



COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

Eloy S. Inos
Governor

Jude U. Hofschneider
Lieutenant Governor

EXECUTIVE ORDER No. 2013-08

DECLARATION OF HEALTH EMERGENCY

WHEREAS, the Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation (“CHC”) provides the bulk of necessary healthcare in the Commonwealth, as well as providing all emergency medical services; and

WHEREAS, the disruption of the provision of medical services by the CHC poses a direct threat to the health and safety of the people of the Northern Mariana Islands; and

WHEREAS, the CHC is currently in arrears to payments to vendors providing vital services and equipment and is in arrears in regards to salary payments to necessary employees; and

WHEREAS, CHC deteriorating financial condition affects its ability to maintain adequate infrastructure, equipment and personnel such that it is jeopardizing CHC’s federal funding; and

WHEREAS, CHC, has been notified by federal authorities that, due to deficiencies in CHC operations and infrastructure, CHC will cease to be eligible for Medicare/Medicaid payments along with other penalties if the deficiencies are not promptly remediated.

WHEREAS, Article III §10 of the Constitution of the Commonwealth and PL 18-4, § 104 of the Homeland Security and Emergency Management Act of 2013 provide that the Governor has the authority and duty to take necessary steps to respond to impending disasters;

NOW THEREFORE, I, ELOY S. INOS, pursuant to the authority vested in me as Governor of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands by Article III, § 10 of the Commonwealth Constitution and PL 18-4, do hereby declare a State of Significant Emergency for the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands due to the imminent threat of the disruption of critical medical services in the Commonwealth and the danger that such a condition poses to the public because of the great increase in otherwise preventable deaths that would result.

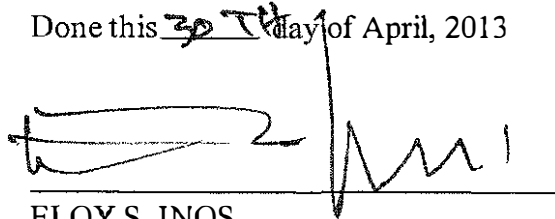
WHEREAS, BY THIS DECLARATION OF A STATE OF SIGNIFICANT EMERGENCY, I intend to enable CHC to continue to provide necessary services to the people of the Commonwealth. This Declaration is necessary to protect the health and safety of all CNMI residents and visitors.

NOW, THEREFORE, I hereby invoke my authority under Article III, § 10 of the Commonwealth Constitution and PL 18-4 § 104(c), to take all necessary measures to address the threats facing the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands and CHC including, but not limited to, the authority to:

1. Suspend all statutory or regulatory provisions as required; and
2. Utilize all available resources of the Commonwealth government and its political subdivisions as reasonably necessary to respond to the emergency.

To ensure that the suspension of regulatory provisions does not lead to financial abuse, this emergency declaration incorporates the March 19, 2012 Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between CHC and the Department of Finance, Office Management and Budget, and Office of the Attorney General. In addition, any financial reports submitted by the CHC pursuant to the MOU must be submitted with a certification of the person submitting them stating that the reports are a full and accurate under penalty of perjury.

Done this 30th day of April, 2013

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Eloy S. Inos', is written over a horizontal line. The signature is stylized and somewhat cursive.

ELOY S. INOS
Governor