Resolution No. 58-BOD-06, CD1

"Calling upon and urging the Government of the United States of America to provide visa-waivers for tourists transiting through Guam and Hawaii on US airlines bound for the Federated States of Micronesia."

WHEREAS, APIL is committed to supporting and facilitating the growth and development of its member jurisdictions; and

WHEREAS, APIL recognizes that many of our member jurisdictions rely upon the tourism industry to sustain growth and development; and

WHEREAS, APIL has consistently raised the issue of tourism development and US immigration procedures on behalf of our member jurisdictions through actions such as Resolution No. 55-BOD-12 and Resolution No. 53-BOD-07; and

WHEREAS, APIL expresses its fullest support for the Federated States of Micronesia (FSM) in its efforts to expand and stabilize its tourism industries; and

WHEREAS, the four States of the FSM are similarly situated by virtue of their geographic and economic configuration, relying upon the available airline flights to supply their communities with tourists that will fund the larger economic development of the FSM; and

WHEREAS, US-based airlines currently transfer tourists bound for FSM through Guam or Hawaii, but because of stringent visa requirements for passengers from the People’s Republic of China, a significant portion of FSM total tourism market is discouraged from traveling to FSM; and
WHEREAS, the Government of the United States has the authority to waive visa requirements for certain classifications of passengers, and should do so on behalf of its diplomatic partner, the Federated States of Micronesia, in order to have a strong, positive impact on the FSM's emerging tourism markets; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Directors of the Association of Pacific Island Legislatures, 58th Board Meeting, Republic of Palau, December 6-7, 2017, that this Board of Directors of the Association of Pacific Island Legislatures hereby calls upon and urges the Government of the United States of America to provide visa-waivers for tourists transiting through Guam and Hawaii on US airlines bound for the Federated States of Micronesia; 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 Secretary of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, and the Chief Executives and Presiding Legislative Officers of the member jurisdictions of the Association of Pacific Island Legislatures.

DULY AND REGULARLY ADOPTED ON THE 7th DAY OF DECEMBER, 2017.

ROBERT I. TAULUNG
PRESIDENT

NELSON STEPHEN
SECRETARY