



**OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
AMERICAN SAMOA GOVERNMENT**

PROCLAMATION

“SWAIN’S ISLAND 98th ANNIVERSARY”

- WHEREAS**, on March 4, 1925, by joint resolution of the United States Congress, “the sovereignty of the United States over American Samoa is extended over Swains Island which is made part of American Samoa and placed under the jurisdiction of the administrative and judicial authorities of the government established therein by the United State, “(48USC 1662); and
- WHEREAS**, on May 13, 1925, Lieutenant Commander C. D. Edgar, U.S. Navy, traveled to Swains Island for the purpose of extending the sovereignty over the islands in accordance with provision of the joint resolution of the U.S. Congress, formally hoisting the American flag and firing the national salute of 21 guns; and
- WHEREAS**, Swains Island is one of the seven islands which make up the Territory of American Samoa, situated approximately 210 miles north of the main island of Tutuila; and
- WHEREAS**, on October 13, 1856, Eli Hutchinson Jennings, Sr., an American from Long Island, New York, and his wife Malia, the daughter of a Samoan chief settled on Swains Island and hoisted an American Flag to declare his nationality; and
- WHEREAS**, descendants of Eli Hutchinson Jennings, Sr., and every person born on Swains Island soil are nationals of the United States, subsequent to 1925; and
- WHEREAS**, on May 13, 2023, the people of Swains Island will celebrate 98 years of partnership with American Samoa and the United States. Those native to Swains Island have forged strong bonds and ties with Tutuila and Manu’a and contribute to the long and proud history of the Territory.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, LEMANU P. S. MAUGA, Governor of the Territory of American Samoa, do hereby proclaim that the 98th anniversary will be celebrated on May 13, 2023, in American Samoa, for the observance of appropriate ceremonies, commemorating the raising of the Flag of the United States of America over Swains Island.

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

LEMANU P. S. MAUGA

Governor