

(英語)

To all citizens of Shimane Prefecture,

Today, the Government of Japan's coronavirus task force has declared a state of emergency (determined by special measures law) applying to all 47 prefectures, including Shimane Prefecture.

This declaration expresses the strong intention of the government to further prevent spread of infection throughout the country.

Based on the special measures law and the Government of Japan's policies, the Shimane Prefectural Government is swiftly implementing measures based on the current situation in Shimane Prefecture.

Firstly, the Prefectural Government requests all citizens to not leave your house unnecessarily.

Secondly, the Prefectural Government requests that you refrain from unnecessary travel to other prefectures during the extended "Golden Week" holidays.

Examples of necessary activities to maintain one's lifestyle, which are NOT restricted by the request to stay indoors, include: visiting medical institutions; buying food, medical supplies, and daily necessities; necessary travel to one's workplace; outdoor exercise and walks, etc.

Because school attendance for children is not currently seen as necessary outdoor travel, we request all children and students to not travel to school.

Therefore, the Prefectural Government has requested the Shimane Prefectural Board of Education (BOE) to close schools as early as possible, allowing for closures to be implemented in an orderly manner. All Prefectural BOE schools (senior high schools and special support schools) are planned to close from April 20<sup>th</sup> until May 6<sup>th</sup>.

In addition, we are requesting all national, public, and private kindergartens, elementary, junior high, and senior high schools to implement the same measures.

At the same time, we are doing everything in our power to respond to the current cluster infection in the prefecture, guarantee medical care, and protect the lives and health of all citizens of Shimane.

16 April 2020

Maruyama Tatsuya, Governor of Shimane Prefecture