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Association of Pacific Island Legislatures

American Samoa

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

FSM, State of Chuuk FSM, State of Kosrae FSM, State of Pohnpei FSM, State of Yap Island of Guam Republic of Kiribati

Republic of the Marshall Islands

Republic of Nauru Republic of Palau State of Hawaii

A RESOLUTION

APIL Resolution No. 34-GA-14

"Expressing full support of the Association of Pacific Island Legislatures in encouraging the establishment of a network of mutual investment opportunities among the member jurisdictions of the APIL which network will offer similar incentives and benefits for existing small businesses seeking to expand within the Pacific region."

1 WHEREAS, the mission of the Association of Pacific Island Legislatures (APIL) 2 is to organize a permanent association of mutual assistance by representatives of the 3 peoples of the Pacific Islands; and 4 WHEREAS, the APIL supports the full range of legislative issues including, but 5 not limited to, resources and economic development, commerce, energy, regional security 6 and defense, communications, cultural appreciation, health and social services, education, 7 agriculture, air and sea transportation, aquaculture, sports and recreation, youth and 8 senior citizens, tourism, finance, political status, external relations, and development 9 banking; and 10 WHEREAS, for almost four decades, the APIL has fostered mutual cooperation 11 in these areas, benefiting our people, fostering increased business activity, and improving 12 prosperity within our islands; and 13 WHEREAS, all members have in one way or another, participated, shared, and 14 benefited from the mutual collaboration and successes in addressing significant issues 15 through APIL; and 16

WHEREAS, within the Pacific region, all APIL members are faced with similar issues such as shipping, fuel costs, logistics, storage, and spoilage which impact the cost of doing business and which bring additional risks in operating a business; and

WHEREAS, factors in the cost of doing business are also dependent on various legal issues including, but not limited to, taxes, government incentives, governmental processes and government regulations, as these issues are inherent in the decisions to establish and operate a business; and

WHEREAS, there are numerous small businesses in our region that have established themselves as major contributors to the success of our economic development and which are functioning as community-oriented partners, fostering growth, providing gainful employment, and improving the quality of the lives of island citizens; and

WHEREAS, in the interest of adhering to the mission of APIL, it would be most beneficial in our quest for increased and controlled economic development, for our members to offer mutual incentives and streamlined processes for existing businesses in our region desiring to establish themselves within other member island jurisdictions; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the Association of Pacific Island Legislatures, 34th General Assembly, July 7-10, 2015, Island of Pohnpei, FSM, that the delegates of the Association of Pacific Island Legislatures hereby express the full support of the Association of Pacific Island Legislatures in encouraging the establishment of a network of mutual investment opportunities among the member jurisdictions of the APIL which network will offer similar incentives and benefits for existing small businesses seeking to expand within the Pacific region; and

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

DULY AND REGULARLY ADOPTED ON THE 9TH DAY OF JULY, 2015.

KENNETH A. KEDI PRESIDENT FERNANDO SCALIEM

SECRETARY