

Executive Order No. 357

To create the Bureau of Tourism under the Ministry of Natural Resources, Environment, & Tourism

WHEREAS, Section 7 of Article VIII of the Palau Constitution grants the President all the inherent powers and duties of a national chief executive, including, but not limited to enforcing the law of the land; and

WHEREAS, 2 PNC § 109 directs the President to provide for the subdivisions of the Ministries and to prescribe their duties, responsibilities and functions by Executive Orders; and

WHEREAS, 2 PNC § 110 empowers the President by Executive Orders to establish offices and agencies within the Executive Branch and to prescribe their duties, responsibilities and functions so as to assist the President, the Vice President and the Ministers in the performance of their duties, responsibilities and functions; and

WHEREAS, a series of Executive Orders have organized the Executive Branch of the Government of the Republic of Palau since the establishment of the Constitutional Government of the Republic of Palau on January 1, 1981, most recently Executive Order No. 203 and its addendums; and

WHEREAS, RPPL No. 1-49 created the Palau Visitors Authority (“PVA”) to promote and encourage tourism; however, due to an increase in tourism and the sophistications in the tourism industry it is vital for the Republic of Palau to institute a Bureau of Tourism which would be responsible for duties independent of PVA; and

WHEREAS, RPPL No. 7-43 created the Ministry of Natural Resources, Environment, and Tourism; and the Bureau of Tourism would be a Bureau under this Ministry; and

MINDFUL THAT, in order to provide for a sustainable, “world-class” tourism industry that primarily benefits the people of Palau, the President has determined that the Bureau of Tourism under the Ministry of Natural Resources, Environment and Tourism must be created; and

NOW, THEREFORE, by virtue of the authority vested in the President of the Republic pursuant to Article VIII of the Constitution of the Republic of Palau, and Sections 110 and 121 of Title 2 of the Palau National Code, I hereby order that:

- (1) A Bureau of Tourism shall be established within the Ministry of Natural Resources, Environment and Tourism.
- (2) The Bureau of Tourism is hereby established to be the lead regulatory agency for the government for tourism in Palau and shall be headed by a Director.
- (3) The Bureau shall work with the Palau Visitors Authority, the Chamber of Commerce, and the Belau Tourism Association in the promotion and development of high end tourism in the Republic.
- (4) Relevant areas of cooperation shall include the following:
 - a. Developing occupational standards and certification processes and requirements.
 - b. Supporting the development and enforcement of standards for tourist health, safety, and response.

So ordered this February 26, 2014:

/s/
Tommy E. Remengesau, Jr.
President
Republic of Palau