



Republic of Palau
Office of the President

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President

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PRESIDENTIAL PROCLAMATION NO. 17-224

*Declaring December, January, and February as Red Ribbon Months to Signify
Drunk and Drugged Driving Prevention in the Republic of Palau*

"Your Future is Key, SO STAY DRUG FREE"

WHEREAS, injury and death associated with Drunk and Drugged Driving, the 3D's, are very preventable; and

WHEREAS, alcohol and drugs are among the leading causes of death for people between the ages 10-21; and

WHEREAS, studies show that youths begin drinking and abusing alcohol as early as 13 years of age; and

WHEREAS, young people who begin drinking before age 15 are four times more likely to develop an alcohol dependency than those who begin drinking at age 21; and

WHEREAS, Ministry of Justice data show that from October 2016 to October 2017, alcohol was linked to 82% of aggravated assaults; 98% of disorderly conducts; 88% of terroristic threatening ; and 76% of domestic violence cases; and

WHEREAS, it is imperative that visible, unified prevention education messages and efforts by community members be launched to eliminate irresponsible Drunk and Drugged Driving practices; and

WHEREAS, the Red Ribbon Months Campaign offers citizens the opportunity to demonstrate their commitment to alcohol and drug free lifestyles; and

WHEREAS, the Red Ribbon Months Campaign offers an effective social campaign of simply "Your Future is Key, SO STAY DRUG FREE"; and



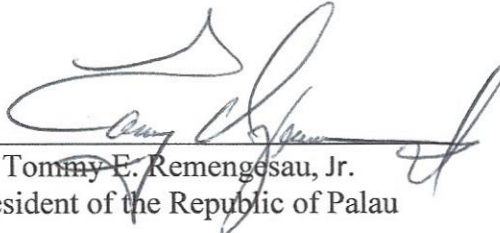
WHEREAS, as it is our goal to save lives, the Red Ribbon Months Campaign will be celebrated in every community in Palau during Red Ribbon Months, from December to February; and

WHEREAS, leaders, businesses, governments, community partners, parents, law enforcement, the media, medical institutions, religious institutions, schools, senior citizens, service organizations, and the youth shall demonstrate their commitment to this prevention effort and to maintain a healthy, drug-free lifestyle by wearing and displaying red ribbons during this three-month campaign conducted by The Prevention Unit within the Division of Behavioral Health; and

WHEREAS, the Republic of Palau further commits its resources to ensure the success of the Red Ribbon Months Campaign;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Tommy E. Remengesau, Jr., President of the Republic of Palau, by virtue of the authority vested in me under the Constitution and laws of the Republic of Palau, do hereby proclaim the period from December 2017 to February 2018, as RED RIBBON MONTHS, and encourage our citizens to participate in drug prevention education activities, not only during Red Ribbon months, but all year long, making a visible statement that we are strongly committed to a safe and Alcohol-free, Drug-free, and Violence-free Republic of Palau.

SO PROCLAIMED on this 11th day of December 2017 at the National Capitol in Ngerulmud, Republic of Palau.


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