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EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 02- 1994

ESTABLISHMENT OF THE  
AMERICAN SAMOA NUTRITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (ASNAP)

By virtue of the authority vested in the Governor of American Samoa under Sections 11 and 12, Article IV, Revised Constitution of American Samoa, and Section 4.0302, American Samoa Code Annotated, it is hereby ordered as follows:

Section 1: Establishment of the American Samoa Nutrition Assistance Program (ASNAP):

There is established as a division within the Executive Branch of the American Samoa Government, an Agency to be known as the American Samoa Nutrition Assistance Program (ASNAP). The head of the office shall be the Program Director who shall report directly to the Governor and who shall be a career service employee hired in accordance to rules and regulations of the American Samoa Government (ASG) Career Service.

Section 2: Office Functions

Under the direction and guidance of the Program Director, ASNAP shall plan, organize, direct, control and supervise the implementation of the Nutrition Assistance Program to a special group of people residing in American Samoa. To achieve the functions stated herein, ASNAP shall operate pursuant to the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) signed by the Governor of American Samoa and the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA). The ASNAP shall adhere strictly to the Manual of Operations designed and executed for this purpose.

**Section 3. Office Staff**

The Program Director shall be responsible for the day to day operations of the ASNAP. He shall supervise the staff and support services as provided by agencies of the government as well as the private sector. To the end that the program will accomplish its purposes in providing nutritional assistance to the low income aged, disabled and blind, a staff consisting of division managers, eligibility workers, accountants, clerks, issuance clerks, program reviewers, office administrators and others shall be hired to carry out the purposes and goals of the program. All positions are to be career service in accordance with the American Samoa Government Career Service.

**Section 4. Budget**

ASNAP operations shall be 100% funded by the federal government. Salaries and all expenses shall be approved by the Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) of USDA. Increments and raises for employees of the program each year shall be determined according to the program's approved budget.

**Section 5. Description of Needy Persons**

ASNAP defines a needy disabled, aged, and blind person as one with income equal to or lower than the gross monthly income eligibility level, adjusted annually in cooperation with the FNS, based on documented overall CPI increases in Samoa; whose resources is equal to or below the resource eligibility standard established in the MOU; and who meets the nonfinancial criteria established in the MOU. Additionally, eligible applicants who receive TAOA food vouchers shall categorically meet the age requirement for participation in the ASNAP and may participate provided that they meet other ASNAP requirements as forth in the MOU. Aged, blind and disabled individuals are defined in the MOU and the Manual of Operations.

**SECTION 6. Assessment of Nutrition Needs; Recommended Daily Allowance (RDA)** ASNAP, in cooperation with the FNS has engaged the services of professional nutritionists for the purpose of developing a Thrifty Food Plan (TFP) for participants in the program. The Thrifty Food Plan is defined as a diet meeting the Recommended Daily Allowance (R.D.A.) of nutrients necessary for one person in the Territory of American Samoa. The cost of such diet shall form the basis for allotments of food coupons to eligible recipients, regardless of actual consumption of food.

**SECTION 7. Nonfinancial Eligibility Criteria**

Eligibility for the Program shall be based on financial and non-financial criteria. Financial eligibility is described in Sections 9 and 10 of the MOU. Nonfinancial eligibility shall include residency, citizenship, and age, or mental or physical disability. Eligibility determinations shall be made on an individual basis.

Participants in the program shall meet one of the following: (1) A US National; (2) A United States citizen; (3) an alien lawfully admitted to the United States as an immigrant as defined in Sections 101 (a) (15) of Immigration and Nationality Act or (4) an alien admitted to the Territory of American Samoa as a permanent resident pursuant to ASCA sections 41.0202(c) ii, 41.0402, 41.0403 and 41.0404.

No aliens other than those specified in the above shall be eligible to participate in the Program. Among those excluded as aliens are alien visitors, tourists, laborers, and diplomats who enter the Territory of American Samoa temporarily with no intention of abandoning their residences in a foreign country.

SECTION 8: Effective Date

This Executive Order is effective immediately.

Dated: Jan. 14, 1994

*A. P. Lutali*

A. P. LUTALI

Governor of American Samoa