

PRESIDENTIAL PROCLAMATION NO. 06-92

1992 Mental Illness Awareness Week

WHEREAS, many citizens of Palau suffer from a mental illness, such as depression, schizophrenia, personality disorders, anxiety disorders, and other mental disturbances; and

WHEREAS, early recognition and treatment of mental disorders can vastly increase the likelihood of restored health and allow an early end to the suffering caused to Palauan victims of these disorders and their families; and

WHEREAS, family, friends, and co-workers play a key, role in recognizing and reporting the early signs of a mental illness; and

WHEREAS, the World Federation for Mental Health has declared October 10th to be World Mental Illness Awareness Day; and

WHEREAS, Community Mental Health Associations and other human service agencies and community support organizations in the United States and Canada have devoted a week to increase public awareness and understanding of mental health and mental illness;

NOW, THEREFORE, by virtue of the authority vested in me as President of the Republic of Palau, I, Ngiratkel Etpison, do hereby proclaim the week of October 4 through October 10, 1992, "1992 Mental Illness Awareness Week" and direct the Division of Behavioral Health to join forces with community mental health associations around the world to dispel myths and falsehoods commonly associated with mental illness, to increase recognition among Palauans of the early warning signs of mental illness and to promote local attitudes about mental disorders allowing access to care without fear or shame on the part of patients or their loved ones.

SO PROCLAIMED, this 22nd day of September, 1992, at Koror State, Republic of Palau.

/s/

Ngiratkel Etpison
President of the Republic of Palau