

DIRECTOR OF HEALTH

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, STATE OF HAWAI'I

By the authority vested in me by the laws of the State of Hawai'i, I, ELIZABETH A. CHAR, M.D., Director of Health of the Department of Health, State of Hawai'i, hereby declare as follows:

WHEREAS, Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome Coronavirus 2 ("SARS-CoV-2") was identified in December 2019 in Wuhan, China and has since spread around the world. SARS-CoV-2 spreads when respiratory droplets or aerosols expelled when an infected person breathes, coughs, sneezes, talks, or sings, comes into direct contact with the mucous membranes of the mouth, nose, or eyes of someone else. It can also be spread by personal contact, including shaking hands or touching one's mouth, nose, or eyes after touching a contaminated surface.


WHEREAS, Coronavirus Disease 2019 ("COVID-19") is the disease that results from infection with SARS-CoV-2 and is recognized to cause considerable morbidity and mortality consequences. COVID-19 has no cure, has limited recognized drug treatments, is easily communicable and is dangerous to the public's health.

WHEREAS, On January 31, 2020, the US Department of Health and Human Services declared COVID-19 a national public health emergency. On March 11, 2020, the World Health Organization declared a global pandemic. There have been more than 35 million COVID-19 cases and over 600,000 deaths in the United States. As of August 2, 2021, there have been 43,962 confirmed and probable cases and 538 deaths in Hawai'i.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, ELIZABETH A. CHAR, Director of Health, hereby determine and declare as follows:

1. Coronavirus Disease 2019 ("COVID-19"), its variants and its causative agent, Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome Coronavirus 2 ("SARS-CoV-2"), is a disease that is communicable and dangerous to the public health.
2. Pursuant to section 325-2, Hawaii Revised Statutes, every physician or health care professional having a client affected by or suspected of being affected by COVID-19 (SARS-CoV-2) and every laboratory director having laboratory data regarding an individual affected by or suspected of being affected by COVID-19 (SARS-CoV-2) shall report the incidence or suspected incidence of COVID-19 (SARS-CoV-2) to the Department of Health in the manner specified by the Department of Health. At this time, all test results shall be reported via the electronic laboratory reporting system.
3. This Declaration shall continue until rescinded or until the Hawaii Administrative Rules section 11-156-3 is amended to include COVID-19 (SARS-CoV-2).

DATED: Honolulu, Hawaii, August 6, 2021.



ELIZABETH A. CHAR, M.D.
Director of Health