Republic of Palau
Office of the President

Tommy E. Remengesau, Jr.
President

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February 12, 2020
Serial No. 20-1594

The Honorable Sabino Anastacio
Speaker of the House of Delegates
10th Olbiil Era Kelulau
Ngerulmud, Palau National Capitol
Republic of Palau 96939

Re: Signing Statement for HB 10-59-4

Dear Speaker Anastacio:

I am pleased to sign into law HB 10-59-4, a bill that increases the duration of validity for diplomatic and official passports issued by the Republic of Palau. I want to thank you for the work you have put into this bill's development and the effort that has gone into bringing it to this stage.

Though this bill is not long, it accomplishes an important action. Specifically, the bill amends Section 1208 of Title 13 of the Palau National Code to extend the duration of official and diplomatic passports from two years to four and a half years. By making this simple change, you have eliminated a needless burden on government officials who frequently travel on the Republic's behalf. With this new, longer period of validity, officials will not need to renew their official or diplomatic passports during their term in office, making it easier for them to schedule international travel without concern for a frequent expiration date.

I thank you again for your work and cooperation in crafting this bill. I am pleased to be able to sign it into law today.

Sincerely,

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

CC: Senate President Hokkons Baules

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Serial No. 20-1594

The Honorable Hokkons Baules
Senate President
10th Olbiil Era Kelulau
Ngerulmud, Palau National Capitol
Republic of Palau 96939

Re: Signing Statement for HB 10-59-4

Dear Senate President Baules:

I am pleased to sign into law HB 10-59-4, a bill that increases the duration of validity for diplomatic and official passports issued by the Republic of Palau. I want to thank you for the work you have put into this bill's development and the effort that has gone into bringing it to this stage.

Though this bill is not long, it accomplishes an important action. Specifically, the bill amends Section 1208 of Title 13 of the Palau National Code to extend the duration of official and diplomatic passports from two years to four and a half years. By making this simple change, you have eliminated a needless burden on government officials who frequently travel on the Republic's behalf. With this new, longer period of validity, officials will not need to renew their official or diplomatic passports during their term in office, making it easier for them to schedule international travel without concern for a frequent expiration date.

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Sincerely,

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

CC: Speaker of the House of Delegates Sabino Anastacio

RPPL NO. 10-47

TENTH OLBIIL ERA KELULAU

THIRTEENTH REGULAR SESSION

JANUARY 2020

HOUSE BILL NO. 10-59-4

AN ACT

SEE TITLE INSIDE

OFFERED BY DELEGATE(S) Otobed, Rechelulk, Kemesong, Saiske, Ngiratkakl-Kanai, Arurang, Gulibert, Ngemaes, Gibbons Jr., Basilius ET AL,

DATE INTRODUCED October 25, 2017

HOUSE ACTION

FIRST READING:	October 25, 2017
REFERRED TO:	Community and Planning Development
STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT NO:	10-41
DATE ADOPTED:	December 15, 2017
SECOND READING:	December 15, 2017
LEGAL FORMAT:	Proper
REVIEW:	December 15, 2017
THIRD READING:	January 16, 2018
FINAL ACTION:	

SENATE ACTION

FIRST READING:	January 18, 2018
REFERRED TO:	Judiciary and Governmental Affairs
STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT NO:	10-231
DATE ADOPTED:	January 21, 2020
SECOND READING:	January 21, 2020
LEGAL FORMAT:	Proper
REVIEW:	January 21, 2020
THIRD READING:	January 29, 2020
FINAL ACTION:	

CONFERENCE COMMITTEE ACTION

DATE:	None
COMMITTEE REPORT:	None
DATE PASSED:	None

Marcello Ngirkelau
HOUSE CLERK

for Ann L. Pedro
SENATE CLERK

TENTH OLBIIL ERA KELULAU

Fourth Regular Session, October 2017

RPPL No. 10-47
(Passed as House Bill No. 10-59-4)

AN ACT

To amend Section 1208 of Title 13 of the Palau National Code to increase the duration of validity for diplomatic and official passports issued by the Republic of Palau, and for other related purposes.

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

Section 1. Legislative findings.

The Olbiil Era Kelulau finds that those who receive diplomatic and official passports face unnecessary burdens associated with international travel. Because the duration of validity of diplomatic and official passports is two years, most officials must apply for at least one renewal during their term in office and must schedule international travel carefully in light of the frequent expiration dates. Therefore, the Olbiil Era Kelulau finds that the duration of validity for diplomatic and official passports should be increased to four and a half years.

Section 2. Amendment. Section 1208 of Title 13 of the Palau National Code is amended as follows:

"§ 1208. Validity of passport; limitation of time; outstanding passport.

A regular passport shall be valid for a period of five (5) years from the date of issue for an eligible person below sixteen (16) years of age and ten (10) years from the date of issue for an eligible person at least sixteen (16) years of age. Official and diplomatic passports shall be valid for a period of up to four and a half (4 1/2) years. An official or diplomatic passport shall not be used by the holder after the expiration of his or her term of office and shall be surrendered to the Ministry of State within twenty (20) days of such expiration. The Minister of State may limit the validity of a passport to a lesser period in an individual case."

Section 3. Effective date.

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

RPPL No. 10–47
(Passed as House Bill No. 10-59-4)

PASSED: January 29, 2020

Approved this 12th day of Feb., 2020

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