

AN ACT

To increase the penalty for the illegal burning of land, woods, stumps, logs, brush, grass or fallen timber.

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

1           Section 1. Amendment. 34 PNC § 5101 is hereby amended as follows:

2           “§ 5101. Fires to clear land; permission required.

3           (a) No fires to clear land, including the burning of stumps, logs, brush, dry grass  
4 or fallen timber, shall be started without the prior written permission of the Bureau of  
5 Public Safety’s Division of Fire at the Ministry of Justice.

6           (b) . . . ”

7           Section 2. Amendment. 34 PNC § 5102 is hereby amended as follows:

8           “§ 5102. Same; penalties.

9           (a) A person who, without proper and valid authorization, sets any fire in  
10 violation of the provisions of section 5101 of this title shall be guilty of a misdemeanor,  
11 and liable to be fined up to one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00), or imprisoned not more  
12 than one (1) month, or both.

13           (b) A person who, without proper and valid authorization:

14                 (1) willfully, maliciously, or negligently sets on fire or causes to be set on  
15 fire any woods, brush, prairies, grass, grain or stubble on any lands not owned,  
16 leased or controlled by him, or

17                 (2) willfully, maliciously, or negligently allows a fire to escape from land  
18 owned, leased, or controlled by him whereby any property of another is injured  
19 or destroyed, or

20                 (3) accidentally sets or causes to be set any fire on land not owned, leased  
21 or controlled by him or sets or causes to be set any fire on land owned, leased or  
22 controlled by him which spreads to the land of another, and allows such fire to  
23 escape from his control without using every effort to extinguish it, shall be

1           deemed guilty of a misdemeanor and liable to be fined not more than one  
2           thousand dollars (\$1,000.00), or imprisoned for a period of not more than six (6)  
3           months, or both.

4           (c) Any person who is authorized by a permit issued according to § 5101, who  
5           sets a fire or causes a fire to be set that results in destruction or damage to the property  
6           of the another person due to the permit holder's negligent, willful, or reckless conduct  
7           shall be penalized according to the discretion of the Bureau of Public Safety's Division  
8           of Fire, up to the one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00) fine or one (1) month imprisonment  
9           limitation in § 5102.

10           (d) . . .

11           (e) . . .

12           (f) . . . ”

13           Section 3. Effective date.

14           This Act shall take effect upon its approval by the President of the Republic of  
15           Palau, or upon its becoming law without such approval.

**PASSED: April 24, 2014**

Approved this 14<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2014.

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/s/  
**HE Tommy E. Remengesau, Jr.**  
**President**  
**Republic of Palau**