



**OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
AMERICAN SAMOA GOVERNMENT**

PROCLAMATION

“2023 BOATING WEEK”

WHEREAS, the Territory of American Samoa has been blessed with a vibrant ocean environment that provides many leisure opportunities for its residents and visitors. For countless generations, recreational boating has been a favorite way to relax with family and friends while enjoying our ocean and coastal waters; and,

WHEREAS, even during short expeditions, safe boating practices remain extremely important as boaters and non-boaters can be affected by accidents on the water. Each year, lives and property are needlessly lost or damaged in boating accidents, many of which result from lack of basic knowledge of boating and ocean safety; and,

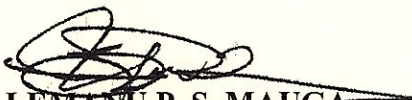
WHEREAS, numerous government agencies, private groups, and community organizations work to educate vessel operators about ocean safety principles by offering safe boating courses, conducting safety displays at harbors, boat ramps, examining boats for safety equipment, and taking part in other activities to keep American Samoa waters safe; and,

WHEREAS, it is important for all persons to know that life jackets save lives when properly worn, and carrying the proper safety equipment on board a vessel, including a VHF Radio or EPIRB, can also save lives; and,

WHEREAS, always remembering to leave a float plan with a relative, friend, or neighbor can do much to take the “Search” out of Search and Rescue.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, LEMANU P. S. MAUGA, Governor of the Territory of American Samoa, do hereby proclaim the week of May 20 – 26, 2023 to be SAFE BOATING WEEK in the Territory. I urge all boaters to wear a lifejacket, carry a VHF radio, obtain safe boating education, and to utilize the services of the Department of Search & Rescue, Marine Patrol Division, U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary, and the U.S. Coast Guard in practicing safe boating.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto affixed my signature and the seal of my office on this 21st day of April, in the year of our Lord two thousand twenty-three.


LEMANU P. S. MAUGA
Governor