



Republic of Palau
Office of the President

Tommy E. Remengesau, Jr.
President

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PRESIDENTIAL PROCLAMATION NO. 17-217

Declaring October 2017 as World Mental Health Month for the Republic of Palau

“Mental Health in the Workplace”

WHEREAS, the World Federation for Mental Health has designated “Mental Health in the Workplace” as the primary focus for World Mental Health Month 2017; and

WHEREAS, Mental Health issues have been shown to increase employee absenteeism, cause lower rates of productivity and increase costs; and

WHEREAS, this year’s campaign will contribute to taking mental health into the workplace mainstream so that people and partners have the tools to help employers increase the overall mental wellbeing of their workforce and identification of early signs of burnout; and

WHEREAS, we encourage all workplaces to create supportive environments and show appreciation for employees and workers; and


WHEREAS, we must learn to provide Psychological First Aid so that families, partners and companies can provide support to distressed individuals in the same way we do in a physical health crisis; and

WHEREAS, we must all advocate for the promotion of mental health wellness by practicing the principles of Psychological First Aid which are Look, Listen and Link to behavioral health support; and

WHEREAS, we must address stigma associated with mental health issues so that dignity is promoted and respected and more people are empowered to take action to promote mental health;

NOW THEREFORE, I, Tommy E. Remengesau, Jr., President of the Republic of Palau, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and laws of the Republic of Palau, do hereby proclaim the Month of October 2017 as World Mental Health Month with the theme “Mental Health in the Workplace” and call upon all our citizens and stakeholders to spread understanding of the importance of mental health and the need for its integration in care and treatment. I call upon the media to educate the general public on the need on Psychological First Aid and the importance of fighting mental health stigma and discrimination. And call on all employers and educational institutions, to provide Psychological First Aid to their employees and students. I further urge all of our fellow citizens to take part in the activities designed for the observance of this World Mental Health Month of October 2017.

SO PROCLAIMED, this 13th day of October, 2017 in Ngerulmud, Republic of Palau.



Tommy E. Remengesau Jr.
President of Republic of Palau