

PRESIDENTIAL PROCLAMATION NO. 03-39

Declaring May 6-12th as National Nurses Week (“Lifting Spirits, Touching Lives”)

WHEREAS, the nearly 130 nurses in Palau comprise our nation’s largest health care profession; and

WHEREAS, the depth and breadth of the nursing profession meets the different and emerging health care needs of the Palauan population in a wide range of settings; and

WHEREAS, the Palau Nurses Association, as the voice for the nurses of this nation, is working to chart a new course for a healthy nation that relies on increasing delivery of primary and preventive health care; and

WHEREAS, a renewed emphasis on primary and preventive health care will require better utilization of all of our nation's nursing resources; and

WHEREAS, professional nursing has been demonstrated to be an indispensable component in the safety and quality of care of homebound and hospitalized patients; and

WHEREAS, the demand for nursing services will be greater than ever because of the aging of the Palauan population, the continuing expansion of life-sustaining technology and the explosive growth of home health care services needs; and

WHEREAS, more qualified nurses will be needed in the future to meet the increasingly complex needs of health care consumers in this community; and

WHEREAS, cost-effective, safe and quality health care services provided by nurses will be an ever more important component of our health care delivery system in the future; and

WHEREAS, the Palau Nurses Association has declared the week of May 6-12 as ‘*National Nurses Week*’ with the theme "Nurses: Lifting Spirits, Touching Lives" in celebration of the ways in which nurses strive to provide safe and high quality patient care and to map out ways to improve our health care system,

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Tommy E. Remengesau, Jr., President of the Republic of Palau, do hereby proclaim May 6 through May 12th, 2003 as National Nurses Week (“*Lifting Spirits, Touching Lives*”) and ask that all residents of this nation join me in honoring the nurses who care for all of us and celebrating the accomplishments of nursing and the nation's efforts to improve our health care services.

SO PROCLAIMED this 7th day of May 2003, at Koror State, Republic of Palau.

/s/

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

