

PRESIDENTIAL PROCLAMATION NO. 02-28

Declaring November 23rd of each year to be '*PVA/Island Day*'

WHEREAS, on November 23, 1982, President Haruo Remeliik signed Senate Bill No. 324, SD3 into RPPL. No. 1-49; and

WHEREAS, RPPL No. 1-49 abolished the Palau Tourist Commission and established the Palau Visitors Authority; and

WHEREAS, Palau Visitors Authority was established as a public corporation to promote and encourage the development of tourism in Palau; and

WHEREAS, Palau's island environment and culture are special and unique, and it is essential that they remain the God given treasures of the People while simultaneously serving to maintain Palau as a high end tourism destination; and

WHEREAS, PVA's mission statement stresses the promotion of Palau's heritage and its unique attractions through sustainable tourism development and the encouragement of responsible tourism practices; and

WHEREAS, it is appropriate to memorialize and celebrate our commitment to the preservation of our Palauan culture and our commitment to the strengthening of our tourism industry through island-wide activities; and

WHEREAS, November 23, 2002 marks the 20th anniversary of the creation of the Palau Visitors Authority,

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Tommy E. Remengesau Jr., President of the Republic of Palau, do hereby proclaim November 23rd of each year as PVA/Island Day. In doing so, I call on and encourage all Palauans to initiate a week-long celebration, beginning on November 23rd, to be coordinated by the Palau Visitors Authority and Palau's tourism industry, which celebrates our tourism industry within the context of our cultural heritage. During this celebration, I would encourage all Palauans to proudly display their island identities and beauty.

SO PROCLAIMED this 23rd day of November, 2002, at Koror State, Republic of Palau.

/s/

Tommy E. Remengesau, Jr.
President of the Republic of Palau