

## **PRESIDENTIAL PROCLAMATION NO. 11-41**

### ***ALCOHOL AWARENESS MONTH 2011***

#### ***“ONE TOO MANY.....”***

### ***ALCOHOL AWARENESS - THE KEY TO COMMUNITY CHANGE AND PERSONAL RECOVERY***

**WHEREAS**, alcohol is a primary factor in the leading causes of death for the people in Palau and

**WHEREAS**, there are ONE TOO MANY persons dying each year from alcohol-related causes: kidney failure, liver failure, heart failure, drinking and driving crashes, other accidents, alcohol-related homicides and suicide; and

**WHEREAS**, there are ONE TOO MANY persons currently in Palau that are dependent on alcohol; and

**WHEREAS**, adolescents use alcohol more than tobacco or illicit drugs; and

**WHEREAS**, 26% of the young people in Palau begin drinking before the age of 13; and

**WHEREAS**, young people who begin drinking before age 15 are four times more likely to develop alcohol dependence than those who begin drinking at age 21; and

**WHEREAS**, alcohol abuse is linked with increased risk of other mental illness; and

**WHEREAS**, alcohol abuse is a major factor in unprotected sex, increasing the risk of contracting HIV, tuberculosis, and other transmitted diseases; and

**WHEREAS**, the typical Palauan youth will see 1,000,000 (1 Million) alcohol ads before he or she turns 18 (that is more than for sneakers, gum and jeans combined); and

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, Johnson Toribiong, President of the Republic of Palau, do hereby proclaim that April 2011 is Alcohol Awareness Month in Palau. I also call upon all citizens, parents, governmental agencies, public and private agencies, businesses, hospitals, schools and the college to support efforts that will increase community awareness by join us in “ONE IS TOO MANY.....ALCOHOL AWARENESS: THE KEY TO PERSONAL CHANGE AND RECOVERY”.**

**SO PROCLAIMED** this 6<sup>th</sup> day of April 2011 at the National Capitol, Republic of Palau.

/s/

---

Johnson Toribiong  
President  
Republic of Palau