



Hawai'i Convention Center
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David Y. Ige
Governor

Chris Tatum
President and Chief Executive Officer

March 25, 2020

Aloha Tourism Leaders,

Thank you for your tremendous efforts to inform the traveling community about the directives from Governor David Ige and the county mayors that will help mitigate the spread of COVID-19 in Hawai'i and reduce the burden on our healthcare resources. The 14-day self-quarantine currently required for everyone who enters our state and the "stay at home" directives are actions needed to protect our community. We have communicated this information through all of our channels to complement your efforts.

On March 24th, 4,131 people arrived in Hawai'i, most of them residents. In comparison, on that same day one year ago, 32,330 passengers arrived in Hawai'i. Due to airlines canceling many of their flights, available airline seats have dropped 30% and seats will decrease even more dramatically after the industry made extensive efforts to accommodate early departures this week. As of today, more than 40 hotels have suspended operations across the state and we expect this number to increase over the next few days.

The industry has offered support to the Hawai'i Emergency Management Agency (HI-EMA) from employee resources to hotel repurposing. HI-EMA is also evaluating the Hawai'i Convention Center for medical overflow options if needed.

We will continue to coordinate with our industry partners to work with the state on efforts to extend healthcare benefits for furloughed employees through the duration of the crisis. We need to pull together and take care of our families.

For details and links regarding Hawai'i coronavirus information, including a daily tourism brief that our team creates, please visit our website: <https://www.hawaii-tourismauthority.org/news/alerts/covid-19-novel-coronavirus/>

Mahalo for your support and leadership,

Chris Tatum
President and CEO
Hawai'i Tourism Authority