

PRESIDENTIAL PROCLAMATION NO. 10-21

Declaring July 9 as the 2010 Constitution Day of the Republic of Palau to be Celebrated with appropriate ceremonies

WHEREAS, the people of Palau, having been ruled by others for over hundred years, yearned for a government of their own making according to their wishes and aspirations; and

WHEREAS, thirty eight (38) delegates elected from throughout the Republic of Palau convened in the historical Constitutional Convention from January 28 thru April 2, 1979 to draft the Constitution of the Republic of Palau; and

WHEREAS, on April 2, 1979, the delegates to the Constitutional Convention, assembled in the former Senate Chamber, Olbiil Era Kelulau., Koror State, Republic of Palau, approved the proposed Constitution for the Republic of Palau which they drafted, and on July 9, 1980, that Constitution was ratified overwhelmingly by the Palauan people in a national-wide referendum and took effect on January 1, 1981; and

WHEREAS, on January 1, 1981 the first Constitutional Government of the Republic of Palau was installed on the basis of our Constitution which marked the culmination of the Palauan people's pursuit of independence and freedom from foreign rule; and

WHEREAS, on November 2, 2004 the people of Palau voted to convene the second Constitutional Convention to review the Constitution, and accordingly on May 17 thru July 15, 2005 twenty-five (25) elected delegates from throughout Palau met to review and consider proposed amendments to the Constitution, and on November 4, 2008 in a nationwide referendum the Palauan people ratified certain amendments to the Constitution; and

WHEREAS, January 1, 2010 marked the twenty-ninth (29th) anniversary of the installation of our Constitutional Government, but July 9, 2010 marks the thirtieth (30th) Anniversary of the ratification of our Constitution which should be set aside as a day of celebration of the establishment of our Constitution; and

WHEREAS, Public Law No. 7-5-5 designates the 9th day of July of each year as Constitution Day of the Republic of Palau on which to commemorate and celebrate the establishment of the Constitution of the Republic of Palau and further requires that the President announce annually the celebration of July 9 with an appropriate proclamation; and

WHEREAS, it is in the best interest of the people of the Republic of Palau that July 9, 2010 which falls on a Friday be declared a legal holiday on which all the citizens of our nation should celebrate and observe the thirtieth (30th) Anniversary of the establishment of our Constitution.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Johnson Toribiong, the President of the Republic of Palau, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and the laws of the Republic of Palau, do hereby proclaim as follows:

- July 9th, 2010 marks the thirtieth (30th) Anniversary of our Constitution which is hereby declared a legal holiday, and accordingly all employees of the national and state governments shall be released from their duties, except those needed to carry out the essential functions and services of the government; and be it noted that
- The Constitution Day Organizing Committee had been established to plan and prepare an appropriate ceremony for the observation and celebration of the 2010 Constitution Day.

SO PROCLAIMED this 5th day of July, 2010 at Ngerulmud, Melekeok State, Republic of Palau.

/s/

Johnson Toribiong
President
Republic of Palau