
AN ACT

To establish a Congressional Reapportionment Commission, and for related purposes.

THE PEOPLE OF PALAU REPRESENTED IN THE OLBIIL ERA KELULAU DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

1 Section 1. Short title. This Act shall be known and may be
2 cited as the "Reapportionment Act."

3 Section 2. Definitions. As used in this Act:

4 (a) "Commission" means the Congressional Reapportionment
5 Commission established by this Act.

6 (b) "Plan" means a reapportionment or redistricting proposal
7 published by the Commission.

8 Section 3. Commission established; membership; term of office;
9 compensation.

10 (a) There is established a Congressional Reapportionment
11 Commission, which shall be an autonomous, independent agency of the
12 national government composed of five members.

13 (b) The President shall appoint members with the advice and
14 consent of the Senate. In making the appointments, the President shall
15 assure broad representation of the citizenry. The President may remove a
16 member for gross misconduct or dereliction of duty.

17 (c) The Commission shall elect its own Chair. A majority
18 vote of the entire Commission shall control and four members shall
19 constitute a quorum. No member of the Commission shall be eligible to
20 become a candidate for election to the Senate in the next regular general
21 election under a plan prepared by a Commission on which he served. No
22 member of the Olbiil Era Kelulau shall be a member of the Commission. The
23 life of a Commission shall be two years from the date of its first meeting.

24 (d) Compensation for members of the Commission shall be \$20 per
25 meeting day up to a maximum of \$1,000 per member per year. Any member of
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1 the Commission who is employed by the national or state government or any
2 branch thereof shall receive administrative leave in lieu of compensation.

3 Section 4. Power and duties of the Commission; meetings;
4 publication; criteria of reapportionment or redistricting.

5 (a) The Commission shall reapportion and redistrict the Senate
6 electoral districts and establish the number of Senate seats based on the
7 criteria set forth in this Act and the Constitution of the Republic of
8 Palau. The Commission shall publish a plan not less than 120 days before
9 the next general election. The plan shall have, upon publication pursuant
10 to this Act, the full force and effect of law. The Commission shall have
11 the following additional powers:

12 (1) To hire, retain or dismiss staff personnel, consultants
13 or advisors as it may deem necessary;

14 (2) To contract in its own name, and to sue or be sued; and

15 (3) To own, lease or otherwise use any property, real or
16 personal.

17 (b) The Commission shall meet at least once within 240 days
18 before the next general election and at such other times and places as the
19 members of the Commission deem necessary.

20 (c) Upon publication of the plan, the Commission shall broadcast
21 a general description of the plan on local radio, post the plan in both
22 English and Palauan in major national government buildings throughout the
23 Republic, and submit the plan to each member of the Olbiil Era Kelulau and
24 the chief executives of each of the several states.

25 (d) The Commission shall be exempt from Republic of Palau Public
26 Law No. 1-53.

27 (e) The Commission shall develop and publish a plan based on
28 population and the following criteria:
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RPPL NO. 1-64
(Intro. as SB No. 421, SD2, HD1)

1 (1) The 1980 census and the most recent and available
2 census or population figures of the Republic shall be used;

3 (2) No citizen shall be denied the equal protection of the
4 laws;

5 (3) Consideration shall be given as to the cost or expense
6 of operating the Olbiil Era Kelulau and the Senate;

7 (4) No purposeful orientation shall be given to political
8 incumbents.

9 Section 5. Voter's rights; Supreme Court.

10 (a) Any registered voter may petition, within 60 days after
11 publication of the plan by the Commission, the Trial Division of the
12 Supreme Court to review the plan and amend it to comply with the
13 requirements of the Constitution and this Act.

14 (b) If the Commission fails to publish a plan within 120 days
15 before the general election, the Trial Division of the Supreme Court shall
16 promulgate within 90 days before the next regular general election a
17 reapportionment or redistricting plan.

18 Section 6. Effective date. This Act shall take effect upon its
19 approval by the President of the Republic of Palau or upon its becoming law
20 without such approval.

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22 PASSED: May 04, 1984

Approved this 10 day of May, 1982. [SIC]

/s/ _____
Haruo I. Remeliik
President
Republic of Palau