



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. 62-BOD-04

“Expressing the Association of Pacific Island Legislatures’ genuine congratulations to Merlynn Abello Alfonso M.D. on becoming the first Pohnpeian woman elected to the Congress of the Federated States of Micronesia.”

1 **WHEREAS**, on March 7, 2023, the FSM National Government held its
2 Congressional Election; and

3 **WHEREAS**, the State of Pohnpei has four members in the Congress of the FSM, a
4 representative from each of the three Election Districts and one elected At-Large; and

5 **WHEREAS**, Election District 1 of Pohnpei is comprised of Sokehs, Kolonia,
6 Sapwuahfik, Nukuoro and Kapingamarangi; and

7 **WHEREAS**, Dr. Merlynn Abello Alfonso has earned trust of the people of Election
8 District 1, as evident in her winning the senatorial race of Election District 1; and

9 **WHEREAS**, prior to her election, Senator-Elect Dr. Merlynn Abello Alfonso
10 served as the Owner and Vice President of the Genesis Corporation; and

11 **WHEREAS**, in July 2003 under her leadership, Genesis expanded their medical
12 services to include inpatient services, surgical services, maternal delivery, and
13 gynecological services, consequently altering the brand name from “Genesis” to “Genesis
14 Hospital and Pharmacy”; and

15 **WHEREAS**, from September 2013 to December 2016, Dr. Merlynn Abello
16 Alfonso served as the Honorary Consul of the Philippines to the Federated States of
17 Micronesia; and

1 **WHEREAS**, in 2015, due to Dr. Merlynn Abello Alfonso’s great effort and
2 contributions to society, she earned the Outstanding Alumni Award for Community
3 Service by West Visayas State University Alumni Association, College of Medicine in
4 Iloilo City, Philippines; and

5 **WHEREAS**, in February 2020, Dr. Merlynn Abello Alfonso was named one of the
6 top two inspirational woman in the FSM Inspirational Women Video; and

7 **WHEREAS**, Dr. Merlynn Abello Alfonso is now the very first Pohnpeian woman
8 elected to the Congress of the Federated States of Micronesia and the second overall
9 woman in the Congress of the Federated States of Micronesia right after Senator Perpetua
10 Konman M.D. of Chuuk, who have been re-elected to serve another term in the FSM
11 Congress; now, therefore,

12 **BE IT RESOLVED** by the Board of Directors of the Association of
13 Pacific Island Legislatures, 62nd Board of Directors Meeting, April 5-6, 2023, FSM State
14 of Kosrae, that the Board of Directors, on behalf of the Association of Pacific Island
15 Legislatures, hereby congratulates Senator-Elect Dr. Merlynn Abello Alfonso on
16 becoming the first Pohnpeian woman in the Congress of Federated States of Micronesia;
17 and

18 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the APIL President shall certify, and the
19 APIL Secretary shall attest to the adoption hereof and that copies of the same
20 shall be thereafter transmitted to Senator-Elect Dr. Merlynn Abello Alfonso, to the
21 Speaker of the 23rd Congress of the Federated States of Micronesia and the Tenth

- 1 President of the Federated States of Micronesia upon their selection in May of 2023, and
- 2 to the Chief Executive and Legislative Presiding Officers of each member jurisdiction of
- 3 the APIL.

DULY AND REGULARLY ADOPTED ON THE 6TH DAY OF APRIL, 2023.



**NELSON STEPHEN
PRESIDENT**



**TESSIE ERIA LAMBOURNE
SECRETARY**

