



Republic of Palau
Office of the President

Tommy E. Remengesau, Jr.
President

P.O. Box 6051, Palau, PW 96940
Tel. (680) 767-2403/2828
Fax. (680) 767-2424/1662
Email: rop.president@palaunet.com

PRESIDENTIAL PROCLAMATION NO. 19-270

Declaring the month of September as Cancer Awareness Month for the Republic of Palau

"I AM I WILL"

WHEREAS, cancer continues to be in the top three leading causes of death for the Republic of Palau; and

WHEREAS, substance use such as tobacco and alcohol use, poor eating habits and unhealthy diets, including physical inactivity, continue to be major contributors to the causes of cancer and other non-communicable diseases (NCDs) among contemporary Palauans; and

WHEREAS, according to the 2007-2015 Pacific Regional Central Cancer Registry, 56% of adult cancers are tobacco-related, 21% of adult cancers are obesity-related, 27% of adult cancers such as cervical and breast cancers have evidence-based screening tests, 16% of adult cancers could be diagnosed in the early stages which can be treated; and 65% of those diagnosed with cancer die within five years; and

WHEREAS, with alarming prevalence of cancer and other NCDs, government and traditional leaders have joined with civil society and members of the private sector in a united battle against non-communicable diseases; and with all collaborating partners have established a National Coordinating Mechanism to guide our efforts to implement a comprehensive approach to NCD prevention and control within Palau; and

WHEREAS, government agencies, community based organizations and civil societies have made significant efforts to increase awareness on social, economic, and the emotional impacts of cancer and other NCDs to families and the Republic; and

WHEREAS, with the current NCD statistics, it is urgent to develop and implement policy that encourage behavioral changes and environmental changes to allow for healthy options to be more affordable and accessible; increase access to cancer screening, early detection, and treatment; and


WHEREAS, we must create, enhance, and promote survivorship and palliative care programs, designed to promote better outcomes for cancer survivors and reduce social, economic, emotional and spiritual burdens of cancer on families affected; and



WHEREAS, in this Year of Innovative Learning and Excellence, the month of September shall be observed as Cancer Awareness Month in efforts to combat cancer as a nation with the World Cancer Day theme "I am I will" that is an empowering call-to-action urging for personal commitment and represents the power of individual action taken now to impact the future, and a call for everyone to join the cause; and

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Tommy E. Remengesau, Jr., President of the Republic of Palau, by virtue of the power vested in me by the Constitution and laws of the Republic of Palau, do hereby proclaim the month of September 2019 as Cancer Awareness Month and call upon all stakeholders to unite and join the effort in the fight against cancer in the Republic of Palau.

SO PROCLAIMED, this 28th day of August 2019 at the National Capitol in Ngerulmud, Republic of Palau



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