



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. 49-BOD-12, CD1

“Congratulating President-elect Barack Obama on his ascendancy to the highest post in the United States of America and pledging the consolidated support of the Association of Pacific Island Legislatures to further the implementation and support of the Obama Administration.”

1 **WHEREAS**, the Association of Pacific Island Legislatures is a regional organization
2 committed to cooperation on matters of mutual concern and interest, seeks to exchange assistance
3 and support to achieve stability and progress through collective action, since its establishment in
4 1981; and

5 **WHEREAS**, the Association of Pacific Island Legislatures congratulates President-elect
6 Barack Obama, a son of the Pacific Islands, on his new role as Commander-in-Chief of the
7 United States of America and like other island people, you accept your responsibilities as a
8 President with honor, dignity, strength and great humility; and

9 **WHEREAS**, American Samoa, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, FSM
10 State of Chuuk, FSM State of Kosrae, FSM State of Pohnpei, FSM State of Yap, Island of Guam,
11 Republic of Kiribati, Republic of the Marshall Islands, Republic of Palau, and the State of Hawaii
12 join together and with one voice to aspire to mutually respectful and progressive relations with
13 the United States of America; and

14 **WHEREAS**, as a myriad of challenges face APIL member nations, we are as distinct and
15 similar as the ocean that unites us, and despite our distinctions, the survival and evolution of each
16 member island is inextricably tied to the policies and laws of the United States. The States,
17 Territories and Nations of the Association of Pacific Island Legislatures stand as one in the
18 request that the new administration promote policy enabling member Islands to thrive socially,
19 culturally, economically, politically, and environmentally; and

1 **WHEREAS**, it is with great determination and concern for the welfare of our people that
2 the Member Islands request that President-elect Barack Obama lend an open ear to the voices of
3 your Island Brothers and Sisters, and the Member Islands entreat the President-elect to reconsider
4 policy and laws that are detrimental to the survival of Pacific Island Nations; and


5 **WHEREAS**, certain trade agreements, immigration laws, minimum wage laws and labor
6 laws, cabotage and the Jones Act are strangling some of our Member Islands and we earnestly
7 request a re-evaluation of the effects of the imposition of such actions by the United States of
8 America; now, therefore,

9 **BE IT RESOLVED** by the Board of Directors on behalf of the Association of Pacific
10 Island Legislatures, 49th Board Meeting, December 4-5, 2008, Majuro, Republic of the Marshall
11 Islands, that each of the member jurisdictions applaud President-elect Barack Obama and offer
12 our support to the Obama Administration and it is with great anticipation, providence and
13 fortitude that we pledge our commitment to the Obama Administration in forging stronger and
14 mutually beneficial relations with the United States of America and the Members Islands of the
15 Association of Pacific Island Legislatures; and

16 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the President of the Association of Pacific Island
17 Legislatures certifies, and the Secretary of the Association of Pacific Island Legislatures attests
18 to, the adoption hereof and that copies of the same shall be thereafter transmitted to President-
19 elect Barack Obama; to the Speaker of the House of Representatives of the U.S. Congress; to the
20 President of the Senate of the U.S. Congress and to the Presiding Legislative Officers and Chief
21 Executives of each of the APIL member jurisdictions.

DULY AND REGULARLY ADOPTED ON THE 5TH DAY OF DECEMBER, 2008.


J. KALANI ENGLISH
PRESIDENT


JUDITH T. WON PAT, Ed. D.
SECRETARY

