

EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 263

Establishing a Committee to Create Healthy Lifestyle Curricula

WHEREAS, the Republic has a responsibility to facilitate the good health of its citizens;
and

WHEREAS, Palau's citizens are increasingly affected by conditions such as obesity, diabetes, high blood pressure, stroke, heart disease and abuse of substances such as tobacco and alcohol; and

WHEREAS, these chronic medical conditions can lead to decreased mobility and mortality and decrease the quality of life of not only the individual sufferer, but also that person's friends and family; and

WHEREAS, these chronic medical conditions can often be prevented if an individual is physically active and chooses good eating habits; and

WHEREAS, an essential part of encouraging good health is teaching and instilling positive behavior in our children; and

WHEREAS, programs in our schools which emphasize a health lifestyle are essential to develop life-long physical skills and activities that contribute to fitness and good health; and

WHEREAS, research shows that healthy children learn more effectively and achieve more academically; and

WHEREAS, we must teach our children how to live a fit and healthy lifestyle and how to incorporate safe and healthy activities and good nutrition into their lives;

WHEREAS, healthy lifestyle programs in Palau's elementary and high schools will result in happier, healthier and more academically successful students; and

WHEREAS, when the lessons of lifetime physical activity and healthy food are modeled and reinforced in school, children will have the optimal foundation for healthy living and being healthy citizens; and

WHEREAS, healthy citizens are essential for a country to become prosperous.

NOW, THEREFORE, by virtue of the authority vested in the President of the Republic of Palau by Article VIII of the Constitution of the Republic of Palau, the President orders as follows:

1. Creation of Committee. There is hereby established a “Committee to Create Healthy Lifestyle Curricula” (the “Committee”) consisting of six members, three from the Ministry of Health to be appointed by the Minister of Health, and three from the Ministry of Education to be appointed by the Minister of Education. All of the members shall serve at the pleasure of the President.

2. Duties of the Committee. The Committee shall be and hereby is tasked with the job of creating separate curricula for elementary and high school students that will teach them to incorporate good eating habits, appropriate nutrition, and safe physical activity into their daily lives. In creating the curricula, the Committee may utilize the expertise of knowledgeable members of the community and seek the advice and suggestions of parents of students.

3. Report of Committee. The Committee shall present the model curricula to the Minister of Health, to the Minister of Education, and to the President by no later than the last business day of January, 2010. The Ministers and the President shall consider and review the model curricula and either resubmit them to the Committee with comments and instructions for further action, or adopt them as set forth below.

4. Adoption of Model Curricula. Upon the approval of the model curricula by the Minister of Health, the Minister of Education, and the President, the model curricula shall be made part of the school curriculum.

5. Monitoring. For the first five (5) years after the model curricula has been incorporated into the school system, the Committee shall be and hereby is tasked with monitoring their success. The Committee shall issue a progress report to the President by no later than the last business day of June of each year.

6. Administrative Support. The Ministries of Health and Education shall jointly provide administrative support to the Committee, without limitation including a venue for its meetings and secretarial assistance.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my official seal
this 22nd day of July, 2009.

/s/

Johnson Toribiong
President
Republic of Palau