



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

Resolution No. 38-GA-10

“Relative to recognizing and commending the 38th APIL for its largest representation of women leaders and encouraging Members Jurisdictions to promote the advancement of women in all stages of life, including in leadership and public office in their jurisdictions.”

1 **WHEREAS**, the Association of Pacific Island Legislatures (APIL) was established in
2 1981 as a permanent association of mutual assistance by representatives of the people of the
3 Pacific Islands; and

4 **WHEREAS**, APIL has enjoyed nearly four (4) decades of success in regional
5 cooperation, coordination, exchange, and assistance and has created monumental differences
6 in the lives and conditions of the peoples and governments within their jurisdictions and the
7 region; and

8 **WHEREAS**, in November of 2018, the people of Guam elected their first women-led
9 majority into the Guam legislature, which is also the first supermajority of women legislators
10 across the United States and its territories. The Honorable Speaker Tina Rose Muna Barnes,
11 and the Honorable Senators Régine Biscoe Lee and Kelly Marsh (Taitano) were selected to
12 represent the people of Guam at APIL; and

13 **WHEREAS**, on March 7, 2017 and March 5, 2019, the people of Chuuk elected the
14 first two women in history to lead in State Government, the Honorable Senator Gardenia
15 Aisek and the Honorable Representative Shining Sos, and in July of this year, the Pohnpei
16 State Legislature also recognized Mayleen Shoniber Scaliem as Senator which brought the
17 total of women in leadership within APIL to its highest levels, that being six (6) women
18 directors; and

19 **WHEREAS**, each Member Jurisdiction of APIL shall continue to support efforts that
20 provide avenues for the advancement of women in leadership, public office, education,
21 business and other important societal institutions; and

1 **WHEREAS**, such efforts will help to promote gender equality in the region and
2 empower all women and girls who represent half of the world's population; and therefore,
3 also half of its potential; and

4 **WHEREAS**, inequalities faced by women across the globe begin right at birth and
5 follow them all their lives. As girls move into adolescence, gender disparities typically
6 widen; and

7 **WHEREAS**, gender disparities affect girls' education, and disadvantages in
8 education translate into lack of access to skills and limited opportunities in the labor market.
9 Therefore, each Member Jurisdiction must ensure inclusive and quality education and equal
10 opportunities for women and girls, which will help to reduce inequalities and to reach gender
11 equality; and


12 **WHEREAS**, to achieve a truly inclusive society, it is important that governments,
13 civil society and communities work together to implement lasting solutions to ensure
14 inclusive political participation at all times; now, therefore,

15 **BE IT RESOLVED** that by the Association of Pacific Island Legislatures, 38th
16 General Assembly, Majuro, Republic of the Marshall Islands, July 23-26, 2019 that it hereby
17 encourages that all Member Jurisdictions continue their efforts to support the advancement of
18 women in all stages of life, including in leadership and public office; and

19 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that APIL President shall certify and the APIL
20 Secretary shall attest to the adoption hereof and that copies of the same shall be transmitted
21 to the Chief Executives and the Presiding Legislative Officers of the Member Jurisdictions of
22 the Association of the Pacific Island Legislatures.

DULY AND REGULARLY ADOPTED ON THE 26TH DAY OF JULY, 2019.


NELSON STEPHEN
ACTING PRESIDENT


IVAN A. BLANCO
SECRETARY

