



**OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
AMERICAN SAMOA GOVERNMENT**

PROCLAMATION

**“NATIONAL WIC BREASTFEEDING WEEK
AUGUST 1 – 7, 2023”**

WHEREAS, breastfeeding remains the most natural way of feeding infants and serves as part of a foundation for life-long health and wellness; and

WHEREAS, exclusive breastfeeding is recommended and supported by the American Academy of Pediatrics and provides benefits that are not received by partially breastfed infants; and

WHEREAS, infants receiving human milk are protected against serious long-term health conditions including obesity, respiratory and ear infections, asthma, allergies, diarrhea, childhood cancer, sudden infant death syndrome, and less than optimal brain development; and

WHEREAS, breastfeeding promotes strong family bonds while providing economical and societal benefits through lowered health care costs; and

WHEREAS, a united effort is needed from businesses, communities, governmental leaders and health care providers to support breastfeeding; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Human and Social Services, American Samoa Women, Infants, and Children’s (ASWIC) Program will promote the “2023 World Breastfeeding Week” theme – **ENABLING BREASTFEEDING: MAKING A DIFFERENCE FOR WORKING PARENTS!** Breastfeeding women who are supported by their employers are more productive and loyal. Maternity protection and other workplace policies can enable women to combine breastfeeding and their work. Together, we all must protect, promote, and support breastfeeding at the workplace; and

WHEREAS, government and businesses can ensure that working mothers have an appropriate place and reasonable break time to express breast milk for their nursing child, and communities can support existing laws that protect a mother’s right to breastfeed her child in any public location; and

WHEREAS, the United States Department of Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Service and the American Samoa Department of Human and Social Services promote breastfeeding through the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) as well as through other food assistance programs; and

WHEREAS, in an effort to support breastfeeding in American Samoa, the ASWIC employs mothers who have breastfeeding experience as breastfeeding peer counselors to offer breastfeeding education, support, and role modeling using the Loving Support evidence-based model as its framework; and

NOW, THEREFORE, I, **LEMANU P. S. MAUGA**, Governor of the Territory of American Samoa, do hereby proclaim the week of August 1st – 7th, 2023, as “**WIC BREASTFEEDING WEEK**”, as promoted by ASWIC in American Samoa. I call upon all government, business leaders, and health professionals to celebrate with mothers, fathers, their families, the health and medical professionals, and others who provide support, encouragement, and help so mothers succeed with breastfeeding.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto affixed my signature and the seal of my office on this 10th day of July, in the year of our Lord two thousand twenty-three.


