

August 9, 2022

MEMORANDUM

TO: President

FROM: Secretary, Department of Health and Social Affairs

SUBJECT: **Guidelines for Implementation of the Health Borders Protection Act (PL 22-134)**



Per our discussion and request, please find attached, herewith, the guidelines developed pursuant to PL 22-134 and the subsidiary Health and DOJ Regulations to waive the mandatory requirements for vaccination of children age 6 months to 4 years old and for testing of any person entering any FSM State with community transmission of COVID-19.

Should there be any questions, please let me know.

Thank you,


Marcus H. Samo

Attachment: Guidelines for the Implementation of PL 22-134 (Health Border Protection Act)

**GUIDELINES ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF PUBLIC LAW NO. 22-134
HEALTHY BORDER PROTECTION ACT**

This Guideline is issued jointly by the Secretary of Justice and the Secretary of Health and Social Affairs pursuant to Public Law No. 22-134, FSM Healthy Border Protection Act, and Regulation issued pursuant to the public law; and

In particular, this Guideline is issued on the basis of Section 309(2)(e) of Title 50 of the FSM Code, as amended by Public Law No. 22-134, which allows for the issuance of guidelines *to aid in effective implementation* of the act.

Now, therefore, in accordance with the above premises the following Guidelines set out below shall be observed to aid the implementation of the FSM Healthy Border Protection Act and Regulation:

1. **Vaccination**. With respect to Vaccination Requirement for the purpose of travel into the FSM, it is now accepted that children under five (5) years of age in much more advanced jurisdictions, including the United States, are eligible for COVID-19 vaccine according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) standards. However, taking into consideration that (1) the vaccine for children ages five (5) was just approved and made available recently, (2) the said vaccine is currently optional, (3) and many Micronesian children of this age group residing abroad may not be fully vaccinated at this stage, it is determined that this vaccination requirement of travel into FSM for this particular age group is temporarily waived should they travel into FSM. This waiver will be reviewed and may change as emerging situation unfolds.
2. **COVID-19 testing**. Taking into consideration that two out of four FSM States have had active community transmission of the COVID-19, which is under close monitoring by health authorities, pending any further guidance and assessment, a negative COVID-19 test result is temporarily suspended as a travel requirement for the purpose of travel and entry into any of the FSM States with community transmission. As of the date of the issuance of this Guideline, Pohnpei and Kosrae have active community transmission of COVID-19. Additional guideline will be issued accordingly if and when the situation changes.

Date: 8/8/22



Joses R. Gallen, Sr.
Secretary, Department of Justice


Date: August 8, 2022



Marcus Samo
Secretary, Department of Health & Social Affairs

Approved:

Date: Aug 8th, 2022



H.E. David W. Panuelo
President
Federated States of Micronesia