



**OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR  
AMERICAN SAMOA GOVERNMENT**

**PROCLAMATION**

**“NATIONAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP MONTH 2022”**

- WHEREAS,** American Samoa can be defined in one word: possibilities. Entrepreneurs’ willingness to take risks, work hard, and never quit to make those possibilities come alive. They turn vision into reality and ideas into products, profits, and national prosperity. This month, we celebrate their contributions as a point of national pride and recommit to giving them the space and support to ensure American Samoa wins the 21st century.
- WHEREAS,** during National Entrepreneurship Month, we celebrate the doers, dreamers, and job creators whose vision and grit fuel our economy and the essence of American Samoa; and,
- WHEREAS,** starting and owning a business has always been a key path to the Territory— a way to build wealth, serve your neighbors, and leave a mark in a community and on the world. Requiring risk-taking and daring, entrepreneurs faced additional challenges during the pandemic and the economic crisis that it created. Two years ago, many of our small businesses closed while others struggled to find workers and stock their shelves. But as we have recovered, our local community has responded with an entrepreneurial spirit, seizing the opportunity to build new businesses and launch new careers; and,
- WHEREAS,** to rebuild the local economy since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Business Recovery Capital Program (BRCP), funded by the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) and administered by the American Samoa Department of Commerce (ASDOC), launched the following business economic recovery programs: 1) BRCP Revolving Line of Credit (RLOC), 2) BRCP Grant Program, and 3) Cash Assistance Program (CAP) for Impacted Businesses. To date, a total of 29 borrowers have received BRCP Line of Credit assistance worth \$4.65 million; 191 small businesses have received BRCP Grants assistance worth \$3.89 million, and a total of 192 have received CAP assistance worth \$1.14 million; and,
- WHEREAS,** our Administration is working across the board to help them all succeed. Today, American Samoa entrepreneurship is booming. A record 507 new businesses started in 2021, over a 40% increase compared to CY2020. In CY 2022, we have 404 new businesses registered and 3,489 businesses in total.

Proclamation - National Entrepreneurship Month 2022

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, LEMANU P. S. MAUGA**, Governor of the Territory of American Samoa, do hereby proclaim the month of November 2022 as National Entrepreneurship Month. I call upon our community to commemorate this month with appropriate programs and activities and to celebrate November 19, 2022, as National Entrepreneurs' Day.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, I have hereunto affixed my signature and the Seal of my office on this 18<sup>th</sup> day of November, in the year of our Lord two thousand twenty-two.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Lemanu P. S. Mauga', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

**LEMANU P. S. MAUGA**  
Governor