

PRESIDENTIAL PROCLAMATION NO. 07-79

Alcohol Awareness Month “A Call to Action,
End Underage Alcohol Drinking”

WHEREAS, Studies show that kids who start drinking young will most likely develop alcohol related problems later in life; and

WHEREAS, in 2005, 21% of high school students reported to have had their first drink of alcohol other than a few sips before the age of 13 years; and

WHEREAS, in 2005, 27% of high school students reported they binge drink (5 or more drinks in a row) in the past 30 days; and

WHEREAS, it is against the law to consume or possess alcohol beverages when under 21 years of age (11 PNC § 1086, 1068 (a)); and

WHEREAS, some of the causes of underage drinking is easy access to alcoholic beverages and breakdown of traditional system; and

WHEREAS, community leaders, family, friends and concerned citizens must do their part by not allowing persons under the age of 21 to consume or possess alcohol; and

WHEREAS, the Rubekul Belau have declared a *bul (el kirel omengerueklel omelim el rrom era rengalek)* on underage alcohol drinking; and

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Tommy E Remengesau Jr., President of the Republic of Palau, do hereby proclaim April 2007 as Alcohol Awareness Month; “A Call to Action, End Underage Alcohol Drinking”. I call upon all citizens, state leaders, government agencies, public, private and religious institutions, businesses, schools, medical facilities in Palau to observe this month and every month thereafter by taking appropriate steps to assist in eliminating underage alcohol drinking.

SO PROCLAIMED this 28th day of March 2007 at Melekeok, Republic of Palau.

/s/

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