A RESOLUTION

Resolution No. 53-BOD-11

"To respectfully urge all member states of the Association of the Pacific Island Legislatures to work together to seriously address the issue of violence against women and girls and to pledge to share resources and work collaboratively to enact appropriate legislation, train necessary personnel and make available funding for support centers for all APIL members."

1 WHEREAS, the Association of Pacific Island Legislatures, 53rd Board of Directors Meeting on the State of Pohnpei, Federated States of Micronesia on 5-6, December 2012, finds that there is a need for all member states of the Association of Pacific Island Legislatures to support ongoing efforts to eliminate violence against women and girls throughout Micronesia; and

2 WHEREAS, the need for support centers to deal with survivors, as well as those who work on sexual violence cases, continues to rise; and

3 WHEREAS, the inaugural meeting of the Regional Micronesian Women Network in Palau last August 2012 issued its' Communiqué a strong affirmation calling on all Micronesian jurisdictions without legislation on violence against women and girls, to urgently consider enacting or strengthening laws to eliminate violence against women and girls, specifically offenses against domestic violence; and

4 WHEREAS, the recently concluded annual Congress of Non-Profits held in Guam last month reiterated the call for stronger laws against violence against women and girls; and
definition, marital rape, and corresponding penalties and to specifically abolish the affirmative defense clause in the penal codes; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the Association of Pacific Island Legislatures, 53rd Board of Directors Meeting, State of Pohnpei, FSM, December 5-6, 2012, that the Board of Directors, on behalf of the Association of Pacific Island Legislatures, hereby find that with the call by the Regional Women's Summit showing a demonstrated and collective effort to eliminate violence against women and girls, it is incumbent upon member entities of the APIL to work together to seriously address the issue and pledge to share resources and work collaboratively to enact appropriate legislation, train necessary personnel and make available funding for support centers for all APIL members; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that member entities of the APIL hereby pledge to consider the enactment of legislation on the elimination of violence against women and girls; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the APIL President shall certify, and the APIL Secretary shall attest, to the adoption hereof, and that copies of the same shall be transmitted to the Chief Executives and Legislative Presiding Officers of each member jurisdiction of the Association of the Pacific Island Legislatures.

DULY AD REGULARLY ADOPTED ON THE 6TH DAY OF DECEMBER, 2012.

JUDITH T. WON PAT, ED. D. PRESIDENT

CHANG B. WILLIAM SECRETARY