



# 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. 42-GA-07

**“Respectfully requesting the United States Department of Homeland Security, in consultation with the United States Department of State, to extend the Guam–Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands Visa Waiver Program to include the Republic of Kiribati, thereby strengthening the economic, cultural, and people-to-people ties across the Blue Continent.”**

1           **WHEREAS**, the Republic of Kiribati maintains warm diplomatic relations with the  
2   United States and is an active member of the Pacific Islands Forum and the United Nations,  
3   adhering to international security norms, responsible travel documentation practices, and  
4   cooperative border-management standards; and

5           **WHEREAS**, the Republic of Kiribati maintains longstanding social, cultural, and  
6   economic relationships throughout Micronesia, including with the peoples of Guam and  
7   the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, founded on shared heritage, regional  
8   mobility, and mutual cooperation; and

9           **WHEREAS**, the inclusion of Kiribati in the Guam–CNMI Visa Waiver Program  
10   would directly support regional economic development, strengthen tourism links with  
11   Micronesia, and facilitate humanitarian and cultural access consistent with U.S. Indo-  
12   Pacific policy and the Pacific Partnership Strategy; and

13           **WHEREAS**, the United States Government currently administers a Guam–  
14   Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands Visa Waiver Program pursuant to 8  
15   C.F.R. § 212.1(q), which authorizes entry for up to forty-five (45) days for citizens of

1 designated countries to visit Guam and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana  
2 Islands (CNMI) for business or pleasure without a visa; and

3       **WHEREAS**, 8 C.F.R. § 212.1(q)(2)(ii) presently lists the eligible countries and  
4 geographic areas for participation in the Program as Australia, Brunei, Japan, Malaysia,  
5 Nauru, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea, the Republic of Korea, Singapore, and the  
6 United Kingdom, and provides limited eligibility for travelers connected to Hong Kong  
7 and Taiwan under specified conditions; and

8       **WHEREAS**, 8 C.F.R. § 212.1(q)(2)(iv) further authorizes the Secretary of  
9 Homeland Security, in consultation with the Secretary of State, to designate additional  
10 countries or geographic areas by rule when such designation would yield a significant  
11 economic benefit to Guam and the CNMI and would not compromise the security interests  
12 of the United States; and

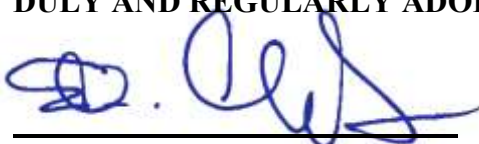
13       **WHEREAS**, the people of Kiribati share the Pacific family's long tradition of  
14 peace, maritime trade, and trust, and the Republic's addition to the program would further  
15 the spirit of cooperation embodied in the Compacts of Free Association and the broader  
16 "Blue Continent" vision advanced by APIL;

17       **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Association of Pacific Island  
18 Legislatures, meeting in regular session in Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern  
19 Mariana Islands, that the General Assembly respectfully requests the United States  
20 Secretary of Homeland Security, in consultation with the United States Secretary of State,  
21 to amend 8 C.F.R. § 212.1(q)(2)(ii) to include the Republic of Kiribati among the countries  
22 eligible for visa-free entry into Guam and the CNMI under the Guam–CNMI Visa Waiver  
23 Program; and

1           **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that APIL urges the Governors and Legislatures  
2 of Guam and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands to transmit their formal  
3 endorsements of this request to the U.S. Departments of Homeland Security and State,  
4 the U.S. Congress, and the White House Indo-Pacific Coordinator; and

5           **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that certified copies of this Resolution shall be  
6 transmitted to: The Honorable Alejandro N. Mayorkas, Secretary of Homeland Security,  
7 United States of America; The Honorable Antony J. Blinken, Secretary of State, United  
8 States of America; The Honorable Kimberlyn K. King-Hinds, Delegate of the  
9 Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands to the U.S. Congress; The Honorable  
10 James C. Moylan, Delegate of Guam to the U.S. Congress; The Honorable Lourdes A.  
11 Leon Guerrero, Governor of Guam; The Honorable David M. Apatang, Governor of the  
12 Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands; His Excellency Taneti Maamau,  
13 Beretitenti (President) of the Republic of Kiribati; and Mr. Walden K.C. Weilbacher,  
14 Executive Director, Secretariat of the Association of Pacific Island Legislatures.

**DULY AND REGULARLY ADOPTED ON THE 29<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF OCTOBER, 2025.**



**EDMUND S. VILLAGOMEZ**  
**PRESIDENT**



**VICTOR BAMOG**  
**SECRETARY**

