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Guam Welcomes House Passage of \$8.3 Billion Emergency Package

Hagåtña, Guam - The Leon Guerrero-Tenorio Administration applauds House passage of an \$8.3 billion emergency package to help federal entities, States, and territories prepare for and combat the spread of COVID-19.

The measure includes \$2.2 billion to help federal state, and territorial public health agencies prepare for a response to coronavirus, including funds for lab testing, infection control, and tracing individuals who might have had contact with infected people. The bill also reimburses state and local governments for costs they have already incurred.

The funding will provide resources for the Infectious Diseases Rapid Response Fund as well as \$300 million for global health efforts by the U.S. Center for Disease Control and Prevention. About \$1 billion will pay for pharmaceuticals and medical supplies, including masks and protective equipment for workers. The remaining package is allocated to research.

"I thank the House and fellow governors throughout the nation for working quickly to get this package through the House. Vice President Pence made it clear that help was on the way and we appreciate it," said Governor Lou Leon Guerrero.

"We face a global challenge. Meeting it requires national resources. I join the Governor in welcoming House passage of this measure and hope that we see more bipartisan action on behalf of those we all serve," said Lieutenant Governor Joshua Tenorio.

While the measure must now be considered in the Senate, appropriators from each chamber announced bipartisan support prior to House passage.

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