

## **Presidential Proclamation No. 14-123**

*Proclaiming this September 2014 as Cancer Awareness Month.*

**WHEREAS**, cancer has remained one of the top leading causes of death in the Republic of Palau for the past 10 years; and

**WHEREAS**, cancer cases in the Republic of Palau may be directly linked to the changing lifestyles and diets of the people of Palau, including the change from a simple diet of local fish, fruit, and vegetables, to a diet composed of imported and processed foods; and

**WHEREAS**, the use of cigarettes and other tobacco products, and consumption of alcoholic beverages is on the rise among youth in recent years, which also contributes to the higher incidence of cancer amongst our people; and

**WHEREAS**, the Cancer Prevention and Control Program at the Ministry of Health and the Cancer Coalition Omellemel Ma Ulekerreuil A Bedenged (O.M.U.B) have formed a partnership to raise awareness on the social, economic, and emotional impact of cancer to families and the Republic; and

**WHEREAS**, it is necessary to implement comprehensive cancer prevention and control strategies within the Republic of Palau to focus on all aspects of cancer care; and

**WHEREAS**, in order to reduce cancer morbidity and mortality, it is necessary to conduct a large scale public education campaign regarding cancer prevention, particularly to encourage screening and early detection programs that are designed to prevent or find cancer at its earliest stage when it is most treatable; and

**WHEREAS**, we must create, enhance, and promote survivorship and palliative care programs, designed to reduce the social, economic, emotional and spiritual burden of cancer care to families affected thereby; and

**WHEREAS**, the month of September shall be observed as a cancer awareness month; and

**WHEREAS**, cancer prevention and control partners and stakeholders adopt the theme for this year as: "Together it is possible"; and

*NOW, THEREFORE*, by the authority vested in me as President of the Republic of Palau, I hereby proclaim the month of September as Cancer Awareness Month.

*IN WITNESS WHEREOF*, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my official seal this 27<sup>th</sup> of August 2014 in Koror, Republic of Palau.

/s/

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