



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. 53-BOD-11

“To respectfully urge all member states of the Association of the Pacific Island Legislatures to work together to seriously address the issue of violence against women and girls and to pledge to share resources and work collaboratively to enact appropriate legislation, train necessary personnel and make available funding for support centers for all APIL members.”

1 **WHEREAS**, the Association of Pacific Island Legislatures, 53rd Board of
2 Directors Meeting on the State of Pohnpei, Federated States of Micronesia on 5-6,
3 December 2012, finds that there is a need for all member states of the Association of
4 Pacific Island Legislatures to support ongoing efforts to eliminate violence against
5 women and girls throughout Micronesia; and

6 **WHEREAS**, the need for support centers to deal with survivors, as well as
7 those who work on sexual violence cases, continues to rise; and

8 **WHEREAS**, the inaugural meeting of the Regional Micronesian Women
9 Network in Palau last August 2012 issued in its’ Communiqué a strong affirmation
10 calling on all Micronesian jurisdictions without legislation on violence against
11 women and girls, to urgently consider enacting or strengthening laws to eliminate
12 violence against women and girls, specifically offenses against domestic violence;
13 and

14 **WHEREAS**, the recently concluded annual Congress of Non-Profits held in
15 Guam last month reiterated the call for stronger laws against violence against women
16 and girls; and

1 definition, marital rape, and corresponding penalties and to specifically abolish the
2 affirmative defense clause in the penal codes; now, therefore,

3 **BE IT RESOLVED** by the Association of Pacific Island Legislatures, 53rd
4 Board of Directors Meeting, State of Pohnpei, FSM, December 5-6, 2012, that the
5 Board of Directors, on behalf of the Association of Pacific Island Legislatures,
6 hereby find that with the call by the Regional Women's Summit showing a
7 demonstrated and collective effort to eliminate violence against women and girls, it
8 is incumbent upon member entities of the APIL to work together to seriously address
9 the issue and pledge to share resources and work collaboratively to enact appropriate
10 legislation, train necessary personnel and make available funding for support centers
11 for all APIL members; and

12 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that member entities of the APIL hereby
13 pledge to consider the enactment of legislation on the elimination of violence against
14 women and girls; and

15 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the APIL President shall certify, and
16 the APIL Secretary shall attest, to the adoption hereof, and that copies of the same
17 shall be transmitted to the Chief Executives and Legislative Presiding Officers of
18 each member jurisdiction of the Association of the Pacific Island Legislatures.

DULY AD REGULARLY ADOPTED ON THE 6TH DAY OF DECEMBER, 2012.



JUDITH T. WON PAT, ED. D.
PRESIDENT



CHANG B. WILLIAM
SECRETARY

