



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. 60-BOD-02, CD 1

“Expressing deepest appreciation to the people and government of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands for the designation of public domain lands for the establishment and maintenance of a Palauan Abai and to reaffirm our shared commitment to celebrating and promoting our shared Pacific cultural heritage.”

1 **WHEREAS**, the Commonwealth of the Mariana Islands has a culture and history
2 of welcoming people to its shores and as such has been host and home to many Pacific
3 Islanders dating back to even before the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands times when
4 Saipan became the headquarters; and

5 **WHEREAS**, as host to the multitude of Micronesians and their families who
6 served in the TTPI Administration and the emerging TTPI Congress of Micronesia, the
7 people of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands allowed their fellow
8 islanders to continue practicing their own cultures and traditions and encouraged them to
9 share the richness and uniqueness of their cultures and heritage with their brothers and
10 sisters in the Commonwealth of Northern Mariana Islands, adding to the cultural
11 diversity within the islands of the CNMI; and

12 **WHEREAS**, recognizing the importance of preserving culture, heritage, and
13 traditions which are the foundation of our identities as Pacific peoples, the government
14 and people of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands have generously
15 designated public domain lands for the establishment of a Palauan Abai; and

1 **WHEREAS**, the Palauan Abai holds great cultural, communal, and historical
2 significance for the Palauan people, standing as one of the most iconic symbols of
3 Palauan culture; and

4 **WHEREAS**, this act of kindness and understanding by the people and
5 government of the CNMI exhibits for all of us in the APIL their profound sense of the
6 fundamental importance of preserving the identity, culture, and heritage of all Pacific
7 Islanders, especially those within the Member Jurisdictions of the APIL; now, therefore,

8 **BE IT RESOLVED** by the Association of Pacific Island Legislatures, 60th
9 Meeting of the Board of Directors, Island of Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern
10 Mariana Islands, December 4-6, 2019, that the Board of Directors, for and on behalf of
11 the Association of Pacific Island Legislatures, hereby expresses our deepest appreciation
12 to the people and government of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands for
13 the designation of public domain lands for the establishment and maintenance of a
14 Palauan Abai; and

15 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Board of Directors acknowledges and
16 declares that this wondrous gift from the people of the CNMI to the people of Palau
17 reaffirms and reminds us all of the inspiration we should all share together in the joy of
18 celebrating and promoting our Pacific Islands languages, cultures and heritage; 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 to the
21 President of the Republic of Palau, to the Governor of the Commonwealth of the Northern
22 Mariana Islands, to the Speaker of the House of Representatives of the Olbiil Era Kelulau, to the
23 Speaker of the House of Representatives of the CNMI; to the President of the Senate of the Olbiil
24 Era Kelulau, to the President of the Senate of the CNMI, to the Saipan-Belau Bai Project

- 1 Committee (SBBPC), and to the Chief Executives and Presiding Legislative Officers of the
- 2 Member Jurisdictions of the Association of Pacific Island Legislatures.

DULY AND REGULARLY ADOPTED ON THE 5th DAY OF DECEMBER, 2019.



**EDGAR LICKANETH
PRESIDENT**



**IVAN A. BLANCO
SECRETARY**