LEMANU P. S. MAUGA
Governor



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POLOAIGA FA'ALAUATELE

**“VAIASO E FA'ATĀUA AI LE FAFAGAINA O PEPE I LE SUĀSUSU O TINĀ
AUKUSO 1 – 7, 2023”**

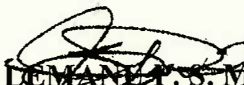
- TALUAI,** o le fafagaina o pepe i le suāsusu o tinā, o lo’o tumau pea le auala masani o le fafagaina o pepe ma avea o se fa’avae mo le ola maloloīna ma le ola manuia i le olaga atoa; ma
- TALUAI,** o le fafagaina o pepe na’o le suāsusu o le tina, ua fautuaina ma lagolagoīna e le Asosi o Foma’i a Tamāiti i Amerika, o lo’o maua ai ni penefiti e le o maua e pepe o lo’o fafaga lua i le suāsusu o tinā ma le fagu susu; ma
- TALUAI,** o le fafagaina o pepe i le suāsusu o tinā ua puipuia ai latou mai nisi o fa’afitauli o le soifua mālōlōīna e aofia ai tino mamafa, inifeti o le māmā ma taliga, sela, inifeti o le tino, manava tatā, kanesa o fanau laitī, Mafuaaga Maliu Faafuase’i o Fanau Pepe, ma aafiaga o le tupu o le fai’ ai; ma
- TALUAI,** o le fafagaina o pepe i le suāsusu o tinā e tapu’e malosī ai mafutaga fa’aaiga ma e taugofie ma fa’aititia ai le tamāoaiga e fa’amaumau mo le tausiga o le soifua mālōlōīna; ma
- TALUAI,** o le galulue va’ava’alua e mana’omia ai le tautua a pisinisi, nuu, ta’ita’i o mālō ma latou o ofoina le tautua mo le soifua mālōlōīna ia sapaapaia le fafagaina o pepe i le suāsusu o tinā; ma
- TALUAI,** o le Matagaluega Tautua ma Alagamanuia mo Tagata Lautele, i lana polokalama o le WIC a Amerika Samoa, ua latou taliaina ai “2023 Vaiaso e Faatāua ai mo le Lalolagi le Fafagaina o Pepe i le Suāsusu o Tina” Autu: **SUIGA MO MĀTUA FAIGALUEGA! FA’ATAUA LE FAFAGAINA O PEPE I LE SUĀSUSU O TINĀ.** E aogā ma fa’amaoni tina failele o loo galulue, ona o le lagolago a e o loo faigaluega ai. O le puipuiga o failele ma isi aiaiga a ofisa faigaluega, e mafai ai e tina ona galulue ma fafaga a latou pepe. E matuā mana’omia ona tatou tutū fa’atasi e puipui, siitia, ma lagolago le fafagaina o pepe e o latou tinā i fale faigaluega; ma
- TALUAI,** o le mālō ma pisinisi ia mautinoa le tu’uina atu o se avanoa mo tinā faigaluega ia maua se taimi ma se nofoaga talafeagai e mālōlō ai mo le fafagaina o a latou pepe, ma e mafai e nu’u ona lagolagoīna tulafono o lo’o iai nei e puipuia ai āiā tataua a le tinā mo le fafagaina o lana pepe i so’o se nofoaga faitele; ma

TALUAI, o le Matāgaluega o Faatoaga a le Iunaite Setete, Tautua mo Mea'ai ma Taumafa Tatau ma le Matāgaluega Tautua ma Alagāmanuia mo Tagata Lautele i Amerika Samoa ua lagolagoina le fafagaina o pepe i le suāsusu o tinā e ala i le Polokalama Faapitoa Faaopoopo Mo Mea'ai ma Taumafa mo Tinā, Pepe, ma Fanau (WIC) fa'apea foi nisi o polokalama fesoasoani mo taumafa; ma

TALUAI, i se taumafaiga e lagolago ai le fafagaina o pepe i le suāsusu o tinā i Amerika Samoa, ua fa'afaigaluega ai e le ASWIC nisi o tinā ua iai le tomai ma agava'a i le fafagaina o a latou pepe ma faufautua e a'oa'oina tinā i le fafagaina o pepe i le suāsusu o tinā, sapaapaia, ma avea ma faata'ita'iga lelei i le fa'aaogaina o su'esu'ega o mau-faavae o le Alofa Sapaapaia ma ona ta'iala; ma

O LEA, O A'U, LEMANU P. S. MAUGA, o le Kovana o le Teritori o Amerika Samoa, e tusa ai ma le pule ua tuuina mai ia te a'u e le tulafono ma tagata o Amerika Samoa, ua ou poloaiina le vaiaso o Aukuso 1-7, 2023, "**Faatāuaina le Fafagaina o Pepe i le Suāsusu o Tinā**". Ma i Amerika Samoa nei o le a galulue le ASWIC ma ona pa'aga ina ia fa'alauaitete lenei fe'au tāua. Ou te vala'au atu i ta'ita'i uma o le mālō ma pisinisi fa'apea i latou uma o galulue i faiva fa'apitoa i le tausiga o le soifua mālōlōina ia fa'amanatu lenei vaiaso e ala i sauniga ma tapenaga talafeagai e aloa'ia ai ma le agaga fa'afetai taumafaiga a tinā uma, tamā, aiga, le vaega o tausia le soifua mālōlōina ma nisi o lagolagoina lenei tautua, fa'amalosi ma fesoasoani ina ia manuia le faamoemoe o tinā.

UA FA'AMAONIA LENEI POLOA'IGA, e ala i lo'u sainiaina, fa'atasi ai ma le fa'amaufa'ailoga a lo'u ofisa ua faia i le aso 10 lenei o Iulai, i le tausaga o le Mesia e lua afe ma le lua-sefulu ma le tolu.


LEMANU P. S. MAUGA
Kovana