

## **Presidential Proclamation No. 03-35**

Regarding Death of Late Vice Speaker Steve N. Umetaro

WHEREAS, on Sunday, 23 February 2003, at 1:00 p.m., Palau time, after a long illness, Vice Speaker Steve N. Umetaro was called to his eternal rest; and

WHEREAS, the late Vice Speaker Steve N. Umetaro was born on August 4, 1939; and

WHEREAS, the late Vice Speaker Steve N. Umetaro attended and completed his early education in Aimeliik Elementary School and went on to attend Palau Intermediate School and finishing at George Washington High School in Guam; and

WHEREAS, the late Vice Speaker Steve N. Umetaro earned his Bachelor of Arts degree from Glassboro State College in New Jersey; and

WHEREAS, the late Vice Speaker Steve N. Umetaro was a lifetime public servant as an educator. He became the Director of the Bureau of School Administration of the Ministry of Education, a position he held until his election to the House of Delegates of the Fifth Olbiil Era Kelulau in 1996; and

WHEREAS, during his younger years, the late Vice Speaker Steve N. Umetaro was one of Palau's best athlete and represented Palau abroad as a baseball all-star. He later served as Coach to Palau's teams on many occasions and supported programs that instill and showcase our national pride; and

WHEREAS, as member of the House of Delegates, the late Vice Speaker Steve N. Umetaro also served as member of the House Committees on Environment and Ecology; Banking and Corporations; Social, Cultural and Youth Affairs; Education; Foreign Affairs; and Maritime and Fisheries; and

WHEREAS, the late Vice Speaker Steve N. Umetaro also held the traditional titles of Uchel ra Ngchemiyangel and Ngeteltang of Medorm of Aimeliik State; and

WHEREAS, the late Vice Speaker Steve N. Umetaro is survived by his wife Hermana Emul Umetaro and his children Warren, Annette and Aliza and six grandchildren. He is also survived by his sisters Mellomes Etibek and Tamako Kebekol,

NOW, THEREFORE, by virtue of the authority vested in me under the Constitution and laws of the Republic of Palau, and by the provision of 1 PNC 503(c) and Executive Order No. 24, I, Tommy E. Remengesau, Jr., President of the Republic of Palau, hereby proclaim that a national mourning shall be observed throughout the Republic as a tribute to the late Vice Speaker Steve N. Umetaro and that to properly observe the occasion of the loss of this distinguished public servant, all flags of the Republic of Palau regularly flown within the jurisdiction of Palau, and Palau national flags flown at Embassies and Consulate Offices of Palau in other countries,

shall be flown at half-mast for a period of five (5) days, commencing on 25 February 2003 and ending on 1 March 2003.

SO PROCLAIMED this 24<sup>th</sup> day of February 2003, at Koror State, Republic of Palau.

/s/

---

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