



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. 58-BOD-02

“Respectfully calling upon the United States Government and its elected officials and public servants to finally recognize their moral and ethical obligations and to do what is right and proper for those courageous warriors of the Freely Associated States of Micronesia who have been sacrificing their lives and their limbs in the defense of freedom around the world by extending to these valiant souls who hail from the islands of Micronesia the same care and benefits that the Government of the United States of America readily extends to its own veteran soldiers who hail from the cities of America.”

1 **WHEREAS**, in the month of December in the year of our Lord, 2015, the Board of
2 Directors of the Association of Pacific Island Legislatures earnestly and hopefully adopted
3 Resolution No. 56-BOD-03 respectfully requesting the Government of the United States of
4 America to extend the full complement of veteran benefits and privileges to the U.S. military
5 veterans who are citizens of the Republic of the Marshall Islands, the Federated States of
6 Micronesia and the Republic of Palau and who are residing within their own countries of
7 citizenship rather than the United States of America; and

8 **WHEREAS**, the request of the Board of Directors of the APIL was predicated both on the
9 often overlooked sacrifices of the Micronesian people who suffered severely from the ravages of
10 World War II as American soldiers, sailors and marines campaigned to defeat the foes of liberty
11 occupying the Central Pacific Islands during the worst phases of World War II, and upon the
12 valiant sacrifices made by the modern warriors of Micronesia who have risked life and limb in
13 defense of the ideals of liberty and freedom in America’s stand against the recent struggles of the

1 peoples of the Middle East, Asia and Africa in their own desperate and often futile battles against
2 radical extremism in their corners of the world; and

3 **WHEREAS**, despite the urgent pleas of the Association of Pacific Island Legislatures and
4 despite the continuing sacrifices being made by young Micronesian men and women in the defense
5 of liberty across the vast domain of the world scene, the urgent cries of our young warriors and the
6 desperate pleas of their mothers and fathers for the Government of America to provide their sons
7 and daughters with at least some of the basic care and relief that is readily extended by the
8 American Government, without question, to their fellow warriors who are residents of the USA,
9 have gone unheeded in the corridors of the government offices of Washington, DC; and,

10 **WHEREAS**, despite the apparent indifference of those who claim they are committed to
11 meeting all of the needs of the military service men and women, the Legislature of the State of
12 Hawaii has alone, among the all of the governments of all the states who have been joined together
13 in a union called America, stepped forward with the introduction of HCR No. 176, attached hereto
14 for reference, which, if adopted, would call upon Hawaii's representatives in the United States
15 Congress to take up the bold challenge of doing what is right for those who hail from the islands of
16 Micronesia and who have joined ranks with the their brothers and sisters who hail from the states,
17 commonwealths and territories of the USA and have participated in America's own, long standing
18 policy and continuing resolve to defend and promote freedom and democracy in all corners of the
19 world; now, therefore,

20 **BE IT RESOLVED** by the 58th Board of Directors meeting of the Association of Pacific
21 Island Legislatures, Republic of Palau, December 6-7, 2017, that this organization of the makers of

1 law and public policy representing the broad swath of free and democratic countries, states,
2 territories and commonwealth covering the entire breadth of the Central Pacific do hereby
3 respectfully call upon the United States Government and its elected officials and public servants to
4 finally recognize their moral and ethical obligations and to do what is right and proper for those
5 courageous warriors of the Freely Associated States of Micronesia who have been sacrificing their
6 lives and their limbs in the defense of freedom around the world by extending to these valiant souls
7 who hail from the islands of Micronesia the same care and benefits that the Government of the
8 United States of America readily extends to its own veteran soldiers who hail from the cities of
9 America; and

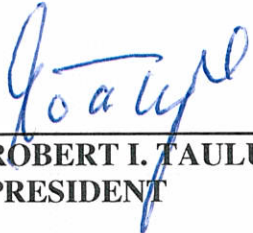
10 **BE IT FURTHER RESOVED** that in furtherance of this resolve, the Association of
11 Pacific Island Legislatures hereby respectfully calls on both Houses of the Hawaii State
12 Legislature to fulfill the vision of the introducers of HCR No. 176 by adopting their resolution and
13 promptly transmitting it to the Hawaii Delegation representing that state in the Congress of the
14 United States of America; and

15 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Board of Directors further respectfully calls
16 upon the Legislative Assemblies of American Samoa, Guam and the Commonwealth of the
17 Northern Mariana Islands to carry the message further by requesting their representatives in the
18 Congress of the United States of America to join the Congressional delegation from the island state
19 of Hawaii in pressing for fair treatment for the warriors of Micronesia committed to the defense of
20 America's efforts to promote peace and security throughout the world; and

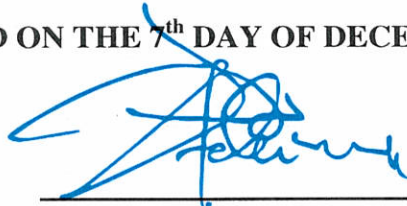
21 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that that the APIL President shall certify, and the APIL

1 Secretary shall attest to the adoption hereof, and that copies of the same, along with copies of APIL
2 Resolution No. 56-BOD-03, be transmitted to the President of the United States of America, to the
3 President of the Senate and to the Speaker of the House of Representatives of the Congress of the
4 United States of America, to the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Defense, to the Secretary of
5 the U.S. Department of Veteran Affairs, to the Governors and Presiding Legislative Officers of the
6 State of Hawaii, the Territory of American Samoa, the Territory of Guam and the Commonwealth
7 of the Northern Mariana Islands, and to the Chief Executives and Presiding Legislative Officers of
8 the other Member Jurisdictions of the Association of Pacific Island Legislatures.

DULY AND REGULARLY ADOPTED ON THE 7th DAY OF DECEMBER, 2017.



ROBERT I. TAULUNG
PRESIDENT



NELSON STEPHEN
SECRETARY

