

Republic of Palau Office of the President

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PRESIDENTIAL PROCLAMATION NO. 17-201

Declaring the year 2017 to be the Year of the Family for the Republic of Palau

WHEREAS, the family, "Telungalek," which provides a stable environment and the necessary support for raising happy and healthy children, is the fundamental institution of Palauan society and culture; and

WHEREAS, Palauans have always valued and made a point of regularly coming together with their families, whether to celebrate triumphs or mourn losses, in a manner that fosters and preserves strong bonds of love, mutual support and reliance; and

WHEREAS, these powerful bonds have long been a tremendous source of strength for our homes, our communities and our country; and

WHEREAS, our nation's future depends on the strength of our families, yet the challenges of globalization have weakened the Telungalek, threatening the very bedrock of our Republic and our culture; and

WHEREAS, we are thus called upon to focus our efforts toward strengthening and sustaining the family as an institution upon which all others depend; and

NOW THEREFORE, I, Tommy E. Remengesau, Jr., by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and laws of the Republic of Palau, do hereby PROCLAIM this Year Two Thousand and Seventeen (2017) to be the "Year of the Family," in which our National Government is mandated and civil society and the private sector are encouraged to invest time and resources in efforts aimed toward sustaining and strengthening the importance of the family as an institution.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my official seal this day of January, 2017 at Ngerulmud, Republic of Palau.

Tommy E. Remengesau, Jr

President of the Republic of Palau